

Tamworth Borough Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal

Appendix C

Scoping Report, including Review of
Plans, Policies and Programmes, Baseline
Information and Key Sustainability Issues

August 2026

C.1 Scoping Report – Main Report



Tamworth Borough Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal

Post Consultation Scoping Report

Tamworth Borough Council

Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth, B79 7BZ

Prepared by:

SLR Consulting Limited

7th Floor, 36 Great Charles Street, Birmingham, B3 3JY

SLR Project No.: 300.001287.00001

5 February 2026



Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
1	21 August 2025	KW/ARK/LJ	VP	VP
2	2 October 2025	KW/LJ	VP	VP
3	29 October 2025	KW/LJ	VP	JM
4	5 February 2026	KW/LJ	VP	VP

Basis of Report

This document has been prepared by SLR Consulting Ltd with reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescales and resources devoted to it by agreement with Tamworth Borough Council (the Client) as part or all of the services it has been appointed to carry out. It is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment.

SLR shall not be liable for the use of or reliance on any information, advice, recommendations and opinions in this document for any purpose by any person other than the Client. Reliance may be granted to a third party only in the event that SLR and the third party have executed a reliance agreement or collateral warranty.

Information reported herein may be based on the interpretation of public domain data collected by SLR, and/or information supplied by the Client and/or its other advisors and associates. These data have been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

The copyright and intellectual property in all drawings, reports, specifications, bills of quantities, calculations and other information set out in this report remain vested in SLR unless the terms of appointment state otherwise.

This document may contain information of a specialised and/or highly technical nature and the Client is advised to seek clarification on any elements which may be unclear to it.

Information, advice, recommendations and opinions in this document should only be relied upon in the context of the whole document and any documents referenced explicitly herein and should then only be used within the context of the appointment.



Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
1.1	What is Sustainability?	1
1.2	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.....	2
2.0	The Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan	4
2.1	Tamworth Borough.....	4
2.2	Scope and Content of the Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan.....	6
3.0	Approach to the SA.....	7
3.1	SA Process and Requirements for Scoping.....	7
3.2	Structure of this Report.....	11
4.0	Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes	12
4.1	Introduction	12
4.2	Summary of Key Messages.....	12
5.0	Economy and Employment.....	18
5.1	Baseline	18
5.2	Key Sustainability Issues.....	28
5.3	Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	30
5.4	Data Gaps.....	30
6.0	Population and Equalities.....	31
6.1	Baseline	31
6.2	Key Sustainability Issues.....	44
6.3	Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	44
6.4	Data Gaps.....	45
7.0	Health	46
7.1	Baseline	46
7.2	Key Sustainability Issues.....	56
7.3	Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	57
7.4	Data Gaps.....	57
8.0	Housing.....	58
8.1	Baseline	58
8.2	Key Sustainability Issues.....	65
8.3	Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	66
8.4	Data Gaps.....	67
9.0	Transport and Accessibility.....	68
9.1	Baseline	68
9.2	Key Sustainability Issues.....	75
9.3	Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	75



9.4 Data Gaps	76
10.0 Air, Noise and Light	77
10.1 Baseline	77
10.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	81
10.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	81
10.4 Data Gaps.....	81
11.0 Climatic Factors	82
11.1 Baseline	82
11.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	96
11.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	97
11.4 Data Gaps.....	98
12.0 Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora and Fauna	99
12.1 Baseline	99
12.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	102
12.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	103
12.4 Data Gaps.....	103
13.0 Cultural Heritage	104
13.1 Baseline	104
13.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	109
13.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	109
13.4 Data Gaps.....	110
14.0 Landscape and Townscape	111
14.1 Baseline	111
14.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	114
14.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	114
14.4 Data Gaps.....	114
15.0 Soils, Water and Minerals	115
15.1 Baseline	115
15.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	121
15.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	122
15.4 Data Gaps.....	122
16.0 Waste	123
16.1 Baseline	123
16.2 Key Sustainability Issues.....	126
16.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan.....	126
16.4 Data Gaps.....	126
17.0 The Proposed SA Framework.....	127



18.0 Next Steps..... 134

Appendices

Appendix A: Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

Appendix B: Detailed SA Framework



Acronyms and Abbreviations

Glossary	
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	A systematic process required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive, aimed at appraising the social, environmental and economic effects of plan strategies and policies and ensuring that they accord with the objectives of sustainable development.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A process required by EU Directive 2001/42/EC (known as the SEA Directive) and the SEA Regulations (Statutory Instrument No. 1633) for the formal assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	An assessment in accordance with the Habitats Regulations (The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (SI No. 2010/490)) to ascertain the significance of potential impacts of a plan on relevant European sites. The assessment determines whether the plan would adversely affect the integrity of the sites in terms of its nature conservation objectives. Where negative effects are identified, other options should be examined to avoid any potential for damaging effects.
In Combination Effects	Where policies, plans or projects effecting the same area might affect European sites in combination with each other.
Local Plan	The Local Plan forms part of the statutory development plan for the Borough and informs decisions on planning applications.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	First published in March 2012, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). The NPPF was most recently updated in December 2024.
Policies Map	A map accompanying the Local Development Framework (LDF) showing areas of protection and identifying locations for land use and development proposals included in the adopted Development Plan Documents.
Green Belt	A designated area of open land around a city or urban area where development is restricted in order to limit urban sprawl, protect the natural environment, preserve the character of rural communities and encourage the regeneration of urban land (brownfield sites).
Circular Economy	A circular economy is a regenerative system in which resource input, waste, emissions, and energy leakage are minimized by slowing, closing, and



Glossary	
	narrowing material and energy loops. This is achieved through long-lasting design, maintenance, reuse, remanufacturing, refurbishment, recycling, and composting.



1.0 Introduction

Tamworth Borough Council is preparing a Local Plan, to manage the future development and growth of the area. It is intended that the plan will cover the period between 2022 and 2043.

The Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan (TBCLP) will replace the existing Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan 2006-2031 (adopted 2016)¹. The Local Plan will reflect relevant legislative requirements, as well as those of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)² and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)³.

The Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan will be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) ([see section 1.2](#)). SLR Consulting Ltd will be working closely with the Council's planning policy team to address Stage A of the SA process.

This Scoping Report is the first output of the SA. The purpose of the scoping stage is to establish the scope and intended approach to the SA, so that the SA tests the sustainability of the Local Plan using relevant and up to date information.

This Scoping Report provides baseline information on the environmental, social, and economic characteristics of the plan area, including the likely evolution of the baseline position which would occur without the plan. The Scoping Report also sets out a methodology and framework for the assessment of the Local Plan and its alternatives, as well as identifies the potential significant effects that the assessment will need to focus on. It has been prepared for consultation with the statutory consultees⁴ and the key stakeholders (as follows) in order to agree the scope of the SA:

- Tamworth Borough Council Departments (climate change);
- Neighbouring authorities (Lichfield District Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council);
- Staffordshire County Council Departments (sustainable transport, public health, and education);
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust; and
- NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board.

1.1 What is Sustainability?

International and national bodies have set out broad principles of sustainable development. Resolution 42/187 of the United Nations General Assembly⁵ defined

¹ Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan 2006-2031 [Pre-submission Local Plan for public consultation \(this document\)](#) (Accessed 24/07/2025)

² Department for Communities and Local Government, The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024 [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Accessed 23/05/25)

³ National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance> (Accessed 23/05/25)

⁴ Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic England

⁵ United Nations, General Assembly, Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987



sustainable development as '*meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*'.

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy Securing the Future⁶ sets out five 'guiding principles' of sustainable development:

- Living within the planet's environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance; and
- Using sound science responsibly.

The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The whole of the NPPF constitutes the Government's view of what sustainable development in England means in practice for the planning system. The NPPF states the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across the different objectives)⁷:

- *An Economic Objective - to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;*
- *A Social Objective - to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and*
- *An Environmental Objective - to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.*

1.2 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

SA of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) is required under Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The SA must incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations). The SEA Regulations transpose the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) into English law and applies to a range of plans and programmes, including DPDs. The purpose of the SEA Directive is to ensure a high

⁶ The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy, Securing the Future, 2005

⁷ Department for Communities and Local Government, The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024 [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Accessed 23/07/25)



level of environmental protection and to integrate the consideration of the environment into the preparation and adoption of plans, with a view to promoting sustainable development. Within the context of local planning in England, it is accepted practice to integrate the requirements of SA and SEA into a single assessment process as set out in the NPPG (updated 2020)⁸.

The purpose of SA is to appraise the environmental, social and economic effects of plans and programmes. The SA 'testing' of the DPD policies and their reasonable alternatives will help to develop the most sustainable policies and proposals as an integral part of the plan's development. Guidance for SA sets out an objectives-led, staged process. The Local Plan objectives, policies and development sites will be appraised against a set of SA objectives to identify whether there is the potential for significant effects (either positive or negative) and recommendations will be put forward to mitigate any significant negative or uncertain effects.

⁸ National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) [Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal) (Accessed 23/07/25)



2.0 The Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan

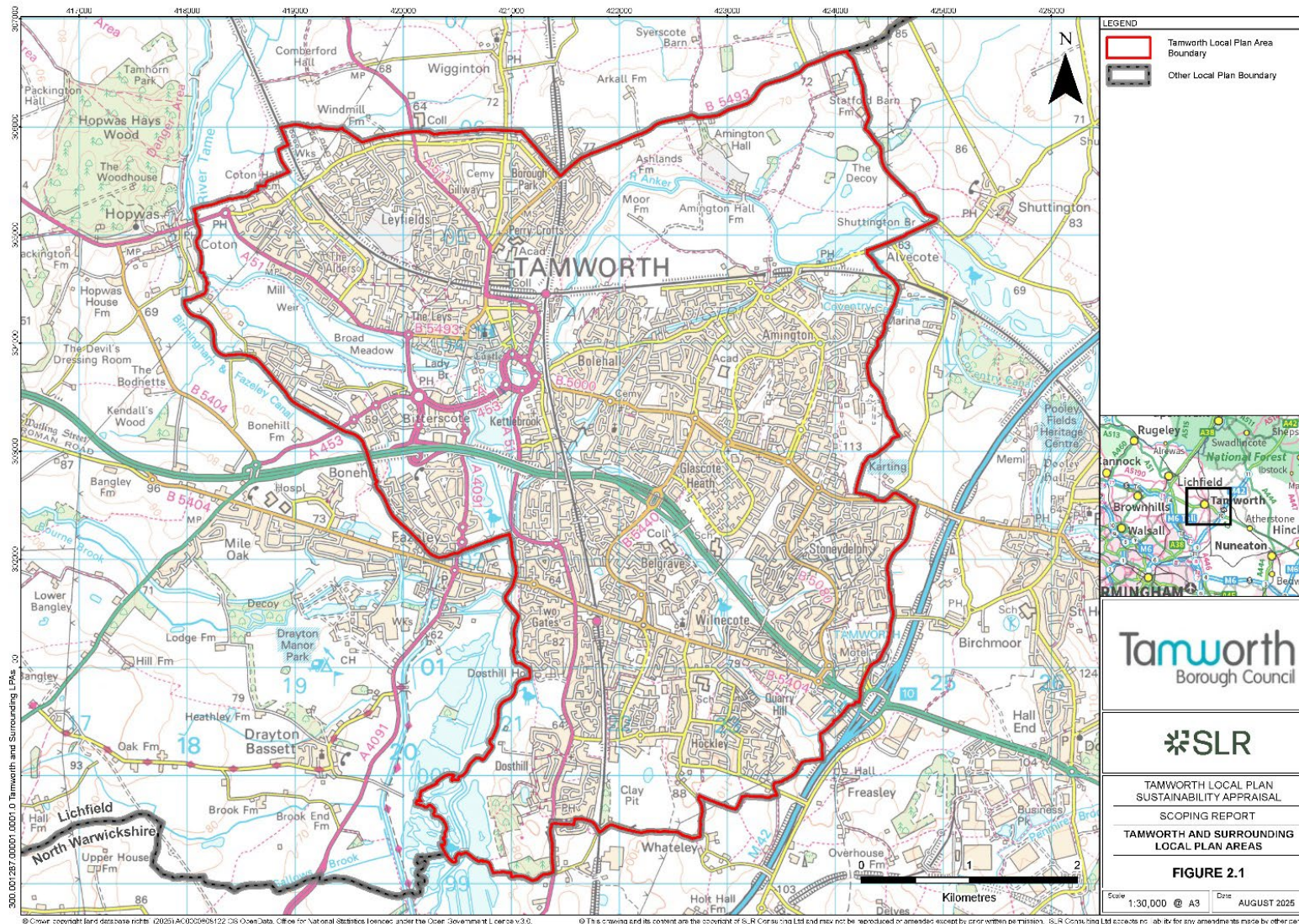
2.1 Tamworth Borough

Tamworth Borough is a large market town located in the south-eastern corner of the county of Staffordshire. It is one of ten Staffordshire authorities. The Borough falls within the West Midlands region and is one of 18 authorities that make up the West Midlands Combined Authority, of which Tamworth Borough is a non-constituent member. It is situated 18 miles to the northeast of Birmingham and borders the local authorities of Lichfield and North Warwickshire.

The Borough has a land area of approximately 31km², making it one of the smallest Boroughs in England, as highlighted in Figure 2-1. The Borough is also predominately urban with much of the Borough already being developed (in some instances up to the boundary), and greenfield land is limited.



Figure 2-1: Tamworth, and its surrounding Local Planning Authorities



2.2 Scope and Content of the Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan

The TBCLP will replace the existing Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan 2006-2031 (adopted 2016)⁹.

The TBCLP will form the development plan for the period 2022-2043. It will set out an overall vision, key objectives and a spatial strategy for the Borough and will include strategic policies accompanied by a range of detailed policies and proposals to support this.

One of the key requirements for producing a new Local Plan will be to identify sufficient land for housing, economic development and other uses to meet the identified needs of the Borough, whilst at the same time ensuring that such land can be readily brought forward for development, including to enable Tamworth Borough Council to demonstrate a five-year supply of deliverable housing sites. In addition, the plan will be expected to include policies to determine applications for development proposals; to ensure new/enhanced infrastructure is delivered (i.e. healthcare facilities, schools, community facilities) where appropriate; deliver affordable housing, encourage good design; protect and enhance the natural, built, and historic environment, as well as address the causes and impacts of climate change, with the ultimate aim for achieving sustainable development.

The current Local Plan includes a local housing requirement of 250 dwellings per annum, with 177 per annum to be delivered within Tamworth and the rest to be delivered within the neighbouring areas of Lichfield and North Warwickshire. The starting point for calculating housing need for the new Local Plan is the revised standard method introduced in December 2024, meaning that the new Local Plan will include a local housing requirement of 445 homes per annum. The annual housing need proposed is therefore greater than the average annual delivery rate over the past decades, as well as the availability of land. Tamworth Borough Council has raised concerns that there may be a potential need to release Green Belt for development, or to export housing need to neighbouring authorities through the duty to co-operate process, in order to meet this target.

