

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE
5th March 2025**

Officer: Ruth Jones - Office Manager

TEAM SHREWSBURY UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

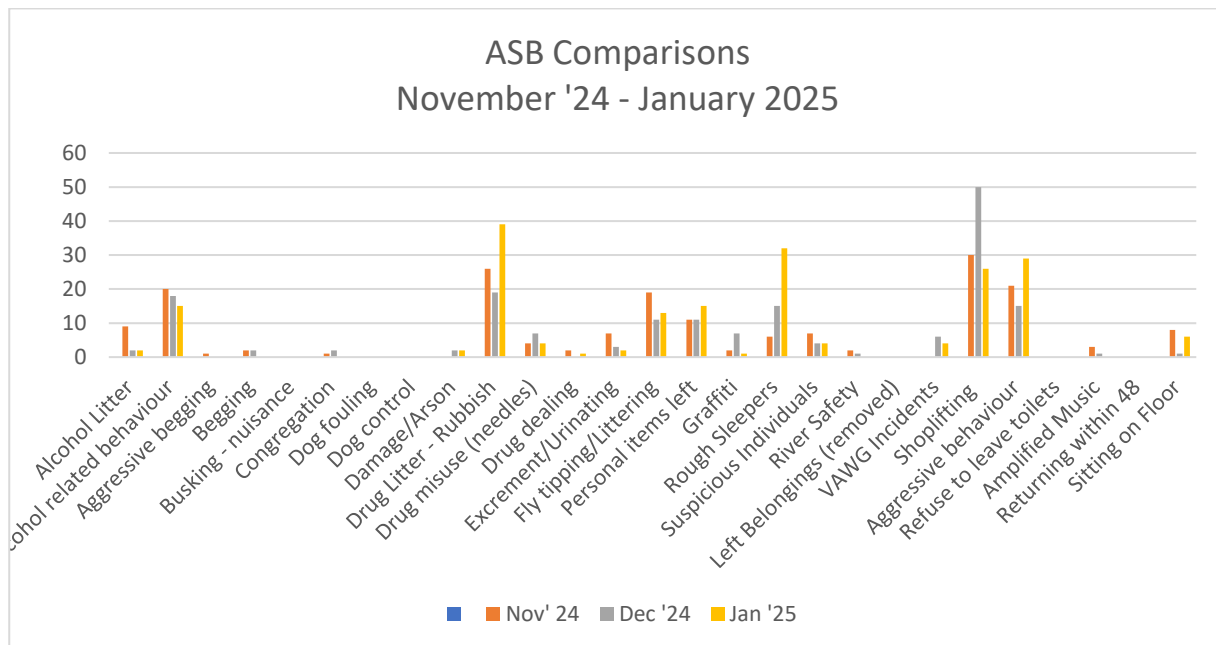
To receive an update on Team Shrewsbury

Meetings

Any ASB issues/concerns please raise via the Office Manager. Operational meetings continue fortnightly, Tactical meetings have been split into the current priorities – River Safety, ASB & Youth.

Incidents

The below shows the ASB incidents recorded between November 2024 – January 2025:



Theft of Items Returned

During November 2024 to January 2025 – approximately £3,400 worth of items have been recovered and returned back to stores.

Tannery & Coton Hill House Update

Tannery

Planning permission for a change of use was granted to use the building as supported accommodation for homeless people. Work has taken place, which included the creation of more office space for staff, installation of additional CCTV, etc. Generally, the building was very well suited to the requirements, with modern facilities, bathroom facilities in each room. Rooms are in clusters of 6 - 8 rooms with a shared kitchen, laundry facilities and a secure building.

There are 60 rooms including 2 adapted for disabled clients.

Staff have been appointed to maintain a welcome and security presence. These staff monitor the entrances, CCTV and patrol the building with a Concierge present on site 24/7.

Housing Support Offices are also located at the Tannery, providing a tailored support to residents 6 days per week. This support is more effective than delivering a remote service in B&B settings.

Residents started to occupy the building on 20th January 2025. Predominately clients are being moved from hotels & B&B facilities. Mid Feb there were 32 residents signed up and living at the Tannery.

Feedback from residents has been very positive, particularly about the building, rooms, the ability to access kitchen and laundry facilities and the support available from staff. Engagement with partners has also been very positive.

There have been very few problems to date. Residents have been following the rules and are very grateful for the support, allowing them to get into more permanent accommodation.

The opening received favourable press coverage and BBC Radio Shropshire have visited to talk with staff and residents.

