

# APPENDIX 1



**NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME**

**CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY REPORT**

**TOWN CENTRE**

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Date: February 2021  
Version: 1/21

- Please note NTE (night time economy) is recorded as 21:00hrs to 07:00hrs and DTE (Day time economy) 07:00hrs to 21:00hrs  
Therefore there will be some crossover with night time and day time economy.

## **INTRODUCTION**

I respectfully report the following in relation to a request that a cumulative impact assessment [CIA] be both refreshed and considered for Newcastle under Lyme town centre.

In support of this report I have used information and data provided by Staffordshire Police recording systems and government census.

Newcastle under Lyme town Centre is the focal hub of both day and night time economy within the wider borough. There are a number of satellite parishes including Madeley, Audley and Kidsgrove, including the student / business community of Keele University contained within the footprint of Newcastle under Lyme Borough.

Newcastle under Lyme town centre is the busier area - both from a retail / footfall perspective, and also crime / disorder associated with day and night economy.

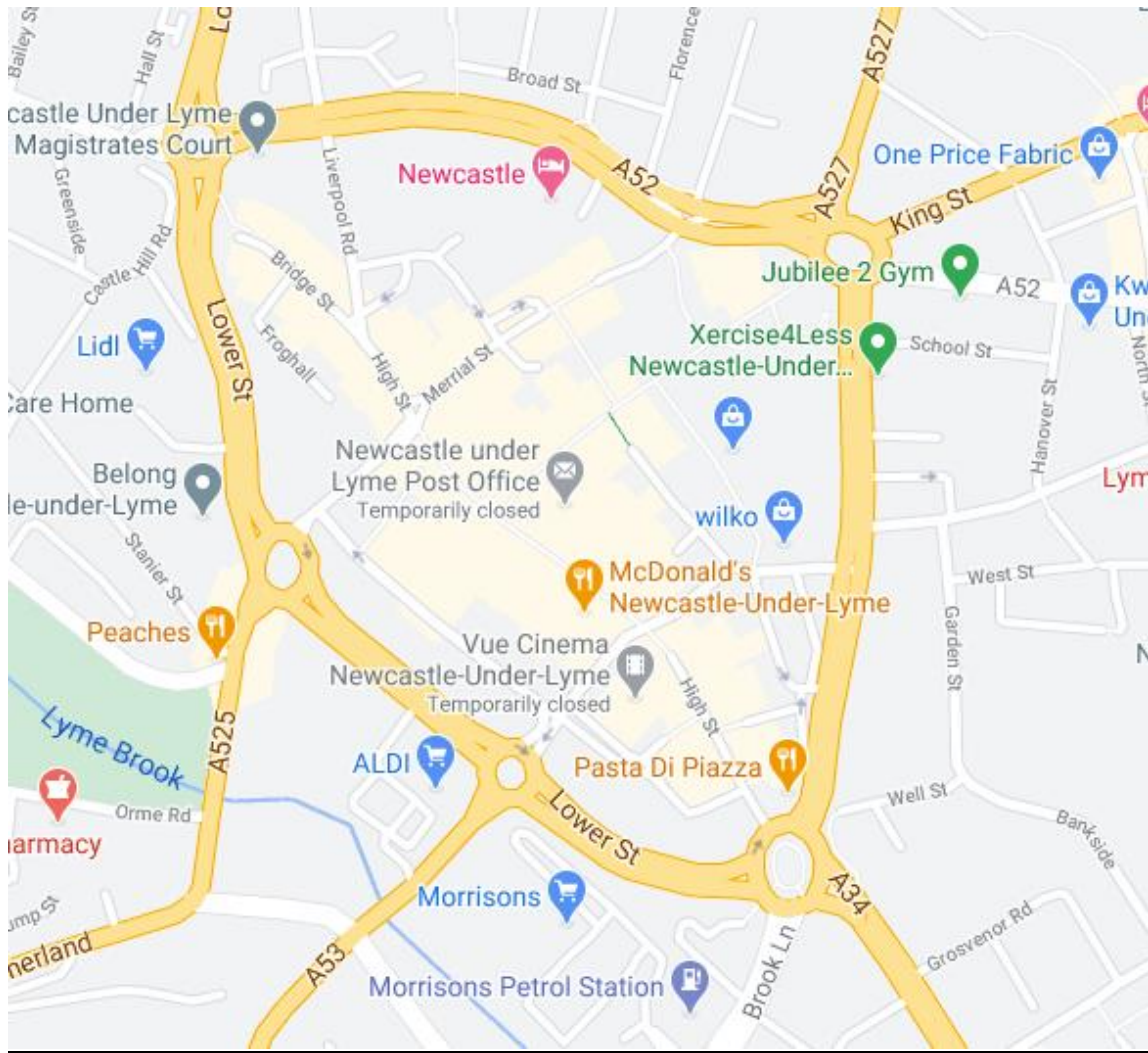
The advent of the Coronavirus pandemic in late 2019, and its subsequent impact on both daytime and night time economy has been dramatic, with a host of businesses subject to lockdown measures and cessation of trading. In reviewing the need to re-apply under the CIA, a comparative model is considered to reflect what is deemed a PRE-COVID19 and a speculative POST-COVID19 environment.