⁹ Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan 2006-2031 [Pre-submission Local Plan for public consultation \(this document\)](#) (Accessed 24/07/2025)



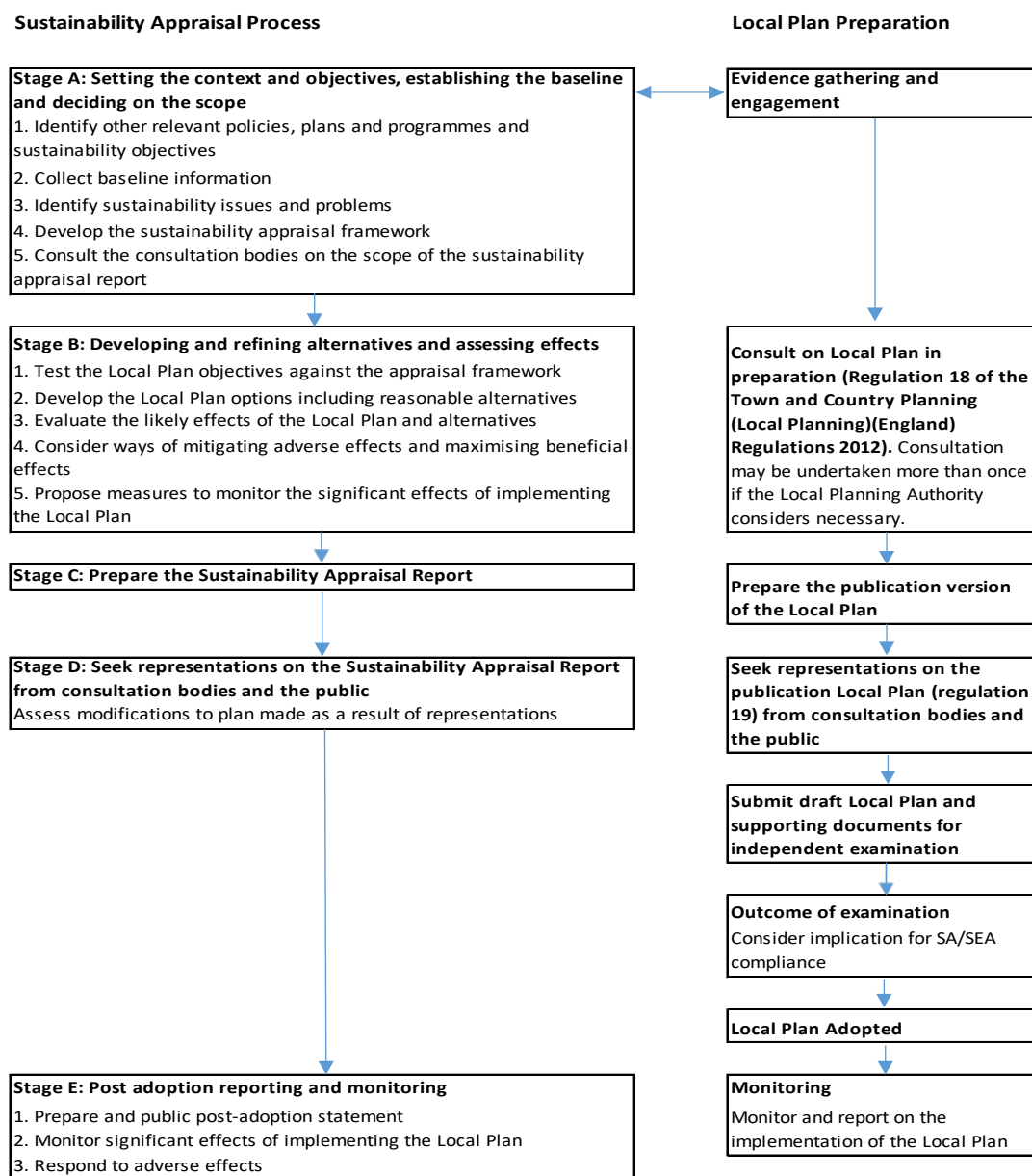
3.0 Approach to the SA

3.1 SA Process and Requirements for Scoping

The SA process is presented in

Figure 3-1 and is based on guidance set out in Planning Practice guidance for SEA and SA. As shown in

Figure 3-1, the SA and plan making processes will occur in tandem, with clear



points of feedback between the two processes. Plan making is iterative; thus the SA will also be an iterative process.



Figure 3-1: Sustainability Appraisal Process¹⁰

This Scoping Report is a part of Stage A of the SA process (scoping) and fulfils the requirements to¹¹:

- Identify environmental, social and economic issues and objectives contained in other strategies, plans and programmes that are relevant to the Local Plan area;
- Provide baseline information on the environmental, social, economic health and equality characteristics of the area; and
- Outline an appropriate framework for carrying out the SA, including objectives and indicators, against which the effect of the plan options and policies will be appraised, mitigated and monitored.

Stage A of the SA process is carried out in conjunction with evidence gathering and engagement in the Local Plan preparation process.

The requirements of the SEA Regulations¹² with regards to scoping are as follows:

- *“when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the [environmental] report, the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies.” (Part 3, Paragraph 5); and*
- *“where a consultation body wishes to respond to a consultation under paragraph (5), it shall do so within the period of 5 weeks beginning with the date on which it receives the responsible authority’s invitation to engage in the consultation.” (Part 3, Paragraph 6).*

These requirements will be met through the consultation on this report.

Scoping Methodology

The following text sets out the approach taken to complete the Stage A tasks outlined in **Figure 3-1**.

¹⁰ *Adapted from Planning Practice Guidance: Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal [sea1_013.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/613013/sea1_013.pdf)

¹¹ Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal [Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/613013/sea1_013.pdf) (Accessed 25/05/25)

¹² The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (SEA) Regulations 2004 [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/613013/sea1_013.pdf) (Accessed 25/05/25)



Task A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives

The legislative context in which the Local Plan is being prepared can best be understood through a review of related policies, plans, and programmes (PPP).

The SEA Regulations require information on:

- *“an outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 1); and*
- *“the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 5).*

The review process ensures that the new Local Plan complies with existing PPP at international, national and regional levels of governance and also reinforces and supports local plans and strategies. The process entails identifying and reviewing those PPP and environmental protection objectives that are directly relevant to the Local Plan (focusing on social, economic, health and equalities matters). Carrying out this review at an early stage of plan development allows for any inconsistencies or constraints within the new Local Plan to be addressed. It also provides the context for the SA and informs the development of the SA framework (see Chapter 17 of this report).

For practical reasons, the scoping task of identifying related PPP cannot yield an exhaustive or definitive list of legislative/non-legislative documents. The review has been focused to ensure that only policies that are current and have direct relevance to the Local Plan are reviewed. In some cases, where lower-level plans include the objectives set out at a national or international level, then the national and international plans have not been included.

An outline of relevant PPP and their objectives is provided in Appendix A and a summary of the key messages / objectives is provided in Table 4-1 (see Chapter 4 of this report).

Task A2: Collecting baseline information

The SEA Regulations¹³ require a description of the following to be presented:

¹³ Schedule 2 of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive 2004



- *“the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 2);*
- *“the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 3); and*
- *“the likely significant effects on the environment... on issues such as (a) biodiversity; (b) population; (c) human health; (d) fauna; (e) flora; (f) soil; (g) water; (h) air; (i) climatic factors; (j) material assets; (k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; (l) landscape” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 6).*

Baseline data enables a characterisation of the plan area to be developed, including the sensitivity of the environment. Gaining an understanding of this information allows the impacts of the plan to be assessed and its performance to be monitored after adoption. Baseline information can put the plan area into context in relation to a national or regional situation or in relation to adjacent areas.

It is therefore necessary to collect sufficient information about the current baseline state of Tamworth and to predict the future environmental and socio-economic trends to allow effects to be adequately predicted and monitored. The detailed baseline information has been compiled in a series of topics in line with published guidance¹⁴ to include comparators, targets, trends, and indicators.

The following twelve chapters (Chapters 5 to 16 of this report) set out the current data (including historic and future trends), the evolution of the baseline without the plan, key sustainability issues and data gaps for each topic. Data gaps identify information which is missing, limited or, for example, studies which are due to be updated or published in the future. Data has been collated from published sources available at the time of writing this Scoping Report. It is worth noting that whilst every effort has been made to collate all data of relevance, the data presented is not exhaustive due to time constraints.

Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems

Through consideration of the baseline data and the evolution of the baseline without the plan, a set of key sustainability issues have been identified at the end of each of the topic chapters.

Task A4: Developing the SA assessment framework

The preparation of this Scoping Report has culminated in the presentation of an SA Framework of objectives (in Chapter 17 of this report), against which the Local Plan

¹⁴ A practical guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive 2005 ODPM ISBN 1851127887



and its reasonable alternatives will be tested. Further details of how the SA Framework has been developed can be found in Chapter 17 and in Appendix B.

Engagement on Tasks A1 to A4

During September 2025, a series of engagement interviews were conducted with key representatives from Tamworth Borough Council, Staffordshire County Council, and Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board in order to make the scoping exercise more informed and robust for use by Tamworth Borough Council.

The engagement covered a range of thematic areas including economic development and regeneration, health, education, transport, environmental health, climate change, ecology, and the historic environment. A one-hour virtual meeting was held with each group of stakeholders, during which we presented the current draft of the Scoping Report. This included an overview of the baseline data, identified sustainability issues, and any existing data gaps. Stakeholders were invited to provide feedback on the completeness and relevance of the information presented, including suggestions for any additional content or areas for expansion. We also sought their views on the draft SA framework to ensure it was robust and fit for purpose. Following this engagement, the Scoping Report was updated to incorporate additional baseline data and sustainability issues, which would not have been identified had the engagement not taken place. Minor amendments were also made to the language within the SA framework to make it more relevant to local issues. Information added to the Scoping Report from the engagement exercise is shown throughout the report in **red text**.

A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA

This Scoping Report for the new Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan was consulted on for a period of 5 weeks. Comments received on the Scoping Report were used to prepare a post-consultation version of the Scoping Report and to finalise the SA Framework and inform the next stages of the SA. Information added to the Scoping Report from the consultation exercise is shown throughout the report in underlined text.

3.2 Structure of this Report

The SEA Regulations set out topics which must be considered in a SEA and Table 3-1 demonstrates where these are covered by the topics adopted for this SA.

Table 3-1: Tamworth Borough New Local Plan SA Topics Compared with SEA Topics

SA Topics Adopted for this Assessment	SEA Regulations Topics Required to be Considered
Economy & Employment	Not required by SEA regulations



SA Topics Adopted for this Assessment	SEA Regulations Topics Required to be Considered
Population & Equalities	Population
Health	Human Health
Housing	Material Assets
Transport & Accessibility	Material Assets
Air, Noise & Light	Air
Climatic Factors	Climatic Factors
Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Biodiversity, flora and fauna
Cultural Heritage	Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological
Landscape and Townscape	Landscape
Soils, Water & Minerals	Water Soil
Waste	Not required by SEA regulations

4.0 Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

4.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the policy context in which the Tamworth Borough Local Plan is being prepared.

A detailed outline of the policy documents, the objectives and the targets reviewed is set out in Appendix A. Table 4-1 below outlines the key messages of the PPP.

The key messages provide a summary of the PPP review and have been used to inform an SA Framework of objectives and sub-objectives which will guide the subsequent appraisal process (see Chapter 17).

4.2 Summary of Key Messages

Table 4-1 sets out the key messages drawn from the review of PPP. The messages presented in Table 4-1 are reflected within the detailed proposed SA Framework which can be found in Appendix B. A simplified version of the proposed SA Framework can be found in Chapter 17 of this document.

Table 4-1: Key Messages of the PPP

SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
Economy and Employment	- Planning policies should set criteria for or identify strategic sites for local and inward investment and seek to address potential barriers to investment. - Planning policies should be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allowing for new and flexible working practices.



SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	• Support economic growth and productivity across Tamworth, having regard to local policies for economic development and regeneration, particularly in Lower Gungate. • Encourage long term investment in economic capital, including infrastructure, skills and knowledge. • Promote a dynamic economy that encourages innovation and diversification. • Encourage the use of previously developed land. • Create jobs and prosperity. • Secure investment to deliver world class infrastructure and connectivity. • Provide a balanced mix of town centre uses across the Borough. • Regenerate Tamworth town centre and transform it into a vibrant centre. • Boost the visitor economy (including the tourism and nightlife economy).
Population and Equalities	• Ensure fair and equal access to services and support irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, socio-economic status or pregnancy/maternity. • Provide opportunities for members of the community to mix and meet. • Ensure an integrated approach to housing and community facilities and services. • Improve social mobility and reduce social exclusion. • Tackle poverty and inequality. • Reduce crime and help residents feel safe.
Health	• Planning policies should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places. • Improve accessibility to health services. • Improve public health and wellbeing by providing effective support for mental and physical health issues. • Connect people with nature. • Deliver high quality open spaces that meet the needs of local residents and are accessible to all. • Promote healthier lifestyles and reduce obesity. • Increase the proportion of people regularly exercising by prioritising active travel in the design of new development. • Support all residents to live independently.
Housing	• Meet future housing need. The NPPF requires local authorities to use their evidence base to ensure that their Local Plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area, and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development, as far as is consistent with the policies set out in the NPPF, including identifying key



SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	sites which are critical to the delivery of the housing strategy over the plan period. • Ensure that housing growth requirements are accommodated in the most sustainable way. • Enable housing growth and deliver a mix of high-quality housing of varying size and tenure in order to meet local family housing needs. • Ensure there is an adequate number of affordable housing. • Reduce the number of empty homes. • Provide a mix of housing that will be attractive to older people and those with care needs, including new mixed tenure 'care ready' age designated housing. • Ensure there is an adequate supply of adapted households, specifically wheelchair user dwellings. • Reduce homelessness.
Transport and Accessibility	• Make the fullest possible use of public transport and active travel (walking and cycling); make cycling and walking a natural choice for shorter journeys. • Encourage sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel. • Create places that are safe, secure and attractive which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. • Contribute to tackling climate change by developing and promoting low carbon travel choices. • Support the move to low emission vehicles. • Have an integrated, well managed and inclusive rights of way and access network. • Local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic vehicle networks.
Air, Noise & Light	• Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum. • Reduce air pollution contributions by developing and promoting low-carbon travel choices. • Minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment. • Limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light, and noise pollution from development, on local amenity and nature conservation.
Climatic Factors	• Continue to cut greenhouse gas emissions in order to mitigate the climate emergency declared by Tamworth Borough Council. • Promote low carbon economies and adopt proactive strategies to mitigate carbon emissions in line with the Climate Change Act; achieve a 100% reduction by 2050. • Increase resilience to climate change impact through the location, mix and design of development.



SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	• Reduce the need to travel and provide sustainable transport to help mitigate climate change by reducing emissions. • Support energy efficiency and other sustainability improvements (such as the re-use of buildings) in order to improve the resilience of homes and buildings to climate change. • Encourage the provision of renewable energy. • Include natural flood management (e.g. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) where possible to provide additional benefits to residents (such as biodiversity enhancement) compared to traditional hard engineered flood solutions. • Avoid development in areas of flood risk. • Improve flood awareness and emergency planning. • Support adaptive water resource management to respond to climate change and increasing demand. • Maximise the potential of Green Infrastructure in providing climate change mitigation.
Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora & Fauna	• Identify, protect and enhance biodiversity and ecological corridors, including international, national and local designated sites (statutory and non-statutory), protected and priority species, habitats and wildlife networks. • Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity in line with NPPF and the Environment Act 2021. • Recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services. • Biodiversity creation and enhancement in and around development should be designed at the landscape level and led by local understanding. • Maintain and restore priority habitats, including lowland wood-pasture and parkland, heathlands, wetlands, woodlands, rivers, and species-rich farmland, to ensure future resilience. • Create buffer zones around high-quality habitats. • Maximise the potential of Green Infrastructure within urban and rural areas to reduce the impact of climate change and act as stepping stones within the ecological networks. • Protect and enhance natural greenspace with regards to its cultural and public connection, and its accessibility. • Maintain and enhance geodiversity through the management of sites, areas and wider landscapes. • Increase recognition of our geodiversity in development policies. • Restore and enhance waterbodies to improve biodiversity. • Provide public education on biodiversity and the value of local habitats.
Cultural Heritage	• Conserve and enhance the significance of international, national and local designated and non-designated heritage assets, including locally significant historic buildings and heritage assets and their settings.



SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	• Conserve and enhance historic character and local distinctiveness. • Improve the condition of heritage 'at risk' in the Borough. • Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets. • Ensure development in or adjacent to Conservation Areas or Listed buildings (and their settings) respects their character and context and enhances the quality of the built environment. • Preserve and enhance the significance of Conservation Areas in Tamworth Borough. • Ensure that any alterations or repairs to traditional buildings preserve and where possible, improve the character and appearance of the building. • Promote the use of sustainable materials. • Protect the historic environment for the benefit of our own and future generations. • Maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that current and future generations can enjoy and benefit from it.
Landscape and Townscape	• Maintain and enhance the overall quality and diversity of landscape character across the Borough. • Seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness. • Protect and enhance valued landscapes, biological and geological conservation interests and soils. • Recognise the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services. • Conserve and enhance the natural beauty of landscapes. • Seek to protect Green Belt across the Borough where possible.
Soils, Water & Minerals	• Sustainably manage soils. • Protect soil quality and avoid soil pollution, particularly during construction. • Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land. • Remediate land contamination. • Prevent pollution of groundwater. • Ensure that water quality is improved or maintained where possible. • Ensure national and localised water quality and wastewater targets are met. • Promote the effective delivery of adequate water and wastewater infrastructure. • Improve water efficiency and minimise the amount of water lost through leakage. • Promote sustainable and water efficient development. • Promote the efficient supply and use of minerals.
Waste	• Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management. • Manage waste in line with the waste hierarchy. • Meet national, regional and localised waste targets including those on landfill, reuse and recycling.



SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	• Provide protection to the local environment and residents, whilst ensuring the provision of waste management facilities in accordance with Government policy and society's needs. • Encourage and support the Circular Economy where possible. • Promote the use of sustainable materials.



5.0 Economy and Employment

5.1 Baseline

5.1.1 Employment Rates

Within the Borough, 77.8% of the working population (16-64 years) was economically active between January 2024 and December 2024. This is slightly lower than the average across Staffordshire (80.2%), but similar to the average across the West Midlands (77.4%) and Great Britain (78.5%)¹⁵.

Unemployment rates within the Borough stood at 3.3% in 2023¹⁶, which is lower than the average for Great Britain (3.7%), but higher than Staffordshire (1.2%)¹⁷. As shown in Table 5-1, unemployment rates in Tamworth have fluctuated over time, but are currently the lowest they have been in recent years. Unemployment rates for Staffordshire and Great Britain follow similar patterns.

Table 5-1: Change in Unemployment Rates in Tamworth Over Time¹⁸

Year	Tamworth (%)	Staffordshire (%)	Great Britain (%)
2005	4.0	3.2	4.9
2008	5.3	4.4	5.7
2011	10.0	8.1	8.0
2014	4.3	4.7	6.2
2017	3.8	4.1	4.4
2020	4.7	5.3	4.7
2023	3.3	1.2	3.7

There is a significant proportion (22.4%) of working age residents in the Borough who are unemployed and have never worked. This figure is significantly higher than the national average, however, is not dissimilar to the figures for neighbouring authorities, such as North Warwickshire (21.2%) and Lichfield (18.5%)¹⁹.

As highlighted by [Section 6.1.2](#), Tamworth is expected to experience a large increase in resident age between 2021 and 2043 (a predicted increase of 73.7% within the 81 years and over age group), and minimal increases to the young,

¹⁵ Nomis: Labour Market Profile - Tamworth <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157180/report.aspx> (Accessed 29/09/2025)

¹⁶ ONS Labour Market Overview - Tamworth [Tamworth's employment, unemployment and economic inactivity - ONS](#) (Accessed 04/08/2025)

¹⁷ Varbes: Economy of Staffordshire [Staffordshire Economy | Labour Market & Industries](#) (Accessed 04/08/2025)

¹⁸ Nomis: Labour Market Profile - Tamworth [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/2025)

¹⁹ ONS Census Maps [Employment history - Census Maps, ONS](#) (Accessed 22/07/2025)



working age population (21-30 years). This will subsequently mean that a significant proportion of the population within the Borough will not be of working age.

5.1.2 Number of Jobs and Sectors of Employment

In 2022 there were a total of 29,400 jobs in Tamworth. Between 2017 and 2022, the total number of jobs in the Borough grew by 3%²⁰. The job density is therefore 0.65 jobs per working-age person²¹. This is lower than the average job density across Staffordshire (0.80) and Great Britain (0.88).

During 2024, a total of 1,688 enterprises in Tamworth posted 12,132 job vacancies. The median salary of these vacancies was £28,000²². This is lower than the regional and national averages (£33,003 and £35,106 respectively).

Tamworth has held a steady level of apprenticeships between 2017 and 2022, at approximately 550. The number of higher level apprenticeships has doubled during this time period however. The most common apprenticeships are within business, administration and law (31%), and health, public services and care (27%)²³.

The Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (2025) identifies a requirement for up to 1,900 new jobs in Tamworth by 2043, supported by a mix of manufacturing and logistics uses.

The leading sectors of employment for people living in Tamworth include:

- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (23.3%);
- Manufacturing (13.3%);
- Administrative and support service activities (10.0%);
- Transportation and storage (7.5%);
- Education (6.7%);
- Human health and social work activities (5.8%);
- Professional, scientific and technical activities (5.8%);
- Construction (5.8%); and
- Accommodation and food services activities (5.8%).

5.1.3 Average Weekly Earnings

Average weekly earnings in 2024 for people who work full time in Tamworth were lower than the average in Staffordshire and across Great Britain, as shown in Table 5-2²⁴. They were also lower than in neighbouring authorities of Lichfield and North Warwickshire, suggesting that it is more economically advantageous to work outside

²⁰ [Tamworth Locality Profile 2024](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

²¹ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

²² [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

²³ [Tamworth Locality Profile 2024](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

²⁴ Nomis: Labour Market Profile - Tamworth (Accessed 31/07/2025) [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)



of the Borough. Average weekly earnings for male residents were significantly higher compared to female residents in the Borough.

Table 5-2: Average Weekly Earnings (£), 2024²⁵

	Tamworth	Lichfield	North Warwickshire	Staffordshire	Great Britain
Full time	685.40	792.30	727.70	715.60	729.80
Male full time	724.30	814.50	736.40	754.10	777.50
Female full time	610.90	744.60	694.30	669.20	673.20

As shown in Table 5-3, average weekly earnings have increased over time in the Borough. This is particularly the case for female full-time workers, who have experienced a £252.10 increase in average weekly earnings between 2009 and 2024. In comparison, men experienced a £198.30 increase. This has meant that the gender pay gap in the Borough has reduced from a £167.20 difference per week between male and female full time average weekly earnings, to a £113.40 difference.

Table 5-3: Change in Average Weekly Earnings in Tamworth Over Time (£) ²⁶

	2009	2012	2015	2018	2021	2024
Full time	465.70	480.80	478.90	520.70	559.50	685.40
Male full time	526.00	535.80	529.40	559.50	619.60	724.30
Female full time	358.80	356.30	420.90	486.60	479.80	610.90

5.1.4 Skills

A large majority of the job vacancies in Tamworth are low skilled employment opportunities. This is due to adult skill levels being well below the average²⁷. As highlighted in Section 6.1.8, residents in Tamworth have much lower qualification levels than regionally and nationally, with only 21.9% of the population having Level 4 or higher qualifications. As a result of this, the business survey contained within the Tamworth Economic Development Strategy Action Plan (2025)²⁸ highlighted that the biggest workforce challenge identified by business was being unable to recruit people with the right skills. This is a significant issue as the survey also identified that

²⁵ Nomis: Labour Market Profile - Tamworth [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

²⁶ Average Weekly Earnings in Tamworth Over Time [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

²⁷ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

²⁸ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)



the top factor positively influencing businesses in Tamworth is good skills among staff.

5.1.5 Standard Occupation Classification

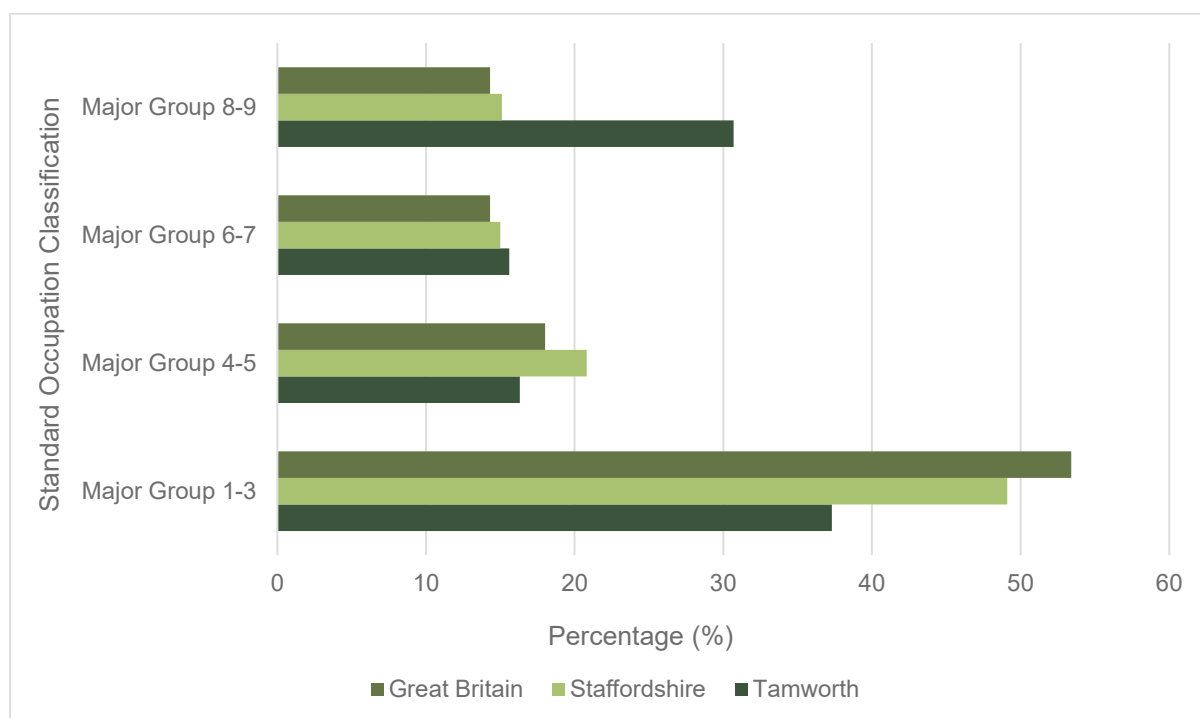


Figure 5-1: Employment by Standard Occupation Classification Group within Tamworth, Staffordshire and Great Britain²⁹³⁰

As highlighted in **Figure 5-1**, the most common Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) Group in Tamworth between April 2024 and March 2025 was Major Group 1-3 (managers, directors and senior officials; professional occupations; and associate professional occupations). Of this group, the majority of people work in professional occupations. However, despite SOC Major Group 1-3 being the most common employment sector in Tamworth, the percentage of workers in this sector is 37.3% which is below the county (49.1%), regional (49.8%) and national average (53.0%)³¹.

Tamworth's rates of employment in SOC Major Group 8-9 (30.7%) are roughly double that of Staffordshire (15.1%), the West Midlands (16.8%) and Great Britain (14.7%), with a similar split share across employment in SOC 8 (process plant and machine operatives) (14.7%), and SOC 9 (elementary occupations) (16.1%). Employment rates in the SOC Major Group 4-5 (16.3%), representing administrative and secretarial occupations alongside skilled trade jobs, are similar to those in SOC

²⁹ The SOC was used in Figure 5-1 as a result of sample size numbers being too small for reliable estimates of more specific job descriptions.

³⁰ Nomis Labour Market Profiles <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157180/report.aspx#supply> (Accessed 22/07/2025)

³¹ Nomis Labour Market Profiles [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 04/08/2025)



Major Group 6-7 (15.6%), which includes catering, leisure and other service occupations as well as sales and customer service roles. However, the percentage of Tamworth's workforce in SOC 4-5 is 1.7% lower than the national average and conversely 1.3% higher than the national average for SOC 6-7.

5.1.6 Enterprises

In 2024, there were 2,220 enterprises located within Tamworth Borough. This equates to 282 businesses per 10,000 persons. This is below the county (371 businesses per 10,000 persons), regional (323 businesses per 10,000 persons) and national (407 businesses per 10,000 persons) averages³².

86.5% of the 2,220 enterprises employ fewer than ten people. In 2024, the proportion of micro, small, medium and large enterprises within Tamworth was similar to the average across Staffordshire (89.0%, 9.0%, 1.5% and 0.4% respectively)³³. As shown in Table 5-4, the number of each type of enterprise (micro, small, medium and large) has not changed drastically between 2012-2024.

Table 5-4: Type of Enterprises in Tamworth³⁴

	Micro (%)	Small (%)	Medium (%)	Large (%)
2012	85.4	12.1	2.1	0.4
2015	86.2	11.5	2.0	0.3
2018	87.5	10.6	1.7	0.2
2021	86.9	10.8	1.9	0.4
2024	86.5	11.0	2.0	0.5

In 2023, business start-ups accounted for approximately 10.3% of Tamworth's enterprises. This was slightly below regional (11.2%) and national levels however (11%), which has been a continued trend since 2018³⁵. Between 2018 and 2023 business deaths have risen by 2% from approximately 9% of Tamworth's enterprises to around 11%. The rate of business closures in 2023 was below regional (12.5%) levels, however above national levels (10.7%).

Despite over 10% of Tamworth's enterprises being start-ups, the business survey contained within the Tamworth Economic Development Strategy Action Plan (2025)³⁶ highlighted that there is a need for more good quality units for start-ups, especially within the retail and industrial sectors, as well as office space for small and medium sized businesses, and large-scale warehousing and manufacturing space. The lack of warehousing and manufacturing space is a consequence of a lack of ability to expand or invest in existing units. This has meant that the stock of

³² [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

³³ Nomis Labour Market Profiles: Tamworth [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 04/08/2025)

³⁴ Nomis Labour Market Profiles: Tamworth [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

³⁵ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

³⁶ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)



available units is low and is typically older than units than can be found elsewhere. This has led to a large number of businesses moving outside of the Borough to operate in newer and larger units.

