



Ref: Agenda/TCM- 19/07/2022

14th July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

All Members of the Town Council are hereby summoned to the Town Centre Management Committee Meeting of Biggleswade Town Council that will take place on **Tuesday 19th July 2022** at the **Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade** commencing at **7:00pm**, for the purpose of considering and recommending the business to be transacted as specified below.

Yours faithfully

Peter Tarrant

Town Clerk & Chief Executive

Distribution: All Town Councillors

Notice Boards The Press

Committee Members:

Cllr. M. Knight (Chair)

Cllr. D. Strachan (Vice Chair)

Cllr. D. Albone

Cllr. I. Bond

Cllr. G. Fage

Cllr. M North

Cllr. R. Pullinger

Cllr. M. Russell

Cllr. C. Thomas

Cllr. J. Woodhead

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Statutory Declarations of Interests from Members in relation to:

- a. Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item.
- b. Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

To adjourn for a period of up to 15 minutes to allow members of the public to put questions or to address the Council, through the Chairman, pertaining to matters listed on the agenda.

Please register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_152M1zt8SbiDHSSoVsDJVg

Each Speaker will give their name to the Chairman, prior to speaking, which will be recorded in the minutes, unless that person requests otherwise. Each Speaker will be allowed **one three-minute slot**.

5. INVITED SPEAKER

None.

6. <u>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</u>

7. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS

a. The Minutes of the Town Centre Management Committee Meeting held on **Tuesday 17th May 2022** at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

8. MATTERS ARISING

a. The Minutes of Town Centre Management Committee Meeting held on **Tuesday 17th May 2022** at the Office of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. **CCTV**

For Members to receive and consider a written report from the Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships and the Place Shaping Manager.

b. Premises License Application

For Members to receive and consider a written report from the Place Shaping Manager.

c. Market Fees

For Members to receive and consider a written report from the Place Shaping Manager.

d. Market Square Vision

For Members to receive and consider a written report from the Place Shaping Manager and Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships.

e. Christmas Offer Procurement

For Members to receive and consider a written report from the Place Shaping Manager and Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships.

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10. <u>ITEMS FOR INFORMATION</u>

a. Crime Statistics Q4 2021-2022

For Members to receive a written report from the Place Shaping Manager outlining and analysing the Biggleswade crime statistics for January 2022 – March 2022.

b. Remembrance Sunday

For Members to receive an oral update from the Place Shaping Manager.

c. War Memorial Maintenance

For Members to receive an oral update from the Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships and the Public Realm Manager.

d. Great Big Green Week

For Members to receive an oral update from the Head of Governance & Strategic Partnership and the Public Realm Manager.

e. Car Parking Traffic Regulations Order

For Members to receive an oral update from the Place Shaping Manager.

11. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

To adjourn for a period of up to 15 minutes to allow members of the public to put questions or to address the Council, through the Chairman, in respect of any other business of the Town Council.

Please register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN 152M1zt8SbiDHSSoVsDJVg

Each Speaker will give their name to the Chairman prior to speaking, which will be recorded in the minutes, unless that person requests otherwise. Each Speaker will be allowed **(one) three-minute slot.**

12. EXEMPT ITEMS

The following resolution will be **moved** that it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are excluded whilst the following exempt items are discussed.

None.

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Council **resolve** to exclude the public and press by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

3



MINUTES OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH MAY 2022 AT 7.00PM AT BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, 4 SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE, SG18 8DL



PRESENT:

Cllr M Knight – Chairman Cllr D Strachan – Vice Chair Cllr D Albone Cllr I Bond Cllr M Russell Cllr R Pullinger Cllr J Woodhead

Mr Peter Tarrant, Town Clerk & Chief Executive, Biggleswade Town Council Mr Karim Hosseini, Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships, Biggleswade Town Council Mrs S van der Merwe, Deputy Administration & HR Manager Mrs R Jandu, Temporary Senior Administrator

Members of the public: 1

Meeting Formalities:

Following a reminder to meeting attendees, both panel and public, that this is a formal meeting, the Chairman advised that members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak during public open session but not at other times. The meeting is being filmed and by being present attendees are deemed to have agreed be filmed and to the use of those images and sound recordings. The Chairman advised that attendees should not disclose any personal information of individuals as this would infringe the Data Protection Rights of the individual. The Chairman asked everyone to mute their microphones when not speaking.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr M North, Cllr C Thomas, Cllr G Fage.

ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGY

None.

2. <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

To receive statutory declarations of interests from members in relation to:

a.	Disclosable Pecun	niary intere	ests in any a <u>c</u>	genda item:
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None.

b. Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:

None.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Knight and Mr Tarrant met with the owners of 29 Market Square on Friday 13th May 2022. They are conducting building maintenance, expected to take 6 weeks and will be starting after Queen's Jubilee weekend.

The owner and builders have requested permission to install a 5m² compound outside the building allowing storage of equipment and safe access for contractors. This will require temporary removal of a Town Council bench from outside the building. This was **AGREED** by Mr Tarrant.

4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

The Chairman advised members of the public wishing to speak to either raise their hand (for inperson attendees) or to use the electronic 'faise hand' function on screen (for Zoom attendees).

There were no questions from members of the public.

5. INVITED SPEAKER

None.

6. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

None.

7. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

a. Members received and <u>APPROVED</u> the Minutes from Town Centre Management Committee Meeting held on **Tuesday 15**th **February 2022** at **7pm** the Biggleswade Town Council offices, The Old Court House, 4 Saffron Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8DL.

8. MATTERS ARISING

a. From the Minutes of the Town Council Management meeting held on the **Tuesday 15th February 2022** at Biggleswade Town Council offices, 4 Saffron Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8DL.

None.

9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Flag Flying Policy – 2022 Review

Cllr Pullinger thanked Cllr Knight and all the Members for their contributions in refreshing this Policy.

Members recommended the following changes:

 Cllr Russell requested that the policy be changed to reflect that "Town Council flags shall be flown on all days....". • Cllr Albone referred to page 11 in the agenda, last bullet point and requested "Officer" be changed to "Serving Member of the Armed Forces".

Following these amendments being implemented, the Committee recommended the policy be put forward to a future Town Council meeting for final decision.

Cllr Albone asked if a stitched version of the flag could be used for special flag flying days such as Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. Mr Hosseini and Mr Lord agreed to investigate options.

b. **Queen's Jubilee Celebrations**

Members received an update from Mr Hosseini. Plans for the two events are nearly complete. Officers will be doing a trial run at the Market Square next week to test logistics and examine the current planned siting of facilities and equipment. These are based on plans that are already in place.

Officers have been liaising with the Safety Advisory Group from CBC, revised paperwork has been submitted to CBC and a response is expected next week.

Five public street parties originally applied for licenses through the Town Council, however only three parties are confirmed to proceed on the day.

Cllr Strachan asked if the Town Council are aware of other activities taking place on the Thursday afternoon. Mr Hosseini confirmed Children's Jubilee Tea Parties are planned for mid-afternoon.

Mr Tarrant thanked Mr Hossieni and Mr Lord for all the hard work that had gone into planning this event and the amount of paperwork that had been submitted to CBC. This was a significant investment in time.