Statistics provided are correct as Month to date [MTD] February 2019 to February 2020 [unless stated]. This period coincides with an environment PRE-COVID19 lockdown.

For the most part crime and disorder attributed to the night time economy takes place as bordered within an area known as the ring-road consisting of the A34, A52, Lower Street & Ryecroft.

For the purposes of this report 'licensed premises' relates to premises licensed to carry out any licensable activity, including the sale of alcohol for consumption on or off the premises and the provision of late-night refreshment. This includes late night food outlets which are not licensed to sell alcohol.

For the purposes of this report the town centre is illustrated on the map below.



## Overview

Newcastle town has a mixture of business premises, some of which are licensed to sell food and or liquor and residential premises mainly in the form of multi-storey flats, self-contained apartments and residential properties above or connected to business premises.

Supporting the town centre functions are a host of local authority partner agencies, charities and other marshals.

Recent years have seen business changes with small companies relocating, choosing to invest into the local economy of Newcastle town centre, and some business either cease trading or relocate elsewhere.

There are two main hotels which offer overnight accommodation in the area – both within relative walking distance of the town centre.

Keele University is a short drive from the town centre and hosts around 3,000 students in term time.

Staffordshire Police are aware of a recent premise application and an additional licence application for two premises:

Former BERTS, High Street

Former MALIKS RESTAURANT, Ironmarket

## **Licensed Premises**

There are currently 35 licensed premises in Newcastle under Lyme town centre giving a varied mix of businesses involved within both the daytime and night time economy. The vast majority of venues close between 23:00 – 02:00hrs with 3 regular premises making use of an extended 03:00hrs licence on a Friday and Saturday evening.

These are a mixture of bars, pubs and restaurants.

It is observed through discussion with premise managers that licensed premises will employ discretion and close earlier than their normal licensing hours where it is financially advantageous for them to do so.

Friday and Saturday nights traditionally see the most patrons attending the town with average numbers beginning to increase steadily from 18:00hrs and peaking around 22:30 – 23:00hrs.

Venues that close between 02:00 – 03:00hrs will see exiting patrons often gathered in number on both The High Street, Ironmarket, Bridge Street and Hassell Street with two late hours fast food businesses located nearby. Moving forward into 2021 onwards, the prospect of large crowds gathering will be an extra factor to consider both from a public order point of view, but also from any resurgence of transmittable diseases. Such considerations will reflect guidance provided by government.

Popular bars which attract greater number of patrons during evening hours are commonly:

The Kiln, High Street

Mitchells, High Street

Revolution, Hassell Street

Yates, Ironmarket

The Old Brown Jug, Bridge Street

The Arnold Machin - Wetherspoons, Ironmarket

Representations have been made via the support of Staffordshire Police Licensing in recent years to a number of premise owners, and Designated Premise Supervisors (DPS) relating to poor licence observations, drunkenness of patrons, drug possession / supply, violence and related criminality.