As shown in Table 5-5, the most common sector for enterprises in Tamworth to be located in was distribution and hospitality (30.1%), followed by banking, finance and insurance (19.2%), and public admin, education and health (15.0%). These industries are consistent with the regional average. There are very few agriculture, fishing, energy and water enterprises within the Borough (0.5%), following a fall in these enterprises over the last six years³⁷.

Table 5-5: Total Employment by Industry (%) (2024)

Industry	Tamworth	Staffordshire	West Midlands	Great Britain
Agriculture, fishing, energy and water	0.5	2.0	2.1	1.9
Manufacturing	13.7	11.4	10.1	7.5
Construction	6.0	5.8	4.4	4.8
Distribution and hospitality	30.1	25.4	22.8	21.5
Transport and communications	11.2	10.0	9.0	9.5
Banking, finance and insurance	19.2	17.0	20.6	23.2
Public admin, education and health	15.0	23.6	26.7	27.1
Other services	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.5

The Tamworth Economic Development Strategy Action Plan (2025)³⁸ highlights that manufacturing and transport and communications could be key areas for economy growth, due to being the industries most benefitted by Tamworth's good transport links/corridors.

Staffordshire County Council offers a number of support programmes to businesses in Tamworth, including³⁹:

- Get started and grow: funded packages of support in marketing, social media, HR, finance and legal advice for small businesses up to five years old;
- Start-up loans: interest free loans of £3,000 to £5,000 available for businesses up to five years old;

³⁷ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

³⁸ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

³⁹ [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#)



- My own boss: fully funded business coaches who can offer support to those thinking of starting their own businesses but do not know where to start; and
- Staffordshire jobs and careers: fully funded, managed recruitment service for businesses of all sizes in Staffordshire.

5.1.7 Commuting Patterns

As highlighted by Table 5-6, distances travelled to work by Tamworth residents is widely varied. The majority of workers that travel for work commute out of the Borough (40.0%), while around a quarter of residents (24.7%) remain within the Borough. These commuting patterns reflect the Borough's strategic location and its strong links to nearby employment centres such as Birmingham, Lichfield, and North Warwickshire⁴⁰. There is a greater number of people who travel from Tamworth to nearby areas for work compared to the number of people who travel into the Borough⁴¹. According to the most recent census, 4,823 people commuted to North Warwickshire, followed by Birmingham (2,857 people) and Lichfield (2,419 people). The largest movement into Tamworth was 1,661 people from Lichfield, followed by North Warwickshire (1,629 people) and Birmingham (1,228 people).

[Section 9.1.5](#) outlines details of the methods of transport used to commute to work by Borough residents.

Table 5-6: Distance Travelled to Work (2021)

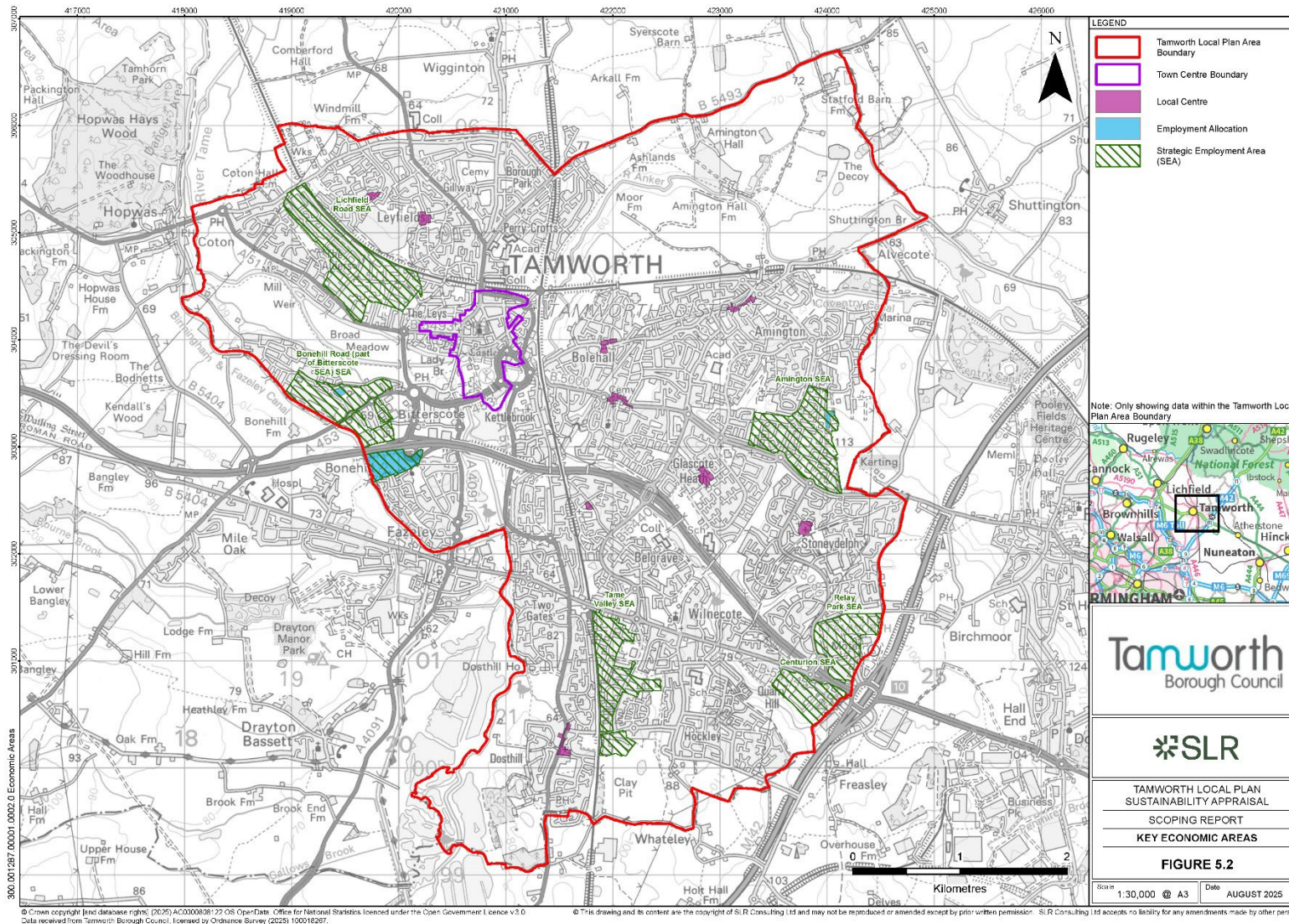
Distance	%
Within Tamworth	24.7
In other Staffordshire Districts	9.2
In Stoke on Trent	0.1
In West Midlands	12.2
Work from Home	35.3
Other	18.5

40 WMCA: West Midlands Futures [West Midlands Economic Geography](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

41 ONS: Visualising people flows [Origin-destination data explorer - Census 2021 - ONS](#) (Accessed 21/10/2025)



Figure 5-2: Key Economic Areas in Tamworth



5.1.8 Town and Local Centres

The town centre is highly important to the overall perception of Tamworth, due to the small size of the Borough. The business survey contained within the Tamworth Economic Development Strategy Action Plan (2025)⁴² highlighted that businesses within the Borough consider the town centre to be the main threat to Tamworth's economy, due to a lack of new development and support for businesses currently within the town centre.

Within Tamworth town centre, retail provision is characterised by a mix of traditional high street units and larger format stores, including Ankerside Shopping Centre. The shopping centre has drastically declined in recent years, with a large amount of floorspace adjoining the Castle Grounds being vacant. Tamworth Borough Council are in the process of deciding how to manage the Shopping Centre.. There is currently no identified capacity for significant new comparison or convenience retail floorspace within the town centre, with future demand likely to be met through repurposing existing units, infill development, and extensions to established premises. Within Tamworth town centre there is expected to be capacity of 11,000m² of gross comparison retail floorspace in 2026⁴³.

Retail provision is also supported by nearby out-of-centre retail destinations such as Ventura Retail Park. While Ventura Retail Park remains a key driver of footfall, its dominance has contributed to a decline in the vitality of the historic town centre, which has experienced increasing vacancy rates and a shift away from comparison retail. This trend reflects broader structural changes in consumer behaviour, including the sustained growth of online shopping and evolving retailer business models.

As highlighted in Table 5-7 below, the town centre is supported by a network of nine local centres, each with different levels of viability⁴⁴.

Table 5-7: Tamworth's Local Centres

Local Centre	Description
Fontenaye Road, Coton Green	Contains between 5-7 facilities (okay levels of viability)
Masefield Drive, Leyfields	Contains between 5-7 facilities (okay levels of viability)
Amington Road, Bolehall	Contains between 5-7 facilities (okay levels of viability)
Caledonian Centre, Glascote	Contains 10 or more facilities (strong levels of viability)
High Street, Dosthill	Contains between 5-7 facilities (okay levels of viability)

⁴² [Appendix 2 Economic Development Strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

⁴³ Tamworth Town centre & Retail Study 2024 [TAMWORTH TOWN CENTRE & RETAIL STUDY 2024](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁴⁴ Tamworth Town centre & Retail Study 2024 [TAMWORTH TOWN CENTRE & RETAIL STUDY 2024](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)



Local Centre	Description
Ellerbeek, Stonydelph	Contains between 8-10 facilities (good levels of viability)
Glascote Road	Contains between 8-10 facilities (good levels of viability)
Tamworth Road, Amington	Contains between 5-7 facilities (okay levels of viability)
Exley, Field Farm Road	Contains between 5-7 facilities (okay levels of viability)

There are also 14 neighbourhood centres within Tamworth:

- Chartwell;
- Cedar Drive;
- Lakenheath;
- Fazeley Road;
- Tamworth Road, Two Gates;
- Farm Park Road;
- Pennymoor Road;
- Scott Road;
- Glascote Road;
- Hockley Road;
- Beachamp Road;
- Wilnecote Road;
- Watling Street, Wilnecote; and
- Bowling Green Avenue.

The Tamworth Town Centre and Retail Study (2024)⁴⁵ highlights that Tamworth Borough Council should continue to allocate a network of local and neighbourhood centres in its new Local Plan, in order to provide these locations with appropriate policy support against applications for new commercial development. Consideration should also be given to supporting new local centre facilities in the north-eastern and south-eastern parts of the Borough, south of Amington and in Wilnecote to assist in enabling residents' day to day needs to be met in a sustainable manner.

5.1.9 Regeneration

Tamworth town centre is currently undergoing a £21.65 million regeneration programme, led by Tamworth Borough Council and supported by the Future High Streets Fund⁴⁶. The programme includes a suite of infrastructure, housing, and employment projects focused on revitalising the town centre, including the restoration of historic buildings, the creation of a new enterprise centre, and public realm improvements linking key destinations. Additional investment from South

⁴⁵ [TAMWORTH TOWN CENTRE & RETAIL STUDY 2024](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

⁴⁶ Tamworth Borough Council: Future High Streets Fund [Future High Streets Fund | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)



Staffordshire College is delivering a new education facility, contributing to a combined investment of over £40 million in the town centre⁴⁷.

Lower Gungate has been identified as a key area for regeneration, which is likely to focus on residential development. This should subsequently support the viability of the town centre by attracting more people and footfall into the centre of Tamworth.

5.1.10 Tourism and the Visitor Economy

In 2023, a number of tourism feasibility studies were carried out which highlighted that Tamworth has a diverse and well-established tourism offering, particularly around its heritage and history. However, Tamworth only captures about 5% of the visitors to Staffordshire and 92% of visits are day visits. As a consequence of this, it was recommended that Tamworth develop a clear tourism brand that can be promoted and co-ordinated by a formal tourism development group⁴⁸. The development of tourist infrastructure (e.g. a museum), improved accommodation offer, and increased number of events held in the Borough could also be catalysts to enabling the visitor economy⁴⁹.

5.1.11 Remote and Hybrid Working

The COVID-19 pandemic encouraged a shift towards remote and hybrid working. In Tamworth in 2021, 21.6% of residents worked mainly at or from home⁵⁰. This figure remains lower than neighbouring authorities such as North Warwickshire (26.5%) and Lichfield (32%), and the national average (32%)⁵¹.

A key aspect of successful remote working is having access to reliable and high-speed broadband. Tamworth is well connected digitally, with an average of 83.8% gigabit broadband availability. This is lower than the regional average (94%), but higher than the national average (79%). The West Midlands Digital Roadmap (2024-2027)⁵² sets out aspirations for the West Midlands to:

- Become the UK's best-connected region;
- Use digital public services to build a fairer, greener and healthier region; and
- Realise the potential of digital to transform the economy and build economic resilience.

5.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

⁴⁷ Tamworth Borough Council: Planning application submitted to restore and renovate historic Market Street properties [Planning application submitted to restore and renovate historic Market Street properties | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁴⁸ Tourism in Tamworth 2023: Feasibility Study and Recommended Strategy (Accessed 30/09/2025)

⁴⁹ Tamworth Wider Place Investment: Feasibility Study and Recommendation Strategy (Accessed 30/09/2025)

⁵⁰ ONS Census 2021 - [Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 07/08/2025)

⁵¹ ONS Census 2021 [Travel to work, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 16/07/2025)

⁵² West Midlands Digital Roadmap (2024-2027). [West Midlands Digital Roadmap 2024-2027](#) (Accessed 22/05/2025).



- There is a need to reduce the number of unemployed residents and encourage them to re-enter the workforce, particularly working age residents in the Borough who are unemployed and have never worked;
- The projected loss in the young and working age population, as well as an ageing population, may have an impact on Tamworth's ability to sustain the economy and workforce levels;
- Job density in the Borough is lower than county and national averages, suggesting that there are limited employment opportunities;
- There are significant wage inequalities between men and women in the Borough, with average weekly earnings in 2024 higher for men compared to women;
- A significant number of job vacancies in the Borough are low skilled and low wage. There is need for Tamworth's economy to become more diverse and resilient, and attract higher wage industries into the Borough;
- Employment in professional occupations in Tamworth is significantly lower than the regional and national average, and less than a quarter of Tamworth's workforce is qualified to Level 4+. This highlights the Borough's reliance on a relatively narrow range of industries and the need to diversify the local economy.
- There is a high reliance on micro businesses, which creates vulnerability in the instance of business death and job loss. There is a need to support small and medium-sized enterprises in the borough to improve business survival rates.
- There is a need to provide more good quality units for start-ups, especially within the retail and industrial sectors, as well as office space for small and medium sized businesses, and large-scale warehousing and manufacturing space;
- Only ¼ of residents work within the Borough, with the remaining commuting outside of the Borough to work. Greater employment opportunities that are appropriate for local people and their skills may encourage the retention of Tamworth's workforce, and lower levels of outward commuting;
- There is a need to continue investing in Tamworth's historic town centre, to ensure that it rebuilds its role as a sustainable local service and employment centre;
- The town centre is facing high vacancy rates, particularly within Ankerside Shopping Centre, due to out-of-centre retail pressures (e.g. Ventura Retail Park) and shifting consumer habits to online shopping;
- The viability and vitality of Tamworth's centres must be protected and enhanced, and they need to be able to adapt to changing needs;
- There is a need to support regeneration efforts within the town centre, including at Lower Gungate, in order to attract more people and improve viability;



- There is a need to support and enhance the role that tourism plays in the economy;
- There is a need to increase economic activity across the Borough;
- The Borough has a constrained supply of new employment land, including retail floor space and large-scale manufacturing and warehouse space. It is therefore unlikely that significant new sites will be identified for employment, and that the focus is more likely to be on the redevelopment of existing sites; and
- It is important that good digital connectivity is maintained to support growing businesses and remote working.