The Town Council are now obliged to implement a number of policies to support event planning for the Town that will go to the next Council Meeting on 24th May 2022.

c. Vision for Market Square - Proposed

Members and Officers attended a presentation with CBC Officers regarding the Transportation Interchange on 21st April 2022. Various iterations of plans for bus routes in the Town Centre and re-routing of buses were considered. These plans would have an effect on traffic flow and impact on market/event days. Members outlined alternative suggestions which were sent to CBC Officers on 25th April 2022.

It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Committee's formal position is that the road should be closed for all market and event days, and that both Council's plans for the development of the Market Square should be the starting point for discussions.

d. Christmas Offer Procurement

The Procurement process for the Christmas Offer is underway and responses and quotes are being collated. A written report will follow at the next Town Centre Management Meeting on 19th July 2022. Mr Hosseini advised the Committee that Officers are also investigating replacement of the damaged Grotto panel.

e. September 2022 10km Run

Mr Hosseini discussed the route options that were submitted previously for this proposed run which will be a pilot event. If the pilot 10km run is successful, would be scaled up for an event to be held in May 2023 again.

Mr Hosseini advised he is awaiting final route proposals and will then engage with CBC regarding feasibility of road closure.

10. <u>ITEMS FOR INFORMATION</u>

a. Speed Watch Signage

It was suggested that the camera is available to neighbouring villages for a small fee. Members were opposed to the installation of permanent passive Speedwatch signs on the grounds of additional visual clutter and lack of evidence that they would reduce speed.

Officers would engage with other Councils as part of the quarterly Parish Council meeting.

b. **Big Barn**

Members **NOTED** the communication relating to Biggleswade Market's listing on Big Barn's website and no action is to be taken.

c. Car Parking Traffic Regulations Order

CBC Officers have confirmed that a Car Parking Traffic Regulation Order will be amended this month.

d. War Memorial

Mr Hosseini advised that maintenance and cleaning on the war memorial has been approved by CBC and commencement of works will be confirmed in due course.

Members noted that the Community had a number of concerns relating to children climbing on the War Memorial at a recent Town Centre event. Mr Hosseini advised the Town Council are investigating signage to be embedded within the turf.

11. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no questions from the member of public present.

12. EXEMPT ITEMS

The resolution was **moved** that it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded whilst the following exempt items were discussed.

(13a. CCTV)

13. EXEMPT ITEMS

a. CCTV

After a detailed discussion on the CCTV options available it was agreed that the following Recommendation be put to full Council.

- 8 fixed cameras and 1 mobile camera as per option 1.
- Choice of UK based manufacturer.
- Incorporating Century House into the CCTV coverage.
- Upgrade of Century House retention period.
- Recommendation to urgently request S106 to cover the required capital investment.

It was <u>AGREED</u> that this should be taken to the next Town Council Meeting on 24th May 2022 for further discussion.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:25pm



TCM 19072022 Items for Consideration Item 9a CCTV Strategy

Town Centre Management Committee Meeting 19th July 2022 CCTV Strategy Report

Implications of Recommendations

Corporate strategy: ASPIRATIONS: Ensure the provision of CCTV that supports the Council's anti-crime initiatives and policies.

Finance: The cost envelope for the project is circa £58,009 subject to sourcing full funding.

Equality: The town council pays due regard to all equality legislation.

Environment: The town council pays due regard to all environment legislation.

Community Safety: The strategy sensitively maximises community safety and cohesion.

Background

Officers and Members have worked together to produce a viable CCTV strategy, which has been agreed by Council. The delivery of this strategy is now subject to acquiring the necessary funding from CBC or alternative sources.

Summary

- 1. Funding- CBC have informed Officers that the entire s106 funding pot (£33,081.40) historically used for Potton Road could be rerouted to fund CCTV, subject to agreement by the Policy Officer.
- 2. BTC Officers have encouraged CBC to widen their search for s106 funding from other town centre improvement pots, so that BTC can deliver the full 8+1 option. CBC has confirmed they are actioning this.
- 3. A project plan and implementation timeline is attached in Annex A.
- 4. There is anecdotal evidence that burglaries and theft from pubs and catering establishments in town is increasing. A crime report with data will follow in August.
- 5. Officers have sourced fresh quotes for 8+1, which have not changed. The £58,009 cost remains valid until mid-August, with upward pressure expected.
- 6. Officers confirm that the rural Match Funding application (£12.5k each party) cannot be used for CCTV. The application continues for green space improvement.
- 7. In the event of CBC not providing further s106 funds, alternative funding sources to fill the circa £25k gap include; using the town council capital reserves, or drawing down from the PWLB.
- 8. A hybrid system of hard-wired and wireless cameras is <u>not possible.</u>

Options

Officers and Members have expressed a preference to procure and deploy kit as soon as possible, maximising the number of units procured to fit within the current c. £33k s106 funding. There are two options to consider to meet the full number of required cameras (8 +1):

- A) A wireless 5-camera system is pursued, costing c £28k. Annex B illustrates this camera layout. The White Hart car park mobile camera unit would then be redeployed to Drove Road Cemetery at a cost of £185. A remaining 3 fixed and 1 mobile unit would be required.
- B) An 8 camera plus 1 mobile system is preferred in the short term for reasons set out above, selection of a BTC funding source is subject to consideration and agreement at this Committee, with approval secured at the 26th July Town Council meeting. As set out in Annex C.

Costs

The below figure illustrates the current position of budget versus cost.

Figure 1. Capital Cost Update

S106 confirmed 22/23		Gap in funding
33,081.40	58,009.00	-24,927.60

Recommendations

That Members approve:

- 1. Option B to be applied as soon as possible to ensure the remaining 3 wireless fixed cameras plus one mobile camera can be installed across the town.
- 2. Negotiation with CBC is intensified using appropriate channels to obtain BTC s106 funds to cover the gap.
- 3. Officers draft an up-to-date CCTV policy, GDPR Data protection policy and reaccredit named staff members.

Karim Hosseini Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships Isaac Lord Place Shaping Manager

Annex A - Project Plan

Date	Deliverable	RAG
31 st July	Secure S106 funding from CBC	Amber
1 st August	Place order for equipment, 1 mobile unit and	Red
	8 fixed units	
31st August	Install additional single mobile unit at Drove	Red
	Rd cemetery. Redeploy existing mobile unit	
	to Rose Lane car park.	
30 th	Installation of all 8 cameras plus 2 mobile	Red
September	units tested and compliance approved	

Annex B – Option A 5-camera solution



Annex C – Option B 8-camera solution



BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL Town Centre Management Committee 19th July 2022 Premises License Application Update

Implications of Recommendations

Corporate strategy: ASPIRATIONS: Develop a programme of events for the Town Centre. **Finance:** Minor impact on budget with minimal cost for application and annual renewal.

Equality: The Council pays due regard to all equality legislation.

Environment: The Council pays due regard to all environment legislation.

Community Safety: All aspects of community cohesion and safety are sensitively covered.