Shropshire Council are pleased with the progress to date, staff and residents are doing well and savings are being made as hotel placements are not having to be paid.

Coton Hill

Building works are progressing, however there are some technical building challenges to overcome, which will delay the opening until July 2025.

There have been a series of meetings with PORCH representing the local community, which has led to a number of changes to the management plan for the building.

There will be 25 x 1-bedroom self-contained flats (which is different from the Tannery), to accommodate those who need self-contained facilities. Staff will be present on site 24/7, with CCTV and a controlled access building.

Two years ago, there were 200 homeless households in B&B settings, where individuals were placed outside of Shropshire due to the lack of availability. The facilities are not always good, the support provided is limited and the cost is prohibitive.

Currently there are 90 households placed in B&B, this is expected to reduce significantly, as the improved accommodation becomes available. This is a really positive change for Shropshire and Shrewsbury in particular.

TREES – Together Reducing & Ending Exploitation in Shropshire

The Winter Edition 2024 -2025 is attached to the report.

Financial Assistance

If you're working with anyone who is struggling to meet their essentials living costs, they may be able to apply for some help from the Household Prevention Fund. We may be able to help people with essentials such as food, energy and water charges, essentials linked to food, energy and water and other essential living costs. Each application is considered individually, depending on the circumstances.

- For general queries about this, call the Welfare Support Team on 0345 678 9078 (option 1).
- Customers who would like to make an application should call our application line, on 0345 678 9078 (option 2).

For more information on the Welfare Support Team: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/shropshire-council/welfare-support-team-local-welfare-provision/>

For more information on help with the cost of living: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/>

Shropshire Fire & Rescue (SFRS).

Currently running a Fire Setters Interventions Scheme – Firesetting | Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, which is an educational programme for young people under 17 years old who have displayed fire setting behaviour, with the aim to:

- Raising awareness of the dangers of fires
- Illustrate consequences of firesetting behaviour
- Teach how to control their factors that lead to fire setting
- Provide education on how to keep safe from fire in the home and what to do in the event of a fire.

Scheme is usually undertaken in the home environment. Details regarding how to make referrals are listed on the website - [Firesetting | Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service](#)

WMP Exploitation Training

Young people are now most commonly abused online, via their mobile phones and games consoles. Below training sessions are available:

- **Parent** - free one-hour online awareness session is available to provide a head start in an ever-changing digital world.
- **Community** A free one-hour online awareness session is available to learn how to protect our young people from those wanting to exploit them.

A free one and a half hour **professionals** awareness session to learn how to keep young people safe and what to look out for.

To book on free training sessions scan the QR code or go to www.westmercia.police.uk/exploitworkshops



Parents and guardians: Our kids are now most commonly abused online, via their mobile phones and games consoles. Do you know how to keep your kids safe?

Learn more about the dangers of kids being online and how you can keep them safe.

Join our free one hour online parent awareness session to give yourself a head start in an ever changing digital world.

Our community: It takes all of us to protect our kids. Whether you are a postal worker, a bin worker, taxi driver, residents, a sports coach, we all need to know what kids being taken advantage of looks like and what to do about it.

Join our free one hour online community awareness session to learn how to protect our kids from those wanting to exploit them.

Professionals and people who work with children: You have a responsibility to keep children safe. You need to know what to look out for. Learn more about why kids are vulnerable and how they are manipulated into harmful situations and exploited.

Join our free one and a half hour professionals awareness session.

Scan the QR code to find out more about our awareness training and to sign up to one of our free sessions or go to www.westmercia.police.uk/exploitworkshops



River Safety (Open Water Safety Group)

A number of meetings and subgroups are taking place around River Safety which includes Education and Signage. The action plan is being reviewed with partners on a quarterly basis.

WMSAR

WMSAR along with other partners teamed up and undertook river patrols on weekends leading up to the holidays. Positive feedback has been received.

River safety videos are available via www.shrewsburybid.co.uk/riversafety.

Water Safety Resource Material

RLSS - <https://www.rlss.org.uk/dwp-ttretffgsdg45354367hjksakyuiydauksh>

RLSS - [Winter Water Safety | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#) - advice for winter water safety/floods

Home and Dry course - <https://westmerciasar.org.uk/homeanddry/free-water-safety-online-course/>

SFRS - <https://shropshirefire.gov.uk/water-safety>

Educational Material

RLSS - <https://www.rlss.org.uk/pages/category/water-safety-education-resources-for-7-9-year-olds>

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/pages/category/water-safety-education-resources-for-5-7-year-olds>

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) That the Report be noted;