5.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Without the plan, there will be a lack of control over where employment uses are located across the Borough, leading to the potential for speculative development in locations that are less appropriate for employment uses, including main town centre uses. There may also be a potential loss of employment floorspace due to pressures from other uses, such as housing.

The Borough is likely to see continued decline in economic activity, particularly within the town centre, driven by out-of-centre retail competition, limited investment, and changing consumer habits. Vacancy rates may rise further, reducing the diversity and resilience of local retail provision.

Without the Plan, Tamworth's economy may continue to be reliant on a narrow selection of industries and as a result, lower-skilled and paid roles are likely to persist. A low proportion of residents in professional occupations compared to regional and national averages is also likely to continue, further limiting productivity and economic mobility.

Business growth may stagnate, with the local economy remaining dominated by micro-enterprises and vulnerable to external shocks. High levels of economic inactivity and unemployment among residents with no work history could persist, placing pressure on public services and reducing overall workforce participation.

5.4 Data Gaps

Some of the economic data (e.g. average weekly earnings and unemployment rates) is updated regularly and therefore the baseline data provided in this report is based on a snapshot of available data at the time of writing the report.

Tamworth Borough Council is in the process of developing a new asset management strategy to cover the period through to 2029/30. A Town Hall Feasibility Study is also underway to determine the most economically viable use for Tamworth Town Hall.



6.0 Population and Equalities

6.1 Baseline

6.1.1 Population

The latest Census data from 2021 records the population of Tamworth Borough as 78,600. This equates to a population density of approximately 2,581 residents per km²⁵³. As demonstrated in Figure 6-1, this represents an increase of 1,800 (2.4%) from 2011⁵⁴. This is lower than the population change recorded in the neighbouring authorities of North Warwickshire (4.9%) and Lichfield (5.7%).

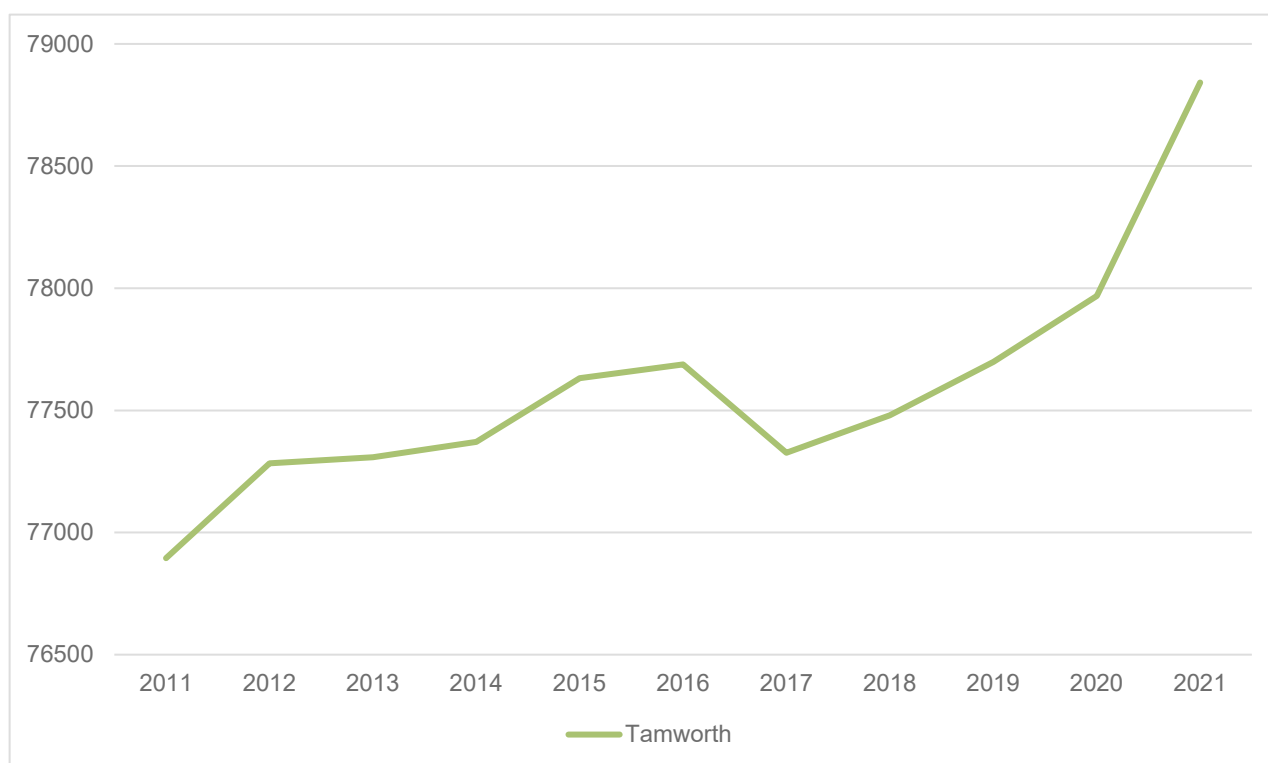


Figure 6-1: Population Change in Tamworth

By 2043, the Borough's population is expected to increase by 10,827 (12.1%) bringing the population total to 89,427⁵⁵.

⁵³ [Tamworth population change, Census 2021 – ONS](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

⁵⁴ ONS Census 2021 [How your area has changed in 10 years: Census 2021 - Office for National Statistics](#) - Tamworth (Accessed 25/07/2025)

⁵⁵ [Mid-year population estimates and re-scaled population estimates using national population projections for local authorities in England by sex and single year of age, 2018 to 2043 - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



6.1.2 Age

Between 2011 and 2021, the number of residents aged between 0-10 years increased by 5.1%⁵⁶. A similar increase (4.8%) is expected within this age group between 2021 and 2043. This may lead to an increase in demands for school places, childcare and recreational facilities for children.

A smaller increase occurred between 2011 and 2021 for early working age adults (specifically 21-30 years), with populations only increasing by 1.9%. As shown in Table 6-1 and Figure 6-2, an even smaller increase is expected within this age group between 2021 and 2043 (1.1%). This suggests that young professionals will move out of the Borough in order to live somewhere that caters more effectively to their career goals/social lives.

Populations of older working age adults (specifically 31-50) are expected to experience relatively large increases between 2021 and 2043 (more than 14.5%). This is slightly higher than the increase experienced between 2011 and 2021 (approximately 10.9%)⁵⁷.

Between 2011 and 2021, an ageing population trend was evident in Tamworth, as the number of Tamworth residents aged 70-74 years increased by 51%, and the number of Tamworth residents aged between 75-79 years rose by 48%⁵⁸. As highlighted in Table 6-1 and Figure 6-2, a similar trend is expected between 2021 and 2043; the largest increase in resident age is predicted to be within the 81 years and over age group (a predicted increase of 73.7%). There is subsequently likely to be a significant increase in demand for accessible homes, health services and supported living arrangements from an increase in older residents. Changes to health and social care systems will be needed in order to provide appropriate care for the ageing population⁵⁹.

Table 6-1: Projected Change in Population by Age

Age	2021 Population ⁶⁰	2043 Population Projection ⁶¹	Percentage Change
0 to 10	10,089	10,576	4.8
11 to 20	8,852	8,915	0.7
21 to 30	9,741	9,845	1.1
31 to 40	10,690	12,545	17.4

⁵⁶ [Data Viewer - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (30/09/25)

⁵⁷ [Data Viewer - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (30/09/25)

⁵⁸ ONS Census 2021 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E07000199/> (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁵⁹ Ready for Ageing? [Microsoft Word - FINAL Public Services Report \(parliament.uk\)](#) (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁶⁰ Office for National Statistics (2021). Census 2021 - Population estimates by age and sex, Tamworth. Available from: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census> (Accessed 29/09/2025)

⁶¹ [Mid-year population estimates and re-scaled population estimates using national population projections for local authorities in England by sex and single year of age, 2018 to 2043 - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



Age	2021 Population ⁶⁰	2043 Population Projection ⁶¹	Percentage Change
41 to 50	9,993	11,457	14.7
51 to 60	10,693	11,840	0.7
61 to 70	8,755	9,755	1.4
71 to 80	6,883	9,363	36.0
81 and over	2,954	5,131	73.7

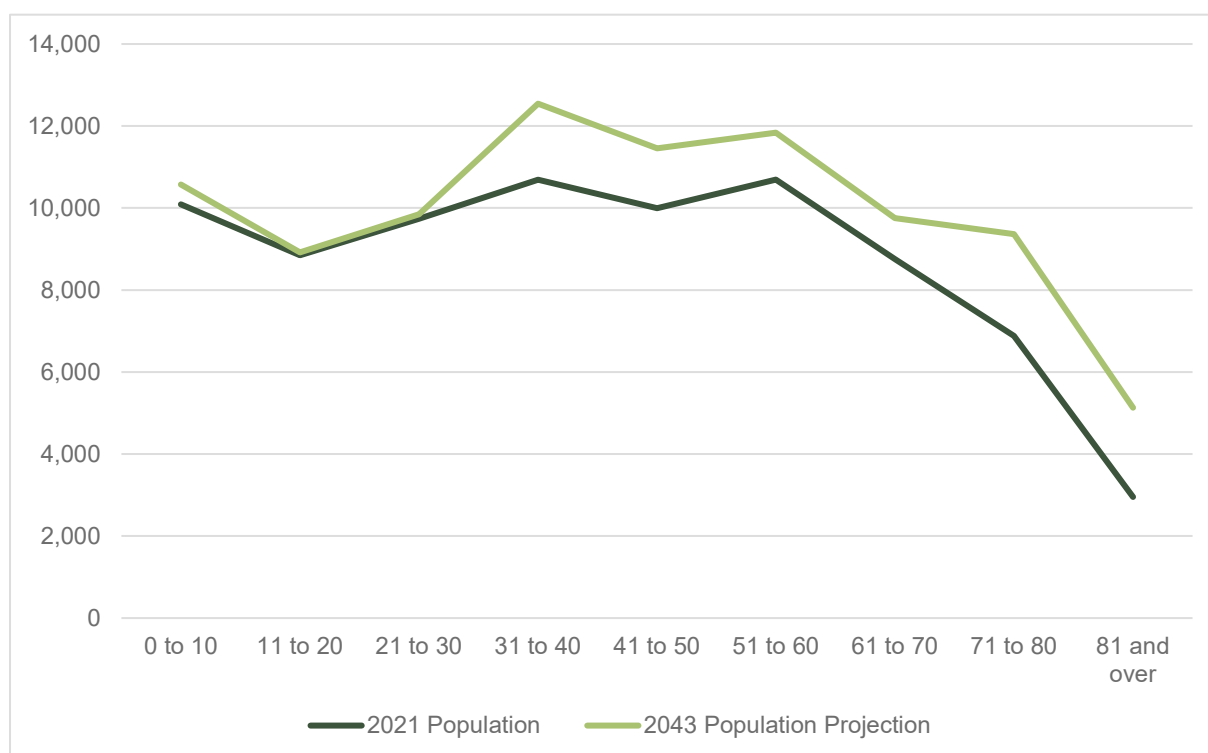


Figure 6-2: Projected Change in Age

6.1.3 Gender

Figure 6-3 presents the gender split by age in Tamworth. In 2021, the estimated female population of Tamworth was 39,893 and the male population was 39,737. The difference between male and female population sizes is relatively small across most age groups, with a slightly higher number of males in the younger age groups (particularly ages 0–20). However, from age 61 onwards, the population shows a higher proportion of females compared to males, with the disparity becoming more pronounced in the 71 to 80 as well as the 81 and over age bands.



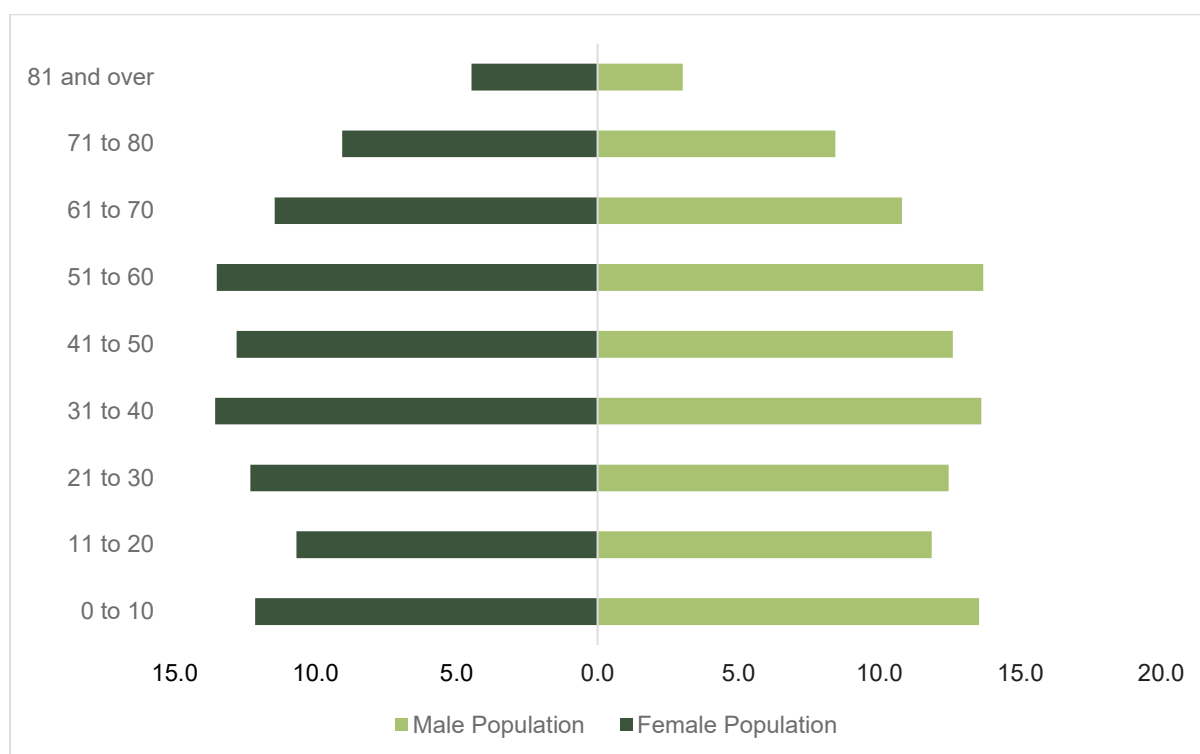


Figure 6-3: Gender Split by Age

Table 6-2 highlights the projected gender split by age in the Borough by 2043. In 2043, the estimated female population of Tamworth is anticipated to be 45,290 and the male population 44,137. Similarly to the 2021, the difference between male and female population sizes is relatively small across most age groups. However, there are a slightly higher number of males in the younger and middle age groups (particularly ages 0–40). From age 41 onwards, the population shows a higher proportion of females compared to males, with the disparity becoming more pronounced in the 61 to 70, 71 to 80 and the 81 and over age bands.