It is anticipated, in the wake of a POST-COVID19 environment that an increase for later trading hours for alcohol licensing will be applied for by both existing and new businesses. Such applications would be subject to very close scrutiny and liaison with Staffordshire Police Licensing and Local Authority Licensing teams.

## **Public / Private Transport**

With the support of the local authority, both private hire and hackney carriage services are pooled at agreed locations on Hassell Street / High Street and Newcastle under Lyme bus station during closing hours during the night. Daytime provisions operate within agreed bus routes, taxi ranks and more recently, the ZWINGS rental electric scooter.

## **Purple Flag Status**

Newcastle town centre is proud to host a PURPLE FLAG STATUS offering increased levels of investment to security and safety measures being in place, and a radio system between businesses and police made available. The significance of responsible businesses, the correct application of licensing conditions and security measures ensure a safer environment for staff, visitors and businesses alike. The Purple Flag Scheme is agreed by the Association of Town & City Management (ATCM) and has awarded Newcastle under Lyme town centre its 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual status offering the theme of a vibrant and diverse area to visit and work.

## **Policing**

Night time economy is policed by a small team of officers, complemented by a number of Special Constables based at Castle House, Barracks Road and will offer a combination of high visibility and plain clothes foot patrol of the town centre area from 20:00 – 03:00hrs.

Officers operate a *meet and greet* theme to ensure patrons and premises staff are reassured by an early policing presence when visiting, with this presence continuing into the night.

Police make frequent use of relevant legislation to prevent, detect and deter crime with the focus of promoting a safer environment for businesses and visitors of the town centre.

Temporary highway closures are enacted which are generally with the support of businesses to moderate vehicle / pedestrian access during peak evening and daytime hours. This allows safer passage of pedestrians throughout the busier areas and offers a more controlled and efficient traffic flow.

Structured licensing checks feature as a regular method of monitoring and supporting licensed premises to ensure a safe environment for staff and patrons.

## CCTV

The majority of local businesses offer their own private and independent CCTV systems in addition to a system of newly upgraded CCTV cameras owned by Newcastle Borough Council.

50 x cameras provide both police and the local authority safe, secure and compliant coverage of public areas.

The provision of a monitoring terminal for Newcastle under Lyme policing team within Castle House is used daily for both live and evidential reviewing for investigative purposes.

The recent upgrade to a new model of camera and hardware is complemented by an arboricultural plan to make best use of the technology whilst keeping established green areas, plants and trees healthy and intact.

## Crime

The following comparative reports of crime are summarised.