Introduction

This report provides an update to Members on the progress of the premises license application for the market square. Given the issues presented by the 499 capacity at the Jubilee events, Officers were advised by Bedfordshire Police and experts in licensing that a premises license application should be made.

Summary

After consulting with the licensing team in CBC, it was confirmed that the non-domestic rateable value of the square was £0, which was holding up the application process as the last piece of information required for the application form. However, following consultation with an expert in the area that has made a number of successful and unsuccessful premises license applications, it was then made apparent that if the application is accompanied by the relevant risk assessments and event management plan, it puts the Council in a much stronger position for it to be accepted. Officers are continuing to work on pulling this documentation together, ensuring it is as thorough and detailed as possible whilst liaising with experts in the field. It is proposed by Officers that it would be beneficial if a small working group of Members could be appointed to support this application process in progressing. Prior to submission, it would be brought to Council to approve. A rough timeline of deliverables is illustrated by Annex A.

Costs

As the non-domestic rateable value of the square is £0, the application fee is £100 and the annual renewal fee is £70.

Recommendations

Members consider and agree to the approach by Officers to submit detailed documentation alongside the premises license application.

Members appoint a small working group to support application progress.

Isaac Lord

Place Shaping Manager

Annex A - Delivery Timeline

Commentary
Submit premises license application
28-day period of consultation ends
Application accepted (3 months from date of submission – the longest length of time expected for an application to go through)

BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL Town Centre Management Committee Meeting 19th July 2022 Market Fees Update

Implications of Recommendations:

Corporate Strategy: ASPIRATIONS: Continue to invest in the Saturday Charter Market.

Finance: Simplifying fees document may in turn improve income stream of future Market traders.

Equality: The Council pays due regard to all equality legislation.

Environment: No change. **Community Safety:** No change.

Background

An updated version of the Market fees document was resolved by Council in January 2021 to go live in April 2022. Following recent feedback, Officers have simplified this document to be clearer for the Market Superintendent to enforce and for traders to interpret.

Summary

Annex A shows the updated version of the document. Members should particularly note the changes made to the charity and not-for-profit organisations (NPOs) section. It is proposed that the deposit structure is made clearer for users with a flat £20 deposit payable, and refundable, to both types of charities and NPOs. Further to this, an additional row has been added to make clear that the hiring of a gazebo and table is free. In the event of a no-show, the £20 deposit would be retained and covers the cost of resource.

Recommendations

Members agree for the revised document to be uploaded to the website and used going forwards.

Isaac Lord Place Shaping Manager

Annex A - Revised Market Fees Document

MARKET STALLS Payment required on or before day of trade	Price
Lighting/power to stall	Free
Tuesday market flat fee for all stalls regardless of size	£15.00
Rent of pitch (own stall or open space) Size: 3m x 3m (Saturday)	£15.00
Rent of double pitch (own stall or open space) Size: 3m x 6m (Saturday)	£25.00
Rent of pitch larger than double pitch (own stall or open space) * Size: > 3m x 6m (Saturday)	£30.00
Rent of gazebo and table in addition to rent of pitch** Size: 3m x 3m (Tuesday and Saturday)	£20.00
Clearance of unauthorised market trade waste (minimum charge)	£60.00

^{*}at discretion of Market Superintendent, **new traders only, defined as trading for four weeks or less

CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION STALLS 3m x 3m pitch	Price
Local charities and local not-for-profit organisations registered with HMRC for gift aid*	Free
Other charities and not-for-profit organisations*	£15.00
Rent of gazebos and table in addition to rent of pitch	Free

^{*}refundable deposit of £20 must be paid to BTC office in advance and then collected from BTC office after the market during working day opening hours

- Local is defined as charity and not-for-profit organisations for the benefit of Biggleswade residents
- One charity stall available only per Market
- Booking of the charity stall must be made via the BTC office
- Number of bookings per organisation, per year at discretion of BTC

BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL Town Centre Management Committee 19th July 2022 Market Square Vision Update

Implications of Recommendations:

Corporate Strategy: The report provides options for a plan covering traffic circulation in the town centre

and for the Market Square layout.

Finance: Sourced from multiple streams including S106 applications. **Equality:** The Council pays due regard to all equality legislation.

Environment: The project will deliver improvements to the Town Centre environment. **Community Safety:** The project will deliver enhanced community safety in the town square.

Background

Discussions on the future direction of the Market Square and traffic flows took place at an informal place shaping workshop in February 2022 and the Biggleswade transportation interchange meeting of April 2022. Officers worked to provide stakeholders with a preferred bus routing option in May attached at Annex A. This report provides an update to Members on the various options relating to traffic volumes and Market Square layout being discussed to improve the Market Square.

Traffic Circulation

There are a number of specific categories of traffic circulation in the Market Square area to consider following the bus route proposal which if agreed, will result in wide-spread changes to other modes of transport and traffic volumes. These include pedestrians, private vehicles, bicycles and other wheeled transport, buses and commercial vehicles. Each is reviewed in further detail below.

Pedestrianisation:

Residents mentioned pedestrianisation during the benchmarking report of 2021 as attached in Annex B. This action would support in creating a safer environment for the Market Square, in which there would likely be fewer accidents involving vehicles and pedestrians, for example, the recent incident that took place outside Coral betting shop. There would be resulting lower levels of vehicle pollution too; there is currently a pilot in Hitchin Street with a levelled pavement and road with CBC providing data that may evidence these points further. A large benefit to increased pedestrianisation of the Market Square, along with action to level the pavement surfaces across the square, would result in safer access and use of the square by people with disabilities and wheelchair users too. Officers are cognisant of the negative impact pedestrianisation may have on businesses and there would be a need to understand the true effect through consultation.

This shared space strategy is referenced and recommended by the Biggleswade Town Centre Adopted Strategy & Masterplan document, as per Annex B. Pedestrianisation would create a piazza-feel environment much like the very successful al-fresco dining trials in Soho. It would also provide a better, safer space for hosting events. To deliver increased pedestrianisation in the square, it would be advisable to close vehicle access to Market Place (including the bus exit road) in the first instance, which would be triggered by the new bus route option. Longer term, the White Hart car park could be converted into a pedestrianised zone with more space for events. Bus routes are later addressed in the report to mitigate the issues this would cause. Closing the White Hart car park would have no effect on income, as vehicle users could instead use immediately available alternative car parks off the square. This space could then be utilised for al-fresco dining, green landscaping, a bike rack, docking station, busking, market stalls, and wider events.

Private Vehicles:

By prohibiting or reducing private vehicle access through the Market Square, this may hypothetically encourage increased use of car park facilities and thus increased income. It could also facilitate a reduced traffic flow through the town centre, therefore reducing congestion and pollution.

Bicycles, e-Scooters, e-Bikes:

As part of the sustainable travel corridor works, the future of Biggleswade could see a largely increased use of bicycles and similar sustainable options and thus space created by the pedestrianisation of the Square, could be sufficient enough for a secure bike shelter to be installed, further encouraging sustainable travel. This is another point referenced within the benchmarking report. Similar to Cambridge and Milton Keynes, BTC could reach a commercial agreement with a company that offers rentable bikes at cheap rates with docking stations, additionally carrying 'Biggs-E' branding. Cycling provisions are regularly referenced throughout the Biggleswade Town Centre Adopted Strategy & Masterplan document and are fully in line with the strategy.