Table 6-2: Projected Gender Split by Age

Age Group	2021 ⁶²		2043 ⁶³	
	Female Population	Male Population	Female Population	Male Population
0 to 10	4848	5241	5141	5435
11 to 20	4262	4590	4230	4685
21 to 30	4916	4825	4836	5009

⁶² Office for National Statistics (2021). Census 2021 - Population estimates by age and sex, Tamworth. Available from: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census> (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁶³ [Mid-year population estimates and re-scaled population estimates using national population projections for local authorities in England by sex and single year of age, 2018 to 2043 - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



Age Group	2021 ⁶²		2043 ⁶³	
	Female Population	Male Population	Female Population	Male Population
31 to 40	5416	5274	6041	6504
41 to 50	5109	4884	5874	5583
51 to 60	5393	5300	6022	5818
61 to 70	4571	4184	5185	4570
71 to 80	3614	3269	4973	4390
81 and over	1784	1170	2988	2143

6.1.4 Sexual Orientation

The 2021 Census recorded that whilst 5.6% of Tamworth's population did not disclose, 2.3% of residents stated that they belonged to the LGBTQ+ community, and 92.1% regarded themselves as heterosexual⁶⁴.

6.1.5 Ethnicity

Tamworth is not a particularly diverse Borough, with a large majority (95.8%) of residents identified as White⁶⁵. In the 2021 Census, 1.9% of residents identified themselves as being mixed or multiple ethnic groups, 1.4% identified as Asian, 0.6% identified as Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African. The remaining 0.4% identified themselves as 'other'. The ethnicity makeup of the Borough is highlighted in Figure 6-4.

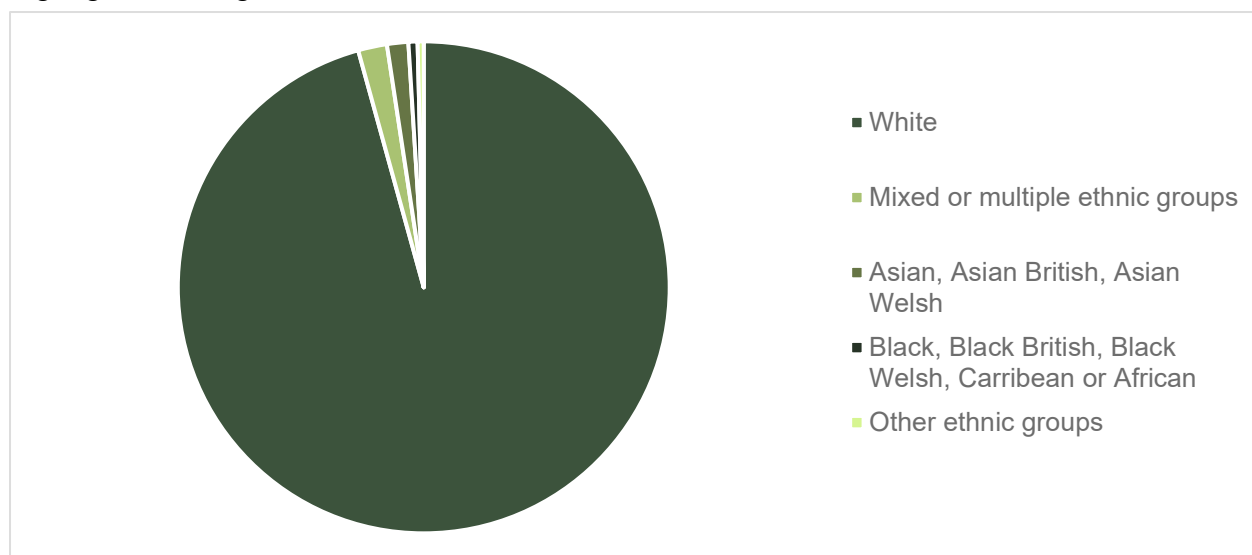


Figure 6-4: Ethnicity in Tamworth⁶⁶

⁶⁴ ONS Census 2021 - Sexual orientation [Sexual orientation, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/sexualorientationanddiversity/censusesandcensusbasedanalyses/census2021) (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁶⁵ ONS Census 2021 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censusareachanges/E07000199/> (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁶⁶ ONS Census <https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censusareachanges/E07000199/> (Accessed 29/07/2025)



6.1.6 Religion/Belief

The 2021 Census records that 55.7% of Tamworth's population hold some form of religion/belief. The most prominent religion held in the Borough is Christianity (49.1%) and those identifying as Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Buddhist and other made up 1.7% of the population all together. Whilst 5% of the population did not disclose their religion, 44.3% of the Borough hold no religion or belief system, which has increased by 15% since 2011.

6.1.7 Deprivation

The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 attempts to measure a broad concept of multiple deprivation at the small area level. The Indices provide a set of relative measures of deprivation for small areas (LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas) across England, based on seven different domains of deprivation:

- Income Deprivation;
- Employment Deprivation;
- Education, Skills and Training Deprivation;
- Health Deprivation and Disability;
- Crime; and
- Barriers to Housing and Services.

According to the 2019 Indices, Tamworth is ranked 126th most deprived local authority in England, out of 317 English local authorities nationally (where 1 is the most deprived and 317 is the least deprived)⁶⁷. Table 6-3 shows the average ranking of each of the local authorities surrounding Tamworth.

Table 6-3: Indices of Deprivation for Tamworth and Neighbouring Authorities

	Tamworth	Lichfield	North Warwickshire
Overall Rank	126	247	167
Income	118	223	190
Employment	125	202	177
Education	45	221	97
Health	90	202	154
Crime	114	252	145
Barriers	213	207	162
Living Environment	284	276	114

As shown in Table 6-3, Tamworth is particularly deprived with respect to education, an index area which is notably higher than surrounding areas of North Warwickshire and Lichfield. Health is also an area of relatively higher deprivation, followed by

⁶⁷ ONS Census: [Exploring local income deprivation](#) (Accessed 04/08/2025)



crime, income and employment. These indicators suggest a population facing significant health issues, alongside barriers to academic attainment, financial stability and access to employment opportunities.

Levels of deprivation in Tamworth can be considered spatially. The ONS divides the Borough into nine Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOA). Deprivation in the Borough is largely focused in the urban areas of Glascote Heath and Central Tamworth, with 66.8% and 62.8% (respectively) of residents experiencing deprivation from at least one dimension. MSOAs to the south of the Borough- Wilnecote East and Dosthill and Two Gates- are the least deprived, with 47.5% and 48.8% (respectively) of residents experiencing deprivation from at least one dimension⁶⁸. These patterns are further supported by the high concentration of social housing in the most deprived neighbourhoods and higher home ownership rates in the least deprived areas. The variation in deprivation levels across Tamworth is illustrated in Figure 6-5.

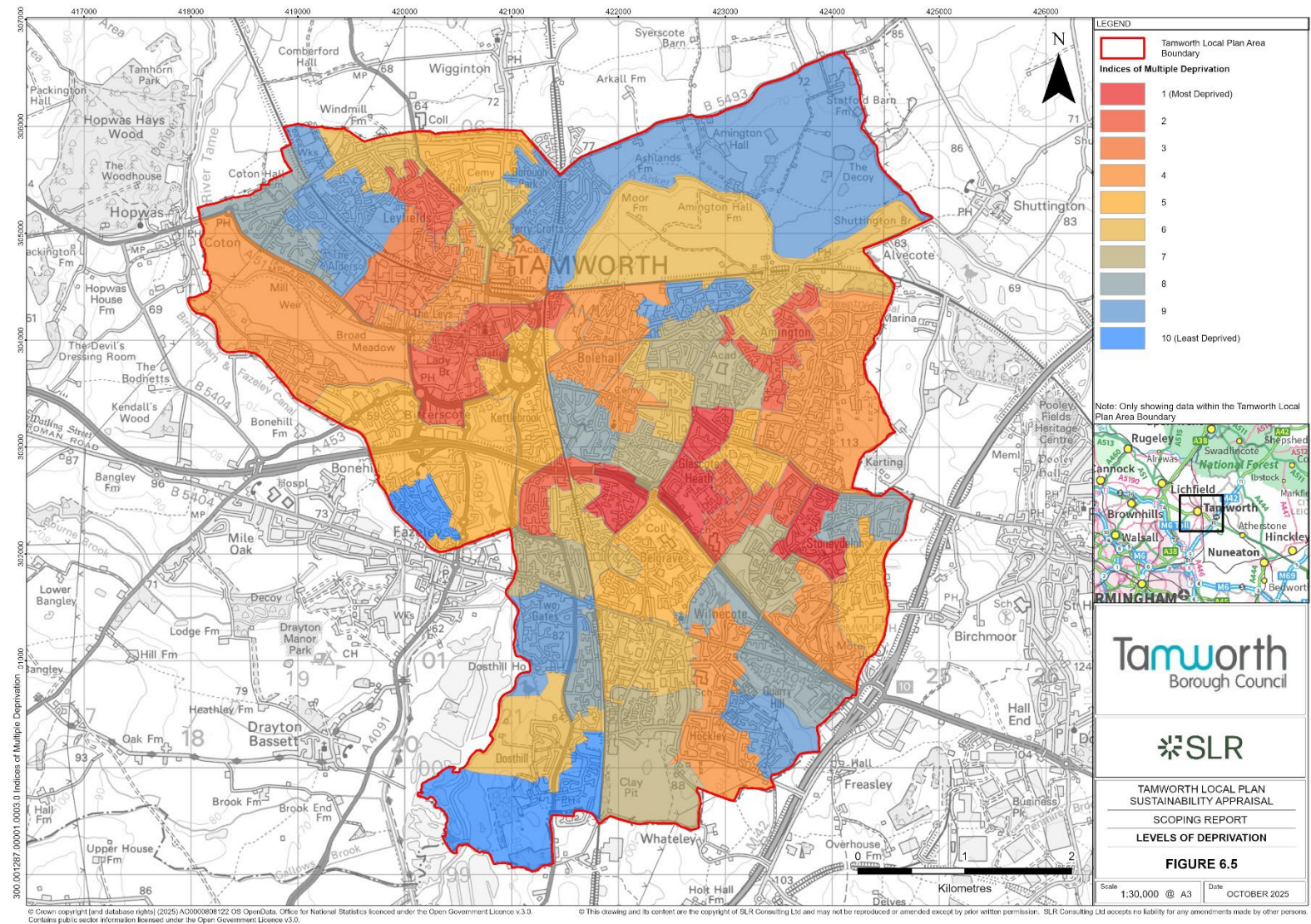
In 2024, 20% of children in Tamworth were living below the poverty line after housing costs⁶⁹. While this is lower than the national average, it still represents a significant portion of the population.

⁶⁸ [Household deprivation - Census Maps, ONS](#) (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁶⁹ [Key Statistics About Tamworth | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)



Figure 6-5: Levels of deprivation across Tamworth



6.1.8 Education

The school place planning area of Tamworth includes all of the Tamworth Borough Council boundary plus a small number of schools that fall within the Lichfield District Council boundary. Students from across Tamworth may subsequently attend school in neighbouring authorities of Lichfield or North Warwickshire, depending on their proximity to the nearest school (primary school pupils must be able to attend a school within 2 miles walking distance of their residence).

Within this school planning area there are 39 schools (Figure 6-6). Tamworth operates a two-tier education system with primary phase schools (age 4-11 years) and Secondary phase schools (age 11-16/18 years). There are 34 primary, infant or junior schools within the school planning area, of which 27 are situated within the Tamworth Borough Council boundary and seven fall within the Lichfield District boundary. There are five secondary schools and one sixth form centre within the school planning area. A significant number of the schools within the Tamworth school place planning area are Academies or Free Schools, including 22 Primary, Infant and Junior schools and five secondary schools⁷⁰.

Across these schools, 4.35% of pupils achieve a strong pass in reading, writing and maths against the national average of 7.42%, highlighting lower educational attainment in the Tamworth borough. Similarly, whilst 30.02% of pupils across England achieved 5 or more GCSEs in 2023, only 19.67% of pupils met this achievement in Tamworth.

Table 6-4 shows 21.9% of residents aged between 16-64 held level four or higher qualifications in 2021. Despite this figure increasing by 2.5% since 2011, it is still significantly lower than the national average of 34%. The attainment of level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications has decreased by 7.3% between 2011 and 2021. In line with this, 21.8% of residents aged between 16-64 held no qualifications in 2021⁷¹. This is higher than the national average of 18.1%, but similar to the West Midlands average (21.1%). This figure has increased by 3.9% since 2011. **Educational attainment across the Borough's wards is similar⁷².**

Table 6-4: Educational Attainment in Tamworth

	2011 (%) ⁷³	2021 (%) ⁷⁴
Level 4 and above	19.4	21.9
Level 1, 2 or 3	55.5	48.2
Apprenticeship	7.3	5.5
Other qualifications	N/A	2.7
No qualifications	17.9	21.8

⁷⁰ Tamworth Borough Council Education Baseline Data (July 2025)

⁷¹ [Highest level of qualification - Census Maps, ONS](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

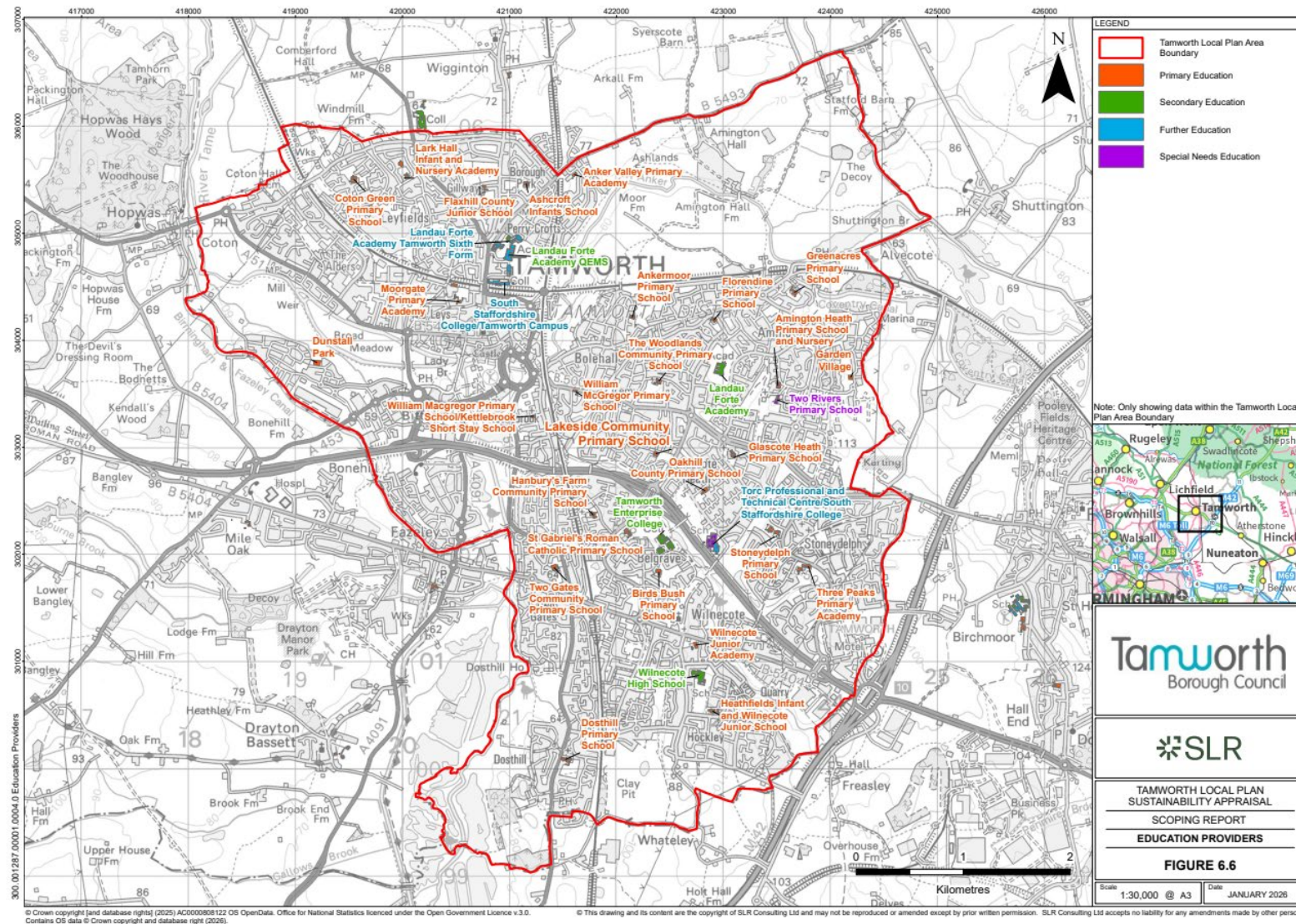
⁷² Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 - Staffordshire Observatory](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