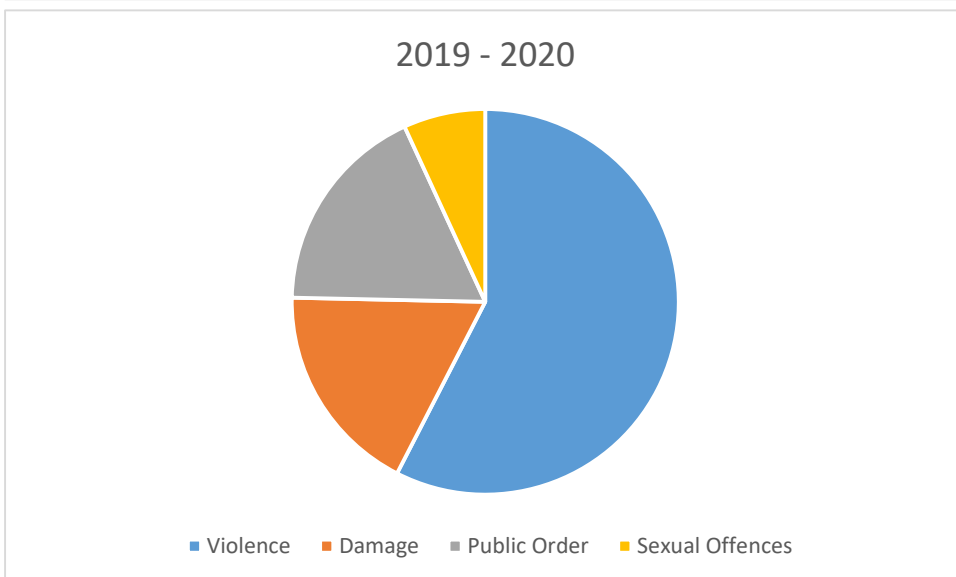
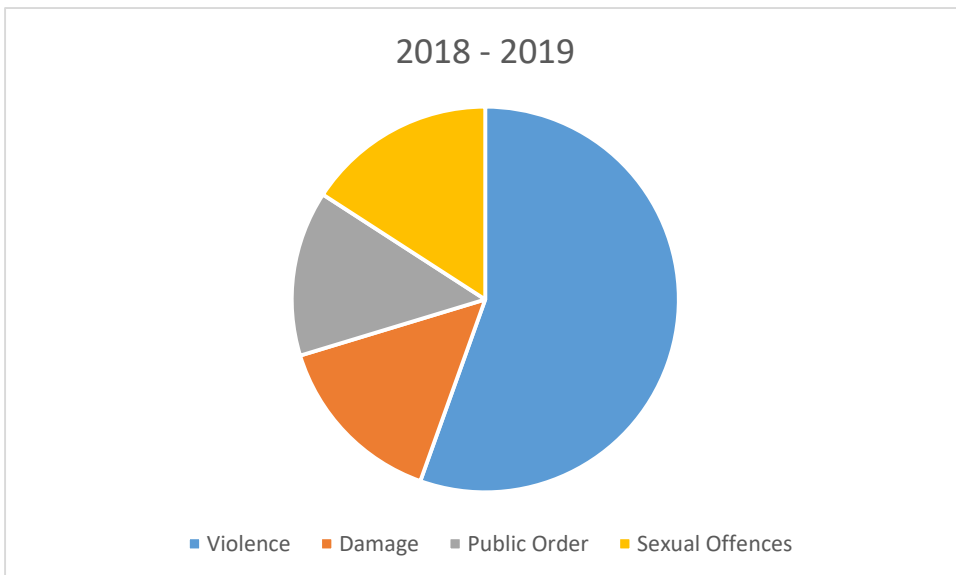
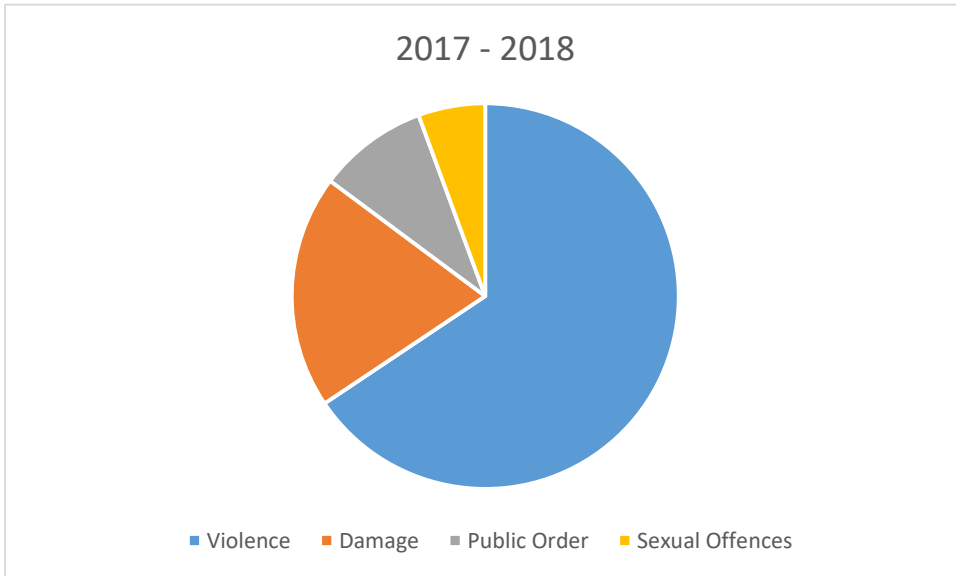
Information taken from STORM police recording system 01/02/2018 – 01/02/2020.