Commercial Vehicles:

With proposed changes to traffic flows and volumes outlined in this report, a new timetable allowing vehicles to make deliveries and collections from local businesses in the Market Square will need to be introduced. The suggested times are Monday to Saturday 0800 to 1000 (tbc) which will allow sufficient access to ensure all businesses are supplied. Businesses which operate a vehicles delivery service will no longer have direct access to the square.

Bus Routes:

Whilst most of the above categories haven't yet gone further than an informal meeting, bus routes have been discussed at a higher level. Following the Biggleswade transportation interchange meeting of April 2022, a PowerPoint deck representing the views of some Members was sent onto CBC, as per Annex A. This was with the intention that it be internally circulated to understand feasibility, with a view to developing the scheme as part of the highways capital programme. Officers are awaiting CBC's response. Again, revising the bus routes to exclude the 'Market Square Loop' is referenced in the Biggleswade Town Centre Adopted Strategy & Masterplan document. This document also references the improved safety measures the revised bus route will provide.

Layout of the Market Square

Pedestrianisation and other traffic calming options will have a significant impact on the interim and final layout of the Market Square. Annex D illustrates the rough timeline of events. The vision for the Market Square is not specifically covered within this report.

Further to the traffic volumes impacts, a key decision for the vision focuses on the future option for Century House (repurposed or demolished), Both options offer distinct advantages and disadvantages with the former creating a space that could be used as a permanent indoor market, wellbeing centre, community services, information hub etc. If this option was selected, it can be assumed that the existing public conveniences would provide a building-users only service. As far as Officers are aware, the top floor is currently vacant with the previous tenants of the unit vacating several months ago. Officers are taking forward a project which includes a community toilet scheme like Bedford Borough Council's successful scheme which could be deployed across the town. Otherwise, toilet kiosks could be introduced in the Market Square. If demolishing the building was chosen, it creates a more open space that would add to the piazza feel; green landscaping could be introduced, a bike rack, docking station etc.

Recommendations

Members to agree incremental pedestrianisation of the Market Square, in line with the recommendation of the Biggleswade Town Centre Adopted Strategy & Masterplan document; Market Place (including bus exit route) in the short-term and the White Hart car park in the longer-term. This would also include opening consultation with residents and businesses.

Members to consider the levelling of pavements and roads and re-planting of eleven protected trees across the Market Square, as per the Hitchin Street pilot.

Members to consider strategy for cycling, other sustainable transport forms, and whether a bike rack should be considered, and a company consulted for bike rentals.

Members to agree on consulting with CBC on Century House, negotiating the repurposing into an attractive all-year round indoor market and event space, with a top floor social services area before the asset is handed over to BTC.

Isaac Lord Place Shaping Manager Karim Hosseini Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships

Annex A

Proposed BTC Bus Routes Strategy



Annex B

Biggleswade Benchmarking Report 2021

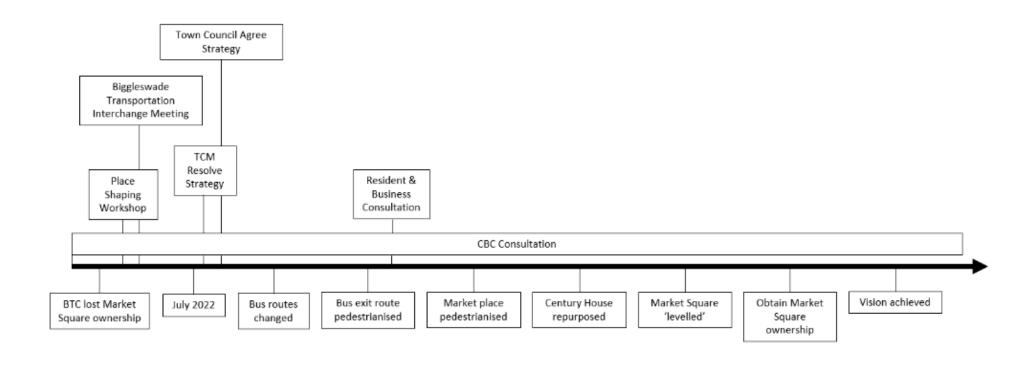


Annex C

Biggleswade Town Centre Adopted Strategy & Masterplan



Annex D – Timeline of Events for Market Square Vision



BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL Town Centre Management Committee Meeting 19th July 2022 Christmas Offer Procurement Update

Implications of Recommendations:

Corporate Strategy: ASPIRATIONS: Develop a programme of events for the Town Centre.

Finance: Sourced from allocation set aside in Town Centre budget. **Equality:** The Council pays due regard to all equality legislation.

Environment: The Council pays due regard to all environment legislation.

Community Safety: The Council pays due regard to all community safety legislation.

Background

This report provides an update to Members on the tender process for Christmas 2022 events. Officers are using alternative avenues to resolve the power supply to the main square matter.

Summary

Following the conclusion of the tender being advertised on the central government's contracts finder, there were no interested parties despite 280 views. All elements of the specification were advertised within one invitation to tender. Separately, a total of 40 businesses have been approached manually by Officers to date, with the majority either not responding or declining their services. Officers are continuing to chase potential suppliers for quotes.

Procurement

There is no further update to the quotes on the previous report submitted to F&GP. Officers are progressing the well-known and loved Christmas narrative securing quotes from suppliers in the increased pool of 40 to provide full cover. As per the below figure, quotes are still awaited across a number of categories. Site visits are planned in that should see these fulfilled shortly.

Figure 1. Quote Progress across Christmas Categories

	Christmas Trees		Market Square Tree Lights	•	_	Grotto	Santa Hire	Ice Rink
	Quoted	Quoted	Quoted	Quoted	Quoted			
Quotes	Quoted	Awaiting	Awaiting	Quoted	Quoted	QUOTED	QUOTED	Q _{UOTE} O
	Awaiting	Awaiting	Awaiting	Awaiting	Awaiting	160	160	, (6)
Suppliers	8	10	10	7	7	8	4	4

Suppliers row pertains to the number of suppliers approached for a category. Whilst 40 have been approached overall, some suppliers cover multiple categories. Enough site visits planned in to fulfil remaining awaiting quotes shortly, bar Christmas trees, which will be fulfilled in August.

Christmas Trees: A handful of Christmas tree providers approached have stated that they are unable to quote until late August so these companies will be contacted again for quotes at that time. Officers have engaged with the Kings Reach developer and Saxon Leisure centre to locate the second tree. Neither have responded.

Festoons/Motifs: Despite approaching ten suppliers, only one quote has been achieved to date. This supplier has suggested that festoons are unsuitable for the high street given the strain that will be put on certain lampposts where the length of cabling is too long, hence their suggestion of motifs. An example of motif decoration is provided in Annex A. Officers continue to pursue both festoons and motifs. Further questions have been raised by other suppliers regarding the permissions for lampposts and wall mounts usage. Officers have been exploring this further with CBC since June with no firm answer.