⁷³ [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

⁷⁴ [Highest level of qualification - Census Maps, ONS](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



Figure 6-6: Education Providers in Tamworth



Over the last 10 years, Tamworth has experienced a steady increase in demand for school places as a result of development, in the north and east of the town, including development just over the Borough boundary in Lichfield to the north. Over the past five years the demand has been focused on primary provision as it is recognised that the pressure on Secondary places can take 10 to 15 years to build as the younger pupils work through the school system. The child yield used to calculate pupil generation at primary level in Tamworth is slightly higher than for the majority other Staffordshire areas at 4.5% as housing developments in Tamworth have been shown to generate a higher number of pre-school and primary age children. Demand for secondary places is expected to increase over the longer term in the north of Tamworth. In addition, a number of Tamworth pupils access school places outside of Staffordshire at year 7, the majority of which attend Secondary schools in North Warwickshire. This has traditionally been in excess of 100 pupils each year, however numbers have been reducing and the latest available data for 2024/25 shows this had dropped to just under 80. Any pushback of Staffordshire pupils from these out of county schools would cause additional pressure on the availability of Secondary places in Tamworth.

There is currently one primary school expected to be developed over the next 3 years, in line with the Arkall Farm development, which is situated just outside the Tamworth Borough boundary in Lichfield. The new school will be situated within the development, and the opening date is dependent on the time taken for the various phases of the development to come forward. It is currently anticipated this school will open in September 2029.

Figure 6-7 shows how the number of pupils is expected to rise each academic year between 2024/25 and 2027/28. Demand for school spaces is expected to remain relatively stable, with small increases over time.

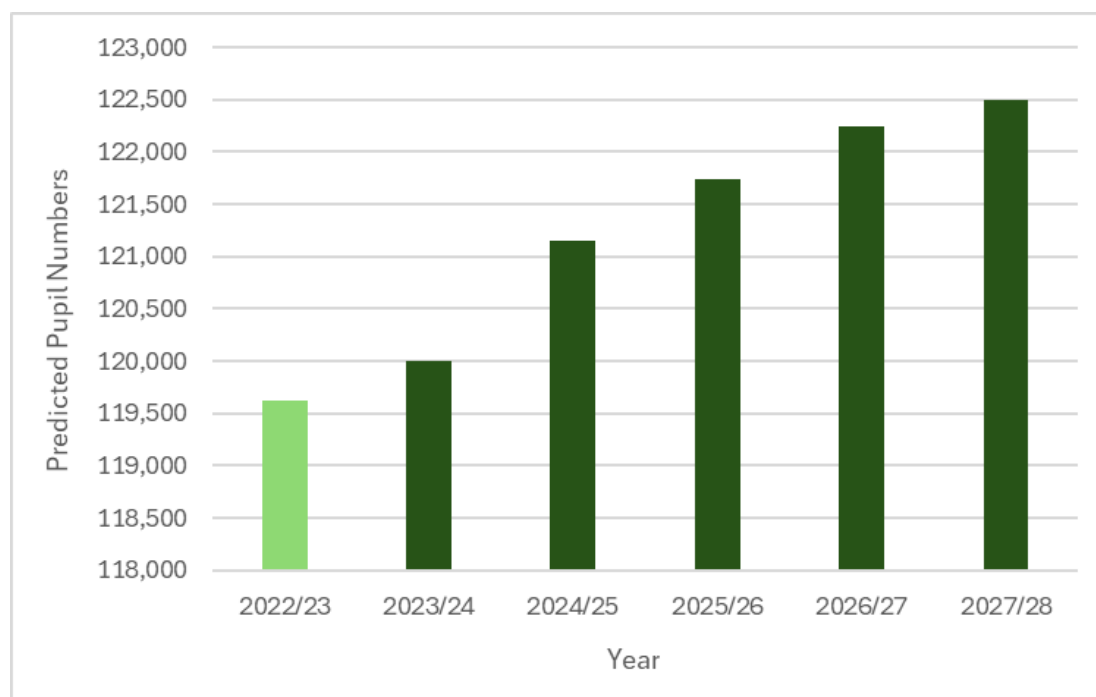


Figure 6-7: Actual (2022/23) and Forecasted Pupil Numbers for Staffordshire⁷⁵

New schools, or expansions to existing schools, are likely to be needed alongside housing development in the Borough. A development, or a combination of small developments in an area, of 500 or more dwellings may trigger the need for a new primary school. A development, or a combination of small developments, of 5,000 or more dwellings may trigger the need for a new secondary school. Increases to school capacity (either through expansions or new schools) are reliant on developer contributions⁷⁶. Where a new school or expansion to an existing school is proposed, this will comply with accessibility regulations.

Tamworth is seeing increased demand for Special Educational Needs (SEN) support, in both specialist schools and mainstream schools, in line with national trends. There are two specialist schools within the Borough, both of which are at capacity. The High school is currently being expanded to provide additional places to future cohorts. Tamworth's 2025/26 SEN school capacity is just over 400 places⁷⁷.

Between 2020 and 2024, Educational, Health and Care (EHC) assessments have risen significantly across Staffordshire.

The most common primary need among children with an EHCP in Tamworth is speech, language and communication needs (27.8%), followed by autism (24.8%)⁷⁸. Speech, language and communication needs are the most prevalent among both males and females. For children with SEN support, moderate learning difficulties (25.9%) are the most prevalent primary needs. There are concerns that children with SEND are not achieving the same level of academic attainment as other children in Staffordshire⁷⁹.

6.1.9 Crime

The crime rate within the Borough was recorded at an average of 65.74 crimes per 1,000 people across 2024⁸⁰. This equates to a total of 5,734 crimes. This figure is similar to the Staffordshire average (66.53 crimes per 1000 people), and slightly lower than the average for England (67.0 crimes per 1000 people)⁸¹, placing the Borough in a mid-range position nationally. The number of reported crimes in the Borough has increased slightly between 2017 and 2024 by 8.5%.

⁷⁵ Gov.UK, Staffordshire: [Step 6: Explore data - Create your own tables on school capacity](#) (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁷⁶ [Staffordshire Education Infrastructure Contributions Policy - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

⁷⁷ [School place planning in Tamworth Borough - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 29/07/2025)

⁷⁸ [Education, health and care plans, Reporting year 2025 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 05/01/2025)

⁷⁹ The SEND Landscape in Staffordshire
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/SpecialEducationalNeeds/Improving-SEND-support-in-Staffordshire.aspx
(Accessed 20/08/2025)

⁸⁰ [Tamworth, Staffordshire Crime and Safety Statistics | CrimeRate](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

⁸¹ [Staffordshire Police - Crime and Safety Statistics | CrimeRate](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



Table 6-5: Victim-based crime and other crimes against society (2024)⁸²

Type of Crime	Number of Crimes
Violence against the person with injury	713
Violence against the person without injury	738
Homicide	1
Death or serious injury caused by illegal driving	0
Sexual offences	260
Robbery	63
Non-residential burglary	47
Vehicle offences	462
Theft from the person	22
Bicycle theft	43
Shoplifting	506
All other theft offences	376
Criminal damage and arson	426
Residential burglary	214

As shown in Table 6-5, the largest proportion of crimes in Tamworth in 2024 was violence against the person, with 713 cases involving injury and 738 without injury, indicating a strong prevalence of interpersonal assaults, followed by shoplifting (506) and vehicle offences (462). The number of crimes and anti-social behaviour incidents in Tamworth has remained relatively stable between 2021 and 2025, with fluctuations largely reflecting national trends and seasonal variations.

Tamworth Borough Council and Staffordshire Police have implemented a range of initiatives to tackle crime and improve public confidence. The Tamworth Community Safety Partnership brings together local authorities, police, fire services, and health organisations to address key priorities such as anti-social behaviour, public place violence, domestic abuse, vehicle crime, county lines and drug-related offences⁸³.

One notable intervention is the Tamworth Vulnerability Partnership, which uses a multi-agency approach to support individuals at risk and reduce repeat offending. Additionally, Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) have been introduced in high crime areas such as Bolehall and Kettlebrook to reduce nuisance behaviour⁸⁴.

⁸² Crime data https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lqastandard?mod-metric=%5B410_Number%5D%5BCrimetype%5D%5BCrimetype_VictimBasedCrime%5D&mod-period=1&mod-area=E0700 (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁸³ [Community safety partnership | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed: 30/07/2025)

⁸⁴ [Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2020-2023](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)



Tamworth Police have adopted a problem-solving approach in the town centre, focusing on illegal motorcycles, drug misuse, and youth violence⁸⁵. This includes high-visibility patrols, community engagement events, and collaborative enforcement with council officers.

6.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- The population of the Borough will continue to increase disproportionately; Tamworth's young and working age population (particularly between 18-25 years) is forecasted to fall, whilst the ageing population (aged 71 years and over) is predicted to continue rising. This will lead to a less socially balanced community, with greater levels of dependency;
- An ageing population will place pressure on health and social care services, supported living, and accessibility standards in housing and public spaces;
- Tamworth is particularly deprived with respect to education, health, and crime, and this is also evident in neighbouring authorities. Deprivation is most evident within Glascote Heath and Central Tamworth;
- A large proportion of children in Tamworth experience income deprivation, leading to them falling below the poverty line;
- Tamworth has lower educational attainment rates than the regional and national average;
- There is high demand for primary school places in Tamworth, particularly in the north of the Borough in line with recent housing development;
- Demand for SEND support is rising, with a projected shortfall of 400 specialist school places by 2027/28. There is a need for more inclusive school environments to ensure all children/young people with SEND can be supported in the right place at the right time;
- In line with national and regional trends, crime rates in Tamworth are increasing. There is a need for well-designed developments that assist in reducing opportunities for crime, lowering the fear of crime and promoting feelings of safety. -; and
- There is a need for inclusive, well-designed developments that accommodate a shifting population structure and ensure equal access to services.

6.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

The population of the Borough and number of households will continue to grow, and the average age of the population will continue to get older. This increase could lead to changes to the types of accommodation required, and how healthcare and leisure facilities are used within the Borough. Additionally, school place demand will

⁸⁵ [Tamworth Town | Police.uk](https://tamworthtown.police.uk) (Accessed 30/7/2025)



gradually increase over the next five years, with SEN support becoming a critical area for urgent action.

Deprivation will likely remain unevenly dispersed across the Borough, unless addressed through coordinated regeneration and service delivery. Similarly, educational attainment gaps and low qualification levels may persist without targeted intervention, limiting access to higher-skilled jobs and amplifying income deprivation.

Pressure on school capacity- particularly at secondary schools and special schools- is likely to increase from new developments. Although a range of organisations are responsible for delivering education and training provision, Staffordshire County Council has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available to meet the needs of a growing and changing population. Without coordinated planning through the Local Plan, there is a risk that education infrastructure will not keep pace with housing growth and demographic change, leading to increased inequality in access to education.

6.4 Data Gaps

Tamworth's ward-level deprivation data and school capacity forecasts are anticipated by 2026 and may provide clearer insights into infrastructure needs. Monitoring of SEN capacity and inclusion data is currently minimal. Improving this will be essential for shaping future education provision.



7.0 Health

7.1 Baseline

7.1.1 Health Infrastructure

Tamworth is served by a network of nine National Health Service (NHS) GP practices⁸⁶. These practices vary in size and patient satisfaction, with some operating close to capacity. Although there is no major hospital within the Borough, residents can access acute and emergency care through nearby facilities such as Good Hope Hospital in Sutton Coldfield. The Borough also benefits from community health services, minor injuries units, and urgent care pathways coordinated via NHS 111, helping to alleviate pressure on hospital services⁸⁷.

7.1.2 Life Expectancy

In the three-year period between 2021-2023, life expectancy for both males and females in the Borough was slightly lower, but statistically similar to the county and national averages⁸⁸. These statistics are highlighted in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1: Life Expectancy at Birth

	Tamworth	Staffordshire	England
Males (2021-23)	78.9	79.5	79.1
Females (2021-23)	82.7	83.2	83.1

Life expectancy decreased slightly in Tamworth between 2019 and 2022 but rose between 2022 and 2023. This trend occurred at a national scale and is a likely result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Life expectancy at birth is a high-level indicator of inequality. Within the Borough, life expectancy is approximately 4 years lower for men and women in the most deprived areas of Tamworth compared to the least deprived areas⁸⁹. However, overall life expectancy at birth for females (82.6 years old) and males (78.7 years old) are broadly in line with the national averages (83.2 and 79.5 years old respectively)⁹⁰.

7.1.3 General Health (Self-Reported Health)

The majority of Tamworth residents define their health as either 'very good' (44.6%) or 'good' (35.2%), according to the 2021 Census. This number of residents defining themselves in 'very good health' has improved since 2011 (42.6%) and number of residents defining themselves in 'good health' is similar (35.6%). 5.9% of resident's

⁸⁶ [Best and Worst NHS GPs in Tamworth | HealthSay](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁸⁷ [Health | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁸⁸ [Life expectancy for local areas of Great Britain - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁸⁹ [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 - Staffordshire Observatory](#) (Accessed 30/09/2025)

⁹⁰ [Tamworth Data Pack 2018](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

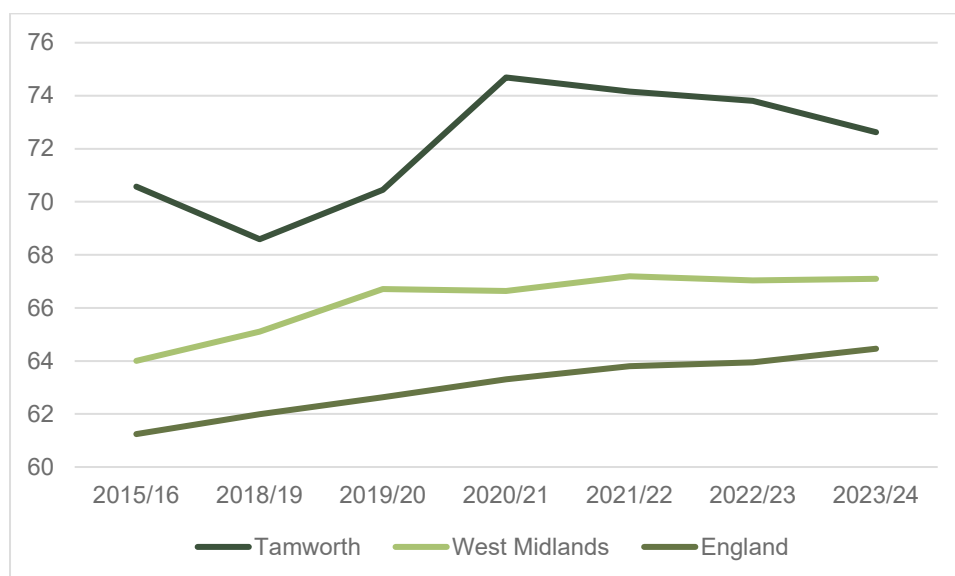


considered themselves to be in ‘bad’ or ‘very bad’ health⁹¹. This is a decrease of 0.8% since 2011.