<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>+ / -</b>	<b>+ / - %</b>
VIOLENCE	175	178	+2%	+3
ROBBERY	12	12	0	0
SEXUAL OFFENCES	22	24	+9%	+2
PUBLIC ORDER	42	59	+40%	+17
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	76	58	-24%	-18
DRUGS POSSESSION	22	8	-64%	-4

## Newcastle under Lyme town centre Sec.35 Dispersal Powers Anti-Social Behavior Act 214

<b>ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>+ / -</b>	<b>+ / - %</b>
SEC.35 DISPERSAL NOTICES	Data not available	77	N/A	N/A
SEC. 34 DISPERSAL ORDERS	32	37	+5	+15%

## TOTAL CRIME BY PROPORTION

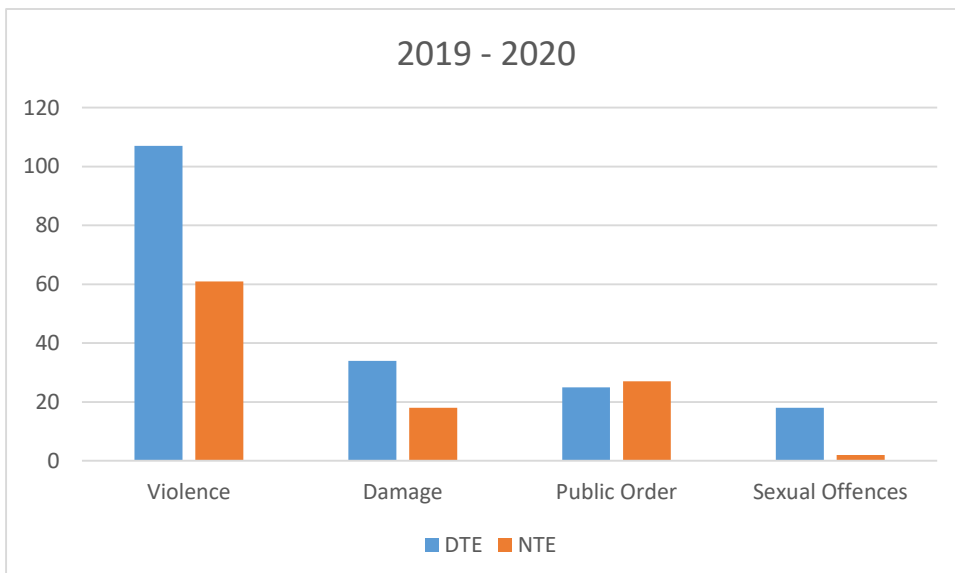
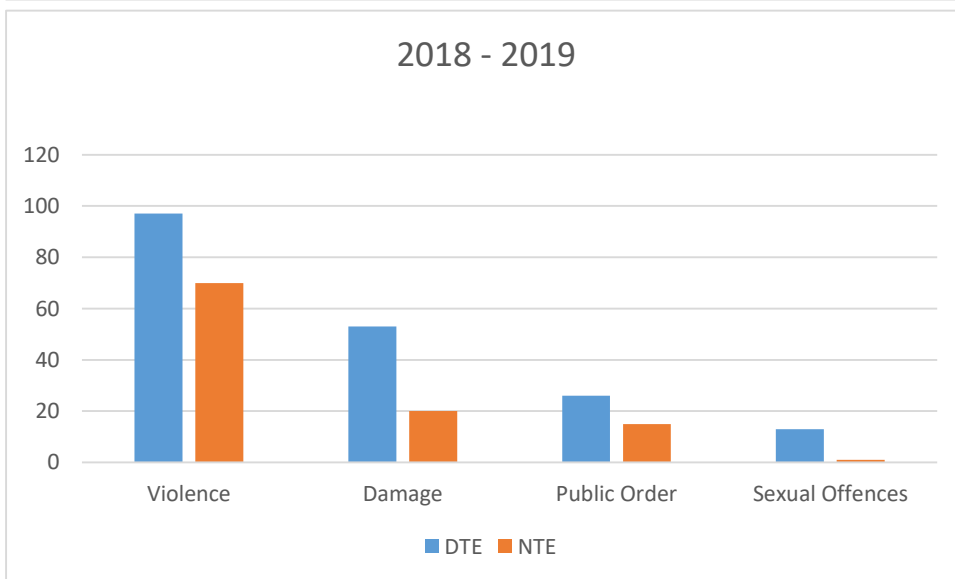
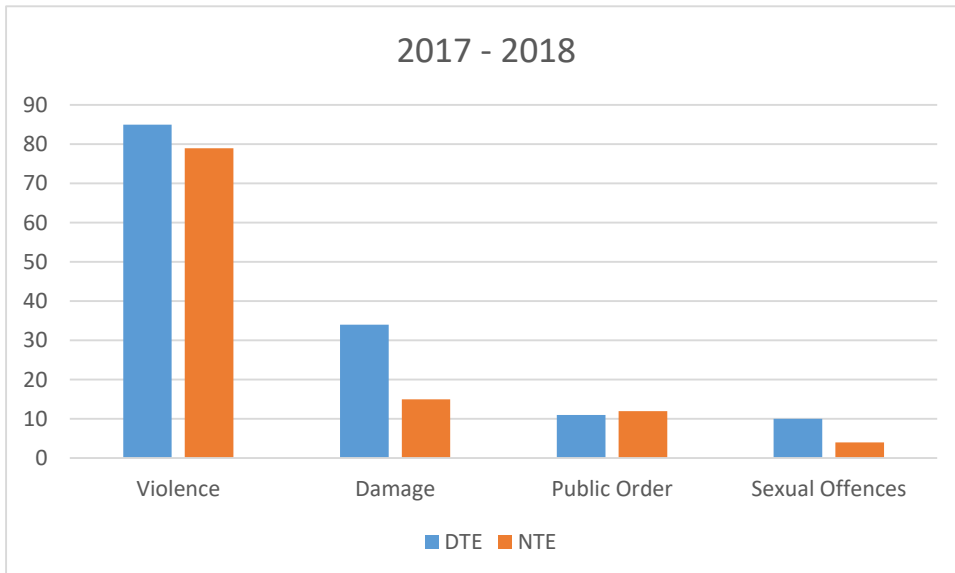