Market Square Tree Lights: Again, despite approaching ten suppliers, only one quote has been achieved. This is to fully replace the lights without installation, as adding installation would increase the cost beyond budget. As per the specification initially sent out to suppliers, it has been asked that they first quote based on the repair of broken lights. More recently, given the lack of buy-in, Officers have asked suppliers to quote on repairing, part replacement and full replacement. This is key to safeguarding the budget and square events functionality.

Christmas Grotto: There are now two options for resolving the grotto. Option 1 is to replace the broken panel at £498. Option 2 is to procure an inflatable decorated grotto at £195 to £395 without staff. Last year's £5 a present did not provide a high enough quality and thus turnout. Running two grottos at light switch-on and on 23rd December will provide enhanced satisfaction and revenue.

Santa Hire: Due to the lack of free resource, this should be externally sourced which would provide more security in the event of absence.

Ice Rink: regrettably, a synthetic ice-rink should not be considered this year as Officers consider resolving the market square tree lights more important. It should however be considered for next year, alongside a short business plan.

Budget

An indicative budget of £18,000 which had been allocated for Christmas lights and £7,000 for Christmas activities, (a total of £25,000) is being used to determine affordability. This year, the Town Council will run one light show at the switch on.

Projected expenditure for Christmas 2022 events is illustrated within Annex B.

Recommendations

That Committee Members consider and approve;

- 1. Officers progress the Christmas Tree procurement (30 ft & 20 ft) in August inc last year's supplier.
- 2. Officers progress at speed obtaining three quotes for the festoons, two for motifs, and understanding application permissions and health & safety parameters relating to lampposts and wall mounts.
- 3. The market square lights are repaired, partly replaced, or fully replaced subject to costs.
- 4. Officers urgently obtain one final quote for stage, lights and sound.
- 5. The Christmas Lights switch on event with a light show on 25th November can proceed and a second Christmas market event can be held on 23rd December, without a light show.
- 6. The grotto panel is replaced at £498 and two events are held.
- 7. Santa hire should be sourced externally for both grotto events at a total of £648 for six hours per day.
- 8. Ice rink is tabled until next year.
- 9. An informal TCM meeting scheduled following receipt of the urgent quotes (festoons/motifs/tree lights/staging) to confirm suppliers, ahead of the 9th August Town Council approval.

Isaac Lord Place Shaping Manager

Karim Hosseini Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships

Annex A - Motif Design





Annex A – Projected Expenditure for Christmas 2022 Events with Current Quotes

e visit stated festoons weren't appropriate given the weight of the lights causing too much lampposts. Questions also posed around permissions for lampposts and wall mounts. chasing CBC for clarity. Festoons preferred so CBC being urgently chased. It of companies stated they will not quote until August. In 2021 we spent £2.5k, awaiting a te from them. It is visit only comfortable selling for replacement of all tree lights without installation as the it will be two different colours. 7 other suppliers approached asking for quotes on the past replacement and full replacement.
chasing CBC for clarity. Festoons preferred so CBC being urgently chased. r of companies stated they will not quote until August. In 2021 we spent £2.5k, awaiting a te from them. e visit only comfortable selling for replacement of all tree lights without installation as e it will be two different colours. 7 other suppliers approached asking for quotes on
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e it will be two different colours. 7 other suppliers approached asking for quotes on
, part replacement and full replacement.
ight show is included in this quote along with image projections of candy canes, snowmen a snow cannon.
ight show is included in the above quote.
ence, it is proposed to progress with the current grotto repairs. This would be more cost than the inflatable solution if two grotto events took place.
's Santa is available for free on the 25th November but is unavailable for the 23rd er therefore external suppliers are being sourced. Price for hire is at £174 plus £25 every er that.
e complexity of the category it is suggested to table this until next year.
e complexity of the category it is suggested to table this until flext year.
ate for an electrician to be present for event support.

BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL Town Centre Management Committee 19th July 2022 Crime Statistics Report Quarter 4 2021-2022

Implications of Recommendations

Corporate Strategy: The Town Council analyses crime statistics to maintain an awareness of local crime, allowing for informed mitigating decisions to be made.

Finance: May influence budgetary requirement for CCTV infrastructure.

Equality: The Town Council uses crime analysis to maintain equality within the community. **Environment:** Routine monitoring of crime statistics ensures the environment is safeguarded. **Community Safety:** The crime statistics assessments enable the Council to meet its Statutory

Community Safety responsibilities.

Background

Crime statistics have not been reported for a significant amount of time so for an easier comparison this report only provides data for Quarter 4 (Q4) spanning January 2022 through March 2022.

Introduction

If there have been no reported crimes of a category of crime this will not be displayed in the graph. The figures used within this report are the crimes recorded in Biggleswade by Bedfordshire Police that can be shared with the public.

Appendix

The appendix provides a breakdown of how crime reported in Biggleswade has been categorised.

Graph 1 analysis

Both attempted theft and theft of businesses, hate crime, and violent offences have significantly decreased between 2020 and 2022. Burglaries, drug-related offences, sexual offences/harassment and traffic offences have remained relatively static. Assault, whilst decreasing significantly between 2020 and 2021, is now back to the same level for 2022. There have then been increases within the three year period for criminal damage and other criminal offences.

Graph 2 analysis

For the most part, crimes have either remained at a similar level or have increased on a month by month basis in Q4. Those with the largest increase include criminal damage, theft or attempted theft and other criminal offences. Positively, no incidences of drug-related offences nor traffic offences were recorded in March.

Graph 3 analysis

March sees the highest number of incidences of theft or attempted theft over January and February. Theft from a motor vehicle, robbery of personal property, theft from the person and other theft each saw an increase between January and March. Other forms of theft and attempted theft were comparatively low.

Graph 4 analysis

Making off without payment has remained at one incident a month. Shoplifting has slightly decreased from January to March.

Graph 5 analysis

Biggleswade Holme, whilst sustaining the same level of theft or attempted business theft between January and February, then saw a small increase in March. Biggleswade Ivel had a significant number of incidences recorded in January, which then significantly decreased in the months to follow. Biggleswade Stratton saw no reports in both January and February, and only one in March.

Graph 6 analysis

A comparatively high number of businesses in January saw theft or attempted theft on Bonds Lane, Church Street and London Road. Church Street then saw a large drop off whilst crime rates in the remaining roads remained relatively static. Otherwise, there were a handful of theft-related crimes reported across other roads in Biggleswade, mostly occurring in March.

Graph 7 analysis

Whilst business burglary decreased to zero between January and March, both attempted burglary and burglary across residential units saw an increase.

Graph 8 analysis

Increases can be seen for residential damage and other criminal damage through Q4 whilst criminal damage to business buildings has decreased. Overall, for Q4, criminal damage was at its peak in March.

Graph 9 analysis

Assault cases have remained at a consistently high number through Q4 and have increased from January to March. Most reports have been made regarding assault without injury, this also increasing over Q4 and peaking in March. Assault with injury has seen a gradual decline over the three month period.