7.1.4 Overweight and Obesity

In Tamworth, 72.6% of people are identified as overweight or obese, which is considerably higher than the average for the West Midlands (67.1%), and the national average (64.5%). Figure 7-1 presents these figures over time and shows that overweight and obesity rates rose sharply in Tamworth between 2018 and 2021 and are now beginning to decline. However, they continue to rise steadily in the West Midlands and England more widely.

Figure 7-1: Overweight (including obesity) prevalence in adults over time

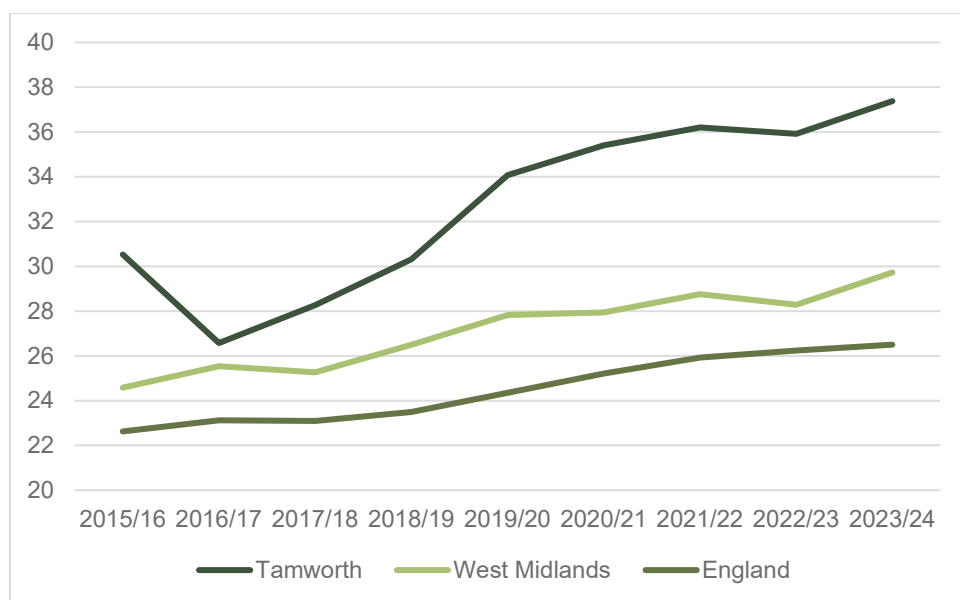


Obesity rates in Tamworth are significantly higher than both regional and national averages. In Tamworth, 37.4% of the population is classified as obese, compared to 29.7% in the West Midlands and 26.5% across England. Figure 7-2: Obesity prevalence in adults over time shows the prevalence of obesity over time, presenting a year-on-year increase in obesity since 2015 in Tamworth, the West Midlands and England. Obesity rates have increased more rapidly in Tamworth. Higher levels of obesity are most commonly found in the Borough’s urban and deprived areas, such as Central Tamworth (15.5%) and Coton Farms and Perry Croft (14.4%).

⁹¹ [How life has changed in Tamworth: Census 2021](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)



Figure 7-2: Obesity prevalence in adults over time

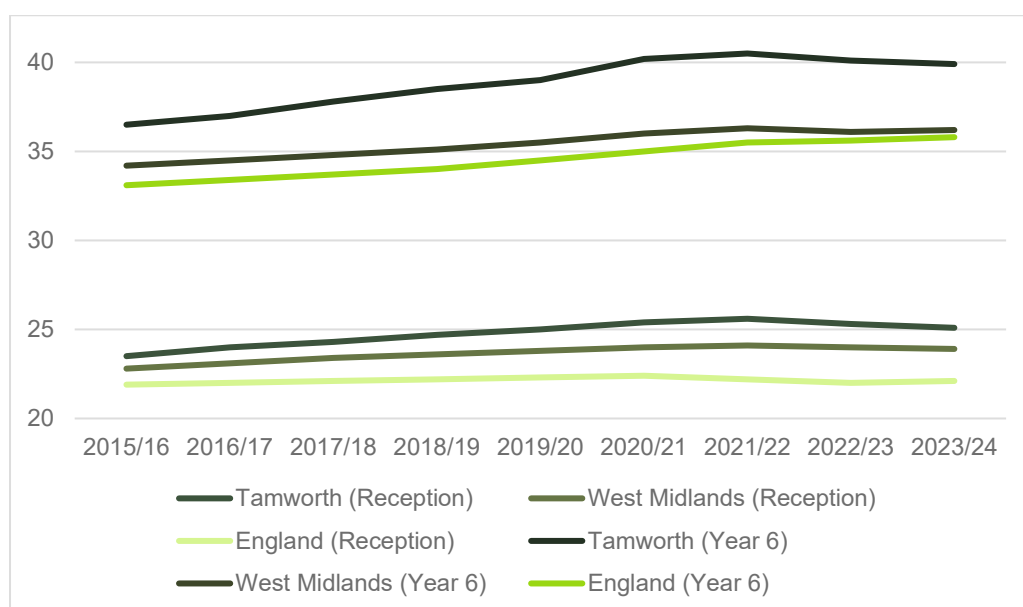


The proportion of children identified as overweight or obese in Tamworth is also higher than the regional and national averages. 24.1% of reception-age children and 39.5% of year 6 children are classified as overweight or obese⁹². For both of these age groups, obesity levels are higher than the average for the West Midlands (23.4 and 38.4% respectively), and nationally (22.1% and 35.8% respectively)⁹². Figure 7-3 presents the proportion of children in reception and year 6 who are identified as overweight or obese over time. The gap between Tamworth and the regional and national averages for these figures is wider for children in year 6 than it is for children in reception.

⁹² Department of Health and Social Care 2024 [Obesity, physical activity and nutrition - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 21/10/2025)



Figure 7-3: Overweight and obesity prevalence in children in year reception and children in year 6 over time⁹²



Reception-age children in Stonydelph are disproportionately affected by obesity, with 28.3% being classed as overweight or obese. Similarly, year 6 children in Stonydelph and Bolehall are disproportionately affected by obesity, with 42.3% and 50.0% (respectively) of children being classed as overweight or obese⁹³. Childhood obesity rates in Tamworth's most deprived areas are therefore significantly higher than those in the Borough's least deprived areas.

Over half of the Borough's residents (53%) meet their '5-a-day' fruit and vegetable consumption target. This is similar to county (53%) and national (55%) averages⁹⁴. There is a similar proportion of fast-food outlets per 100,000 in Tamworth (98.4) compared to England (115.9)⁹⁵.

There is growing evidence of a link between obesity and poor oral health. Although specific local figures are limited, national and regional studies have shown that children in more deprived areas are significantly more likely to experience tooth decay and poor oral health outcomes⁹⁶.

7.1.5 Levels of Physical Activity

Approximately 67.4% of adults in Tamworth are active for more than 150 minutes a week, which is higher than the regional and national averages (64.1% and respectively 67.4%). Despite this, around 25% of adults in Tamworth are physically

⁹³ Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 - Staffordshire Observatory](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

⁹⁴ [PowerPoint Presentation](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

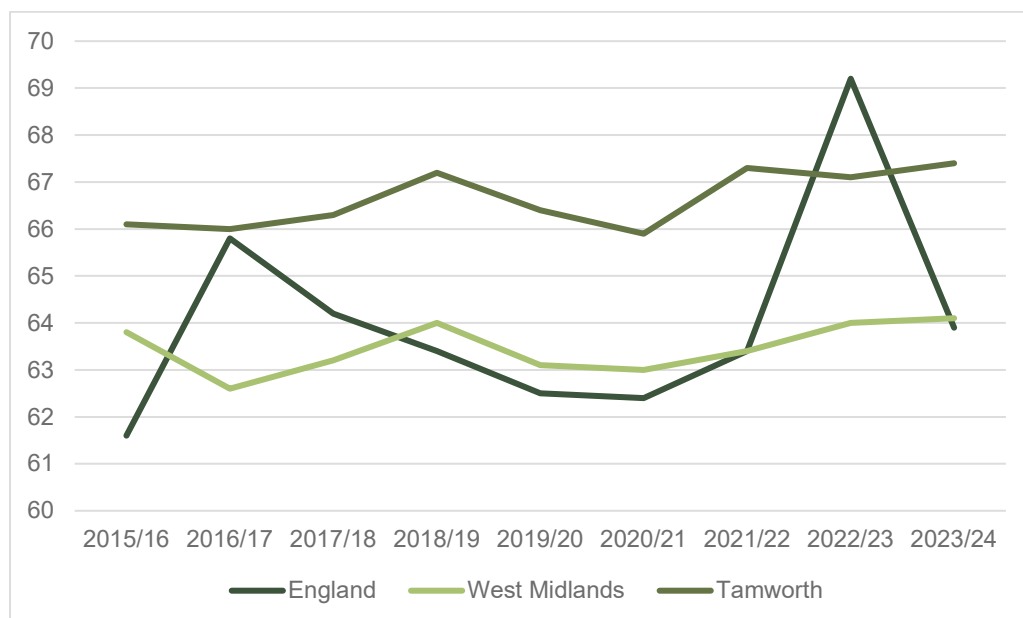
⁹⁵ Department of Health and Social Care [Obesity, physical activity and nutrition - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 21/10/2025)

⁹⁶ HYPERLINK "<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/oral-health-survey-of-children-in-year-6-2023-detailed-report/detailed-findings-of-year-6-oral-health-survey>" [Detailed findings of year 6 oral health survey - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)



inactive (less than 30 minutes of activity per week), which is the same as the regional average but higher than the national average (22%)⁹⁷. Figure 7-4 shows that the level of physical activity in Tamworth has increased over time and has remained higher than its regional and national comparators. The figure for the West Midlands has followed a similar trend, however it has fluctuated across England.

Figure 7-4: Levels of physical activity over time⁹⁸



The low levels of physical activity identified within the Borough are likely to correlate with the high levels of obesity identified. As highlighted in the Better Health Evidence Base for Tamworth (2023)⁹⁹, this inactivity is linked to higher rates of chronic conditions such as diabetes. The Borough has a high prevalence of Type 1 and 2 diabetes, with 7.6% of Tamworth residents suffering from the condition, compared to 7.3% across England¹⁰⁰.

On average, four in ten children in the Borough are physically active for an hour each day (similar to Staffordshire and England). 1 in 3 children in the Borough are active for less than 30 minutes a day however. This is also similar to the county and national average¹⁰¹.

7.1.6 Disability

In 2021, 8.1% of residents identified themselves as 'disabled and limited a lot'; this is a decrease from 2011 (10.2%). 10.9% of residents identified themselves as 'disabled and limited a little'¹⁰²; this is a slight increase since 2011 (10.6%). In comparison,

⁹⁷ [PowerPoint Presentation](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

⁹⁸ [Obesity, physical activity and nutrition - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 21/10/2025)

⁹⁹ [PowerPoint Presentation](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

¹⁰⁰ [PowerPoint Presentation](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

¹⁰¹ [PowerPoint Presentation](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

¹⁰² [How life has changed in Tamworth: Census 2021](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)



Staffordshire reported 7.4% 'disabled and limited a lot' and 10.7% 'disabled and limited a little', while the national figures for England were 9.3% and 9.8% respectively¹⁰³. This highlights that Tamworth has a higher proportion of residents experiencing less severe forms of disability¹⁰⁴.

Whilst exact figures are not available for Tamworth, Staffordshire has a disability employment rate of 70.1%, which is significantly higher than the average for the West Midlands (53.9%) and England (55.6%)¹⁰⁵. This employment rate has risen substantially since 2013 (42.9%)¹⁰⁶. This suggests that physical barriers to the workplace for those with health inequalities may be decreasing. However, within the West Midlands, women with disabilities have recorded lower economic activity rates and wages compared to their male counterparts.

Progress is being made in Tamworth to create inclusive and accessible job opportunities and to support disabled residents in developing skills. Tamworth Better Together Partnership is a Council-led initiative working to enhance services that promote health, wellbeing, and independence for all residents¹⁰⁷. In addition, the Council supports community-led projects through the We Are Tamworth programme, which funds initiatives that foster inclusion, skill-building, and employment opportunities across diverse groups¹⁰⁸.

Tamworth also benefits from disability-friendly employment schemes and support services, including the newly expanded Mobility and Lifestyle Support Centre, which provides resources and equipment to help disabled individuals live independently and access employment¹⁰⁹. These efforts reflect a broader commitment to ensuring that all residents can participate fully in the local economy and community life.

Tamworth Borough Council attends the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Learning in Practice Forum meetings, surrounding themes of safeguarding, with attendance at MACE panels, domestic abuse working groups and countywide partnerships¹¹⁰.

7.1.7 Pregnancy and Maternity

There were 774 live births in Tamworth in 2024, which was lower than in Lichfield (959) but higher than North Warwickshire (589)¹¹¹. Tamworth ranks in the top five

¹⁰³ <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Observatory/Data/Documents/Census-2021-Health-Disability-and-Unpaid-Care-Final.pdf> (Accessed 04/08/2025)

¹⁰⁴ [How life has changed in Tamworth: Census 2021](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)

¹⁰⁵ [The employment of disabled people 2024 - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁰⁶ Department for Work and Pensions. [The employment of disabled people 2024 - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁰⁷ [Support for adults | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁰⁸ [Five community projects begin crowdfunding as 'We are Tamworth' programme gains momentum | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁰⁹ [Mayor opens Mobility and Lifestyle 'flagship' support centre](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹¹⁰ [Safeguarding Children and Adults at risk of abuse report Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee 20.pdf](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹¹¹ Live births (2024) [Population change, Live births in North Warwickshire | LG Inform](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)



local authorities in the West Midlands with the highest teenage (under 18 years) conception rates in England and Wales, at 19.4 per 1,000 births¹¹². Infant mortality rates in Tamworth lie at 6.4 deaths per 1,000 births, which is similar to the average for the West Midlands (5.9 deaths per 1,000 births)¹¹³. Infant mortality data for Tamworth should be treated with caution, however, as a result of the small number of events that contribute to this statistic.

Low birth weight of live babies in the Borough is recorded at 7.7%. This is higher than the national average of 6.8%. This is particularly prominent in the wards of Amington (10.3%) and Wilnecote (9