## CRIME - DAY VS NIGHT ECONOMY

DTE - 0700 – 2100

NTE - 2100 – 0700



## Anti-Social Behavior

Anti-social behavior is classified into three collective groups:

### Community

Likelihood of a general and nonspecific effect on an area whether towards businesses, visitors, or residents. Likely to be more than one person / group effected.

Examples of which are begging, street drinking, littering, etc.

### Personal

Direct, Indirect or intended effect on an individual or business

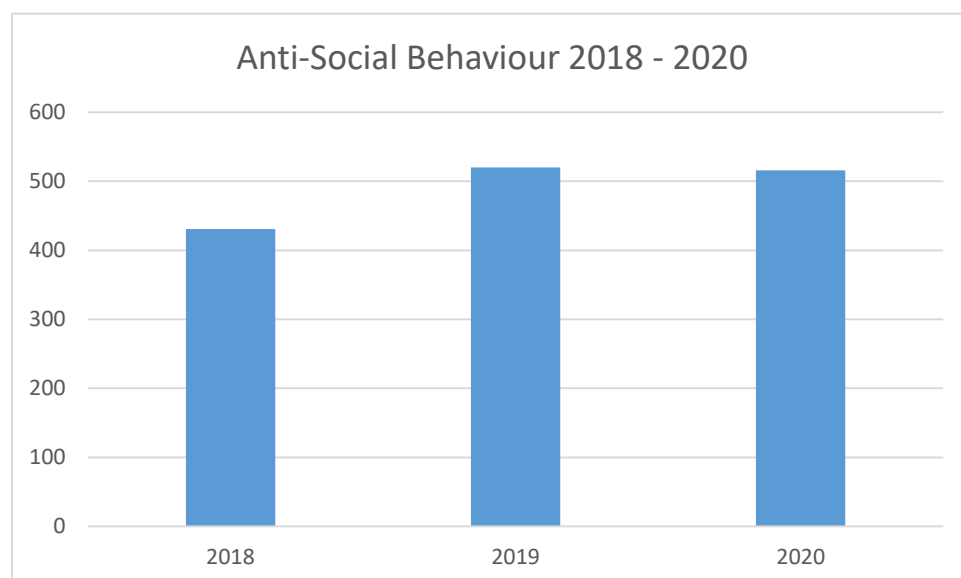
Examples of which – Foul / abusive language, drunken behavior, behavior causing harassment, alarm or distress.