Graph 10 analysis

There have been an equal number of violent offence types committed in January and February with no paritcular trend. However, no violent offences were reported in March.

Summary

Overall, crime rates versus a comparable period (pre-pandemic), 2020, dropped by 18%. There continues to be a significant number of assaults, theft or attempted theft and other criminal offences though. There have been no new crime types reported thus quarter. It is also reassuring that to see a significant decrease in hate crime and violent offences committed.

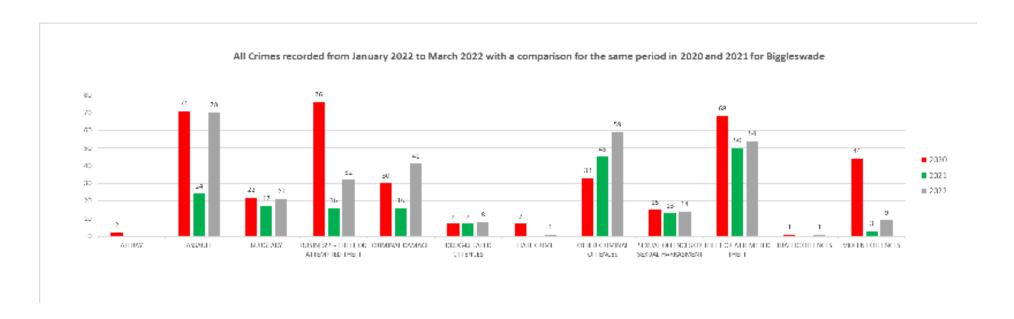
Recommendations

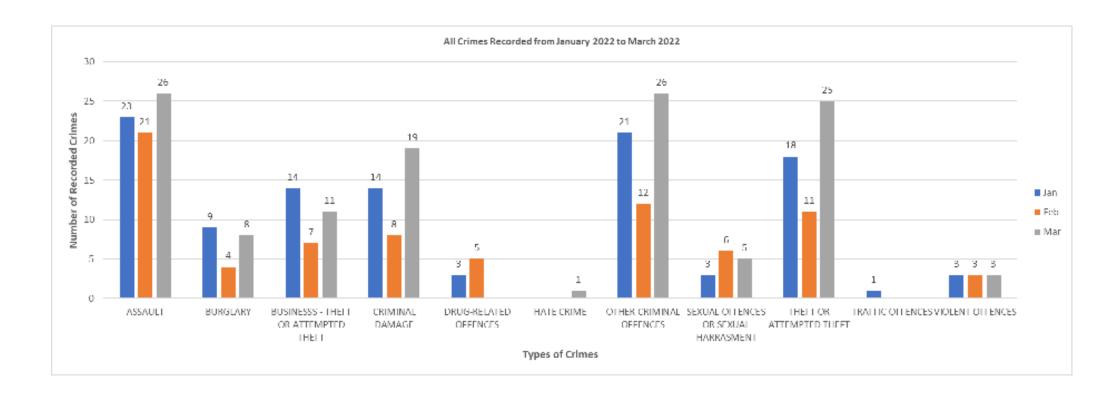
Members note the Q4 crime statistics.

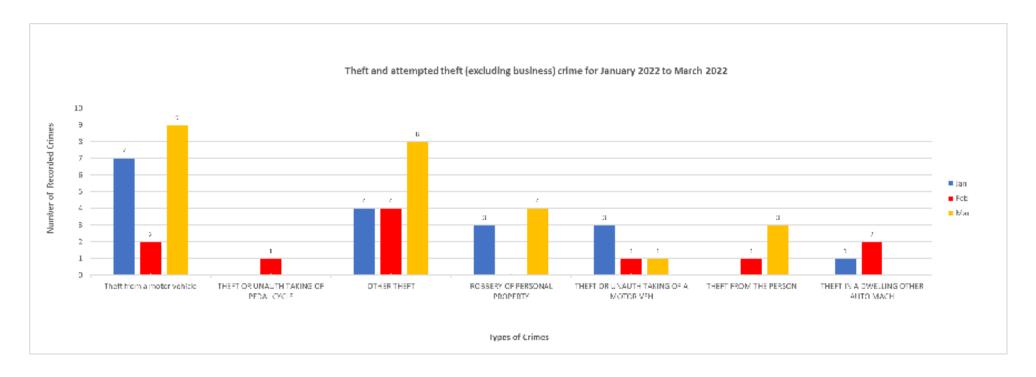
Members note that Officers will produce a quarterly, and annual report presented at TCM Committee.

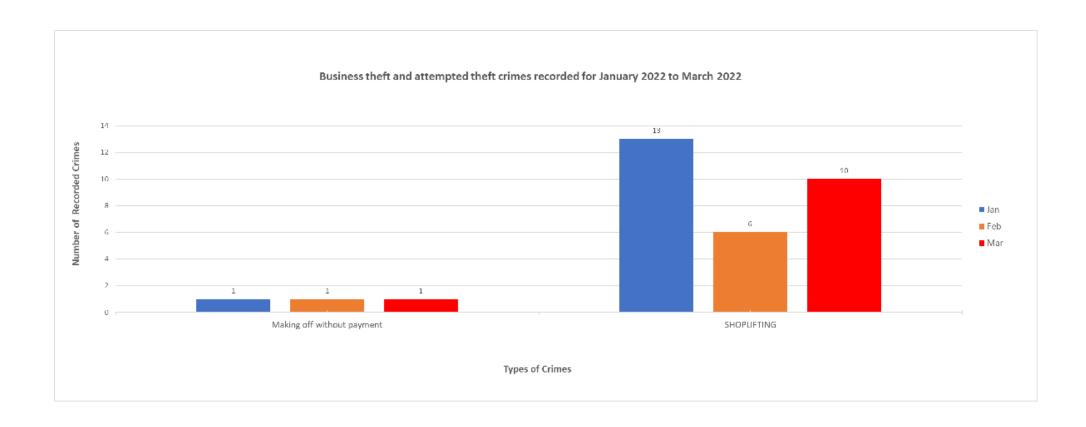
Isaac Lord Place Shaping Manager

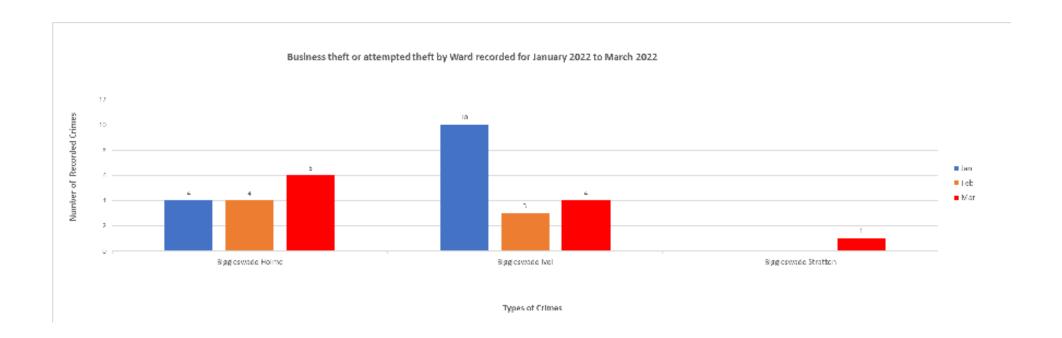
Overview of Graphs:

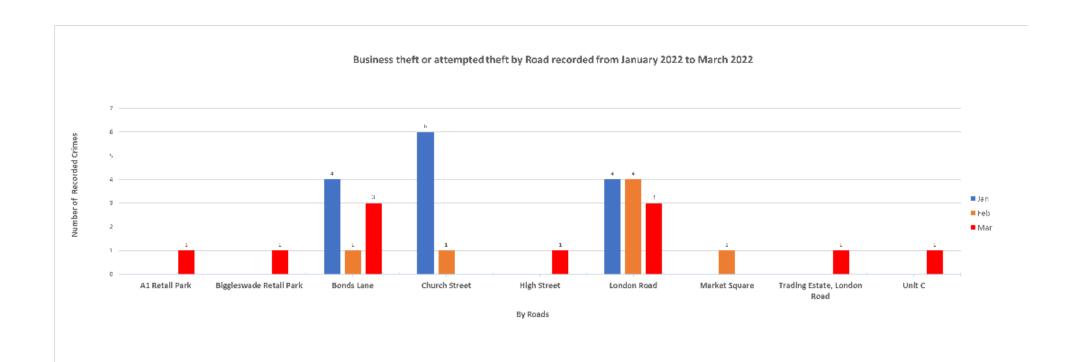


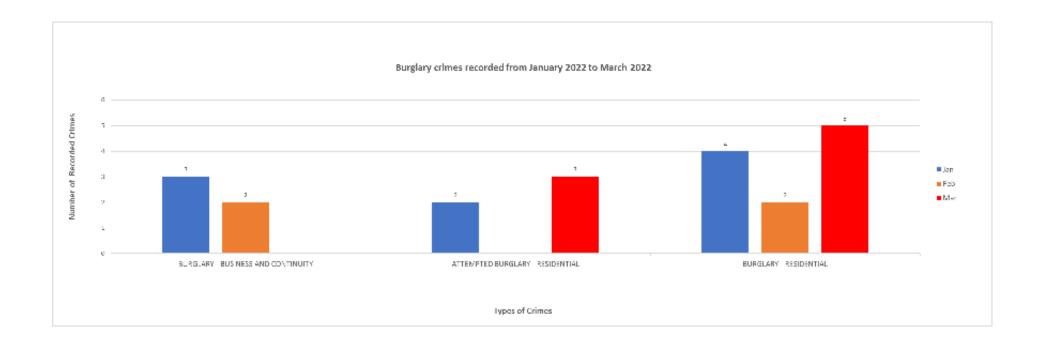


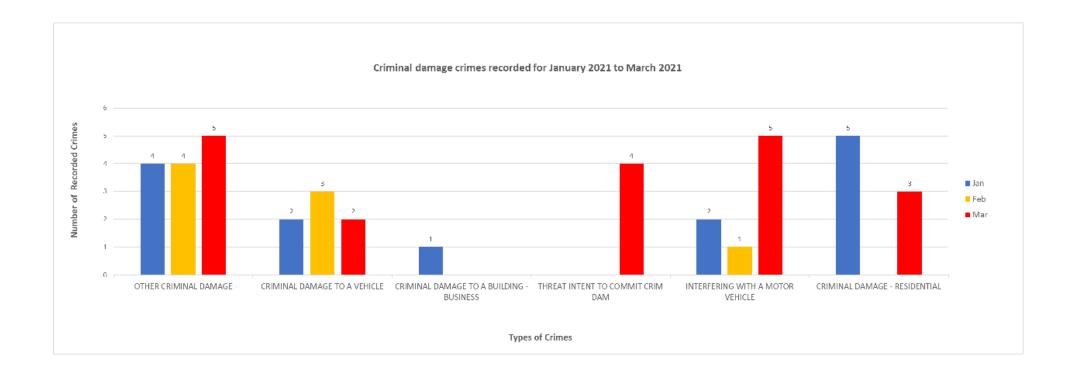


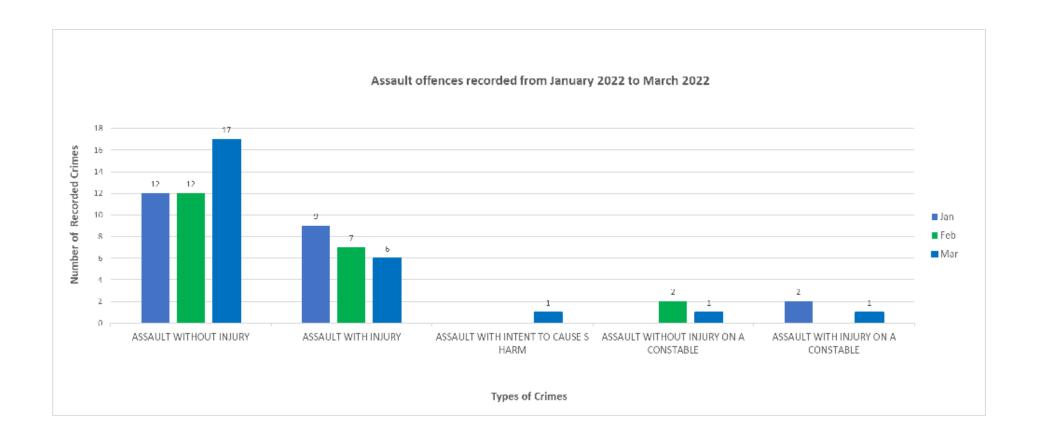


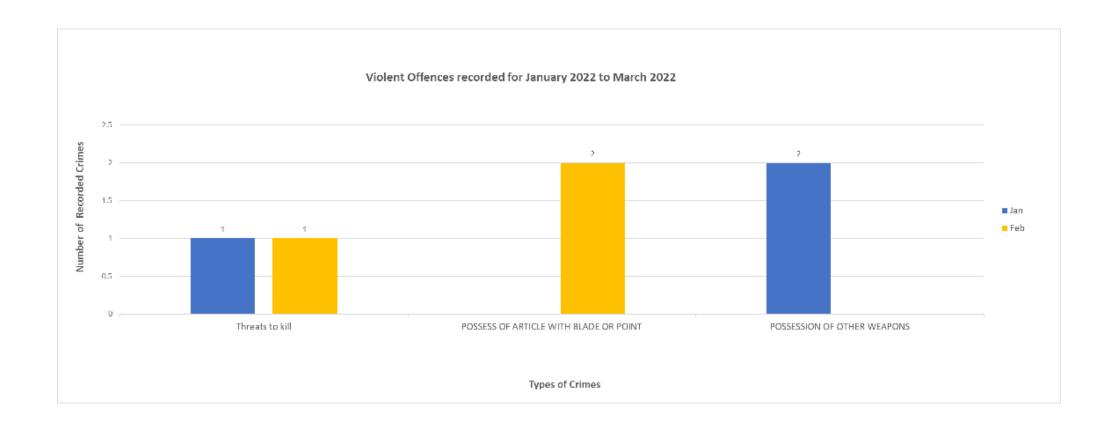












Appendix

Offence BC Level 2

Abstracting electricity OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Acquisition, use & possession of criminal property CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Affray

Aggravated Burglary - Business And Community

BURGLARY

Aggravated Burglary - Bosidential - Dwelling

Aggravated Burglary - Residential - Dwelling BURGLARY

Aggravated vehicle taking THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Arson endangering life (Indictable)

Arson not endangering life

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Arson not endangering life CRIMINAL DAMAGE
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH)
ASSAULT

Assault or assault by beating of a constable ASSAULT

Assault or assault by beating of an emergency worker (except a constable)

ASSAULT

Assault or assault by beating of an emergency worker (except a constable)

Assault Police - Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH) (S.47)

Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery

ASSAULT

Assault without injury on a constable (Police Act offence)

ASSAULT

Attempted - Fraud etc OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
Attempted - Kidnapping - False imprisonment (Indictable) OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Attempted - Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000) CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Attempted - Robbery (Personal) (Indictable)

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Attempted - Sec 4 POA Fear or provocation of violence VIOLENT OFFENCES

Attempted - Sec 4a POA Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress VIOLENT OFFENCES

Attempted - Theft from automatic machine or meter BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Attempted - Theft from shops and stalls

BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Attempted - Theft from the person of another THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT
Attempted - Theft if not classified elsewhere THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Attempted - Theft in a dwelling THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Attempted Burglary - Business And Community BURGLARY
Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling BURGLARY

Attempted murder (Indictable) MURDER OR ATTEMPTED MURDER

Blackmail (Indictable)

Breach of a restraining order

Breach of conditions of injunction against harassment

Breach of non-molestation order Burglary - Business And Community Burglary - Residential - Dwelling Burglary - Residential - Non-Dwelling

Controlling/Coercive behaviour

Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling

Criminal damage to a dwelling

Cruelty or Neglect Dangerous Driving

GBH serious wound without intent (s20)

Going equipped for stealing etc

Harassment - Pursue course of conduct which amounts to stalking

Harassment - Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to

stalking

Harassment - Putting people in fear of violence

Harassment - which amounts to stalking

Harassment - without violence (course of conduct)

Harassment etc. of a person in his home

Having an article with a blade or point in a public place Having possession of a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine Having possession of a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin

Having possession of a controlled drug - Class A - Other Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis

Hold person in slavery or servitude Interference with a motor vehicle

Intimidating a juror or witness or person assisting in investigation

Intimidating or intending to intimidate a witness Kidnapping - False imprisonment (Indictable)

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

BURGLARY BURGLARY BURGLARY

CONTROLLING OR COERCIVE BEHAVIOUR

CRIMINAL DAMAGE
CRIMINAL DAMAGE

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

TRAFFIC OFFENCES
VIOLENT OFFENCES

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT

SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT

VIOLENT OFFENCES

SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT

VIOLENT OFFENCES VIOLENT OFFENCES VIOLENT OFFENCES

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES
DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES
DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES
DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

MODERN SLAVERY

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Making off without payment BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Malicious Communications OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Other criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling (£5,000 and over) CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling (Under £5,000) CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling +£5,000 CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a dwelling (£5,000 and over)

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a vehicle (£5,000 and over)

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage to a vehicle (£5,000 and over)

CRIMINAL DAMAGE
Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage, other (£5,000 and over) CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000) CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Possessing firearm or imitation firearm VIOLENT OFFENCES

Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Cannabis DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Other DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

Possession of offensive weapon OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Production or being concerned in production of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

Racially or religiously aggravated assault

HATE CRIME

Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating HATE CRIME

Racially or religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence HATE CRIME

Racially or religiously aggravated Harassment or stalking without violence HATE CRIME

Racially or religiously aggravated Harassment without violence

HATE CRIME

Racially or religiously aggravated harassment, alarm or distress

HATE CRIME
Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress

HATE CRIME

Receiving stolen goods OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Robbery (Business) (Indictable)

Robbery (Personal) (Indictable)

Sec 4 POA Fear or provocation of violence

VIOLENT OFFENCES

VIOLENT OFFENCES

Sec 4a POA Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress

Sec 5 POA Harassment, alarm or distress

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety, Malicious Communications

Act 1988 OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Sexual SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT
Stalking SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT
Stalking involving serious alarm/distress SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT

Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

Theft by an Employee BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft from a motor vehicle THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft from automatic machine or meter BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft from shops and stalls

BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft from the person of another

Theft if not classified elsewhere

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft of a motor vehicle THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft of conveyance other than a motor or pedal cycle

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft of Mail THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article in a public place

VIOLENT OFFENCES

Threaten with an offensive weapon in a public place

VIOLENT OFFENCES

Threats to destroy or damage property CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Threats to kill VIOLENT OFFENCES

Unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

Voyeurism SEXUAL OFFENCES OR SEXUAL HARRASMENT

Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (Indictable)

VIOLENT OFFENCES

Blackmail

Theft or unauth taking of pedal cycle

Other theft

Assault without injury Other criminal damage

Harassment

Assault with injury

Possess of control drugs (cannabis)
ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO A VEHICLE

kidnapping shoplifting

THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL

POSSESS OF CONTROL DRUGS (EX CANNABIS)

PUBLIC FEAR ALARM OR DISTRESS GOING EQUIPPED FOR STEALING

BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO A BUILDING - BUSINESS

THREAT INTENT TO COMMIT CRIM DAM INTERFERING WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE

HANDLING STOLEN GOODS
STATE OR PUBLIC ORDER

CRIMINAL DAMAGE - RESIDENTIAL

TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS

POSSESS OF ARTICLE WITH BLADE OR POINT

RACE OR RELIGIOUSLY AGG HARASS RACE OR RELIGIOUS AGG PUBLIC FEAR POSSESSION OF FIREARMS OFFENCES

THEFT FROM THE PERSON

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT
THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

ASSAULT

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

ASSAULT

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES
THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

BUSINESSS - THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

BURGLARY

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

BURGLARY

CRIMINAL DAMAGE CRIMINAL DAMAGE CRIMINAL DAMAGE

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES
OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES

VIOLENT OFFENCES

HATE CRIME

VIOLENT OFFENCES

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE SERIOUS HARM

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE S HARM

THEFT IN A DWELLING OTHER AUTO MACH

POSSESSION OF OTHER WEAPONS

ATTEMPT BURG - BUS AND COM

ASSAULT WITHOUT INJURY ON A CONSTABLE

PROFIT FROM OR CONCEAL PROCEEDS OF CRIME

ASSAULT WITH INJURY ON A CONSTABLE

AGGRAVATED BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL

RACE OR RELIGIOUSLY AGG ASSAULT NO INJ

ASSAULT

ASSAULT

THEFT OR ATTEMPTED THEFT

VIOLENT OFFENCES

BURGLARY

ASSAULT

OTHER CRIMINAL OFFENCES

ASSAULT

BURGLARY

HATE CRIME