### Environmental

Likelihood of impact on environmental issues.

Examples such as – excessive noise, fly-tipping, burning of waste.

ASB	2019	2020	+ / -	+ / - %
COMMUNITY, PERSONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL TOTAL	422	516	+ 22%	+94



ASB is as generally subject to higher reports between the hours of 20:00hrs and 00:00hrs, and peaks at weekends both day and night hours.

## Demographic – Newcastle under Lyme (Borough)

	Population (per group)	
	Volume	Per 1,000
Total population	126,052	126.05
Adult population	102,179	102.18
16+ population	105,194	105.19
Child population	22,673	22.67

	Crime		Non Crime	
	Volume	Per 1,000	Volume	Per 1,000
Crimes/Non Crimes (all victims)	2,327	18.46	701	5.56
Crimes/Non Crimes with adult victims	1,564	15.31	590	5.77
Crimes/Non Crimes with victims age 16+	1,606	15.27	604	5.74
Crimes/Non Crimes with child victims	216	9.53	30	1.32

Figures correct from 2014 census data

## **CONCERNS**

There is a consistent theme of crime and anti-social behavior impacting on both daytime and night time economy.

Figures show an increase in sexual offences, violence and public order offences from 2019 to 2020.

Since COVID19 was recorded in the UK, national lockdown measures have dramatically changed, and will continue to shape the daytime and night time economy of Newcastle under Lyme town centre.

During the brief reprise of lockdown measures between July and October 2020, there was an increase in reported crime which was to be anticipated - coinciding with licensed premises reopening and an influx of patrons returning to the [then] first phase of a new norm.

As Newcastle Town Centre slowly moves into a new era of POST-COVID19 measures, as colleges and universities resume and businesses reopen, it is anticipated that a return to normality may very well be met with an increase in crime and anti-social behavior.

It is firmly considered, that a continuance of current policy is allowed to remain in order to offer the best chance of keeping a sense of calm and order to the businesses, residents and visitors of Newcastle town centre.

Newcastle-under-Lyme has seen a sharp increase in both student and affordable accommodation in the form of newly built high-rise apartments within the footprint of the town centre. The face of the town centre continues to change, and a new norm brings with it, new challenges.

Purple Flag Status is a solid standard to keep, and in order to support the local economy, current policy should equally support and protect the next phase of lockdown lifting.

Section 35 dispersal powers will continue to be considered to effectively and safely police the town centre, and a close monitor of their effectiveness will be kept against the impact of crime and disorder on businesses and individuals.

Additionally, an agreed partnership approach will be considered under the umbrella theme of "banned from one, banned from all" to discourage repeat issues and robustly address crime and disorder.

There is an incentive to promote and make better use of police / business linked radio systems, and broaden subscription to same. Business Crime Initiative partners are already in consultation and offer an insight into emerging crime trends, themes, and offer other support where available.

New businesses are warmly welcomed by the local policing team and will be afforded equal levels of support and intervention where needed to tackle crime and disorder.

The Neighborhood Policing Team continue to be key partners in reviewing licence applications providing a practical and informed insight to recommendations based on operational policing experience.

Staffordshire Police as a responsible authority respectfully submit this report as a relevant representation.

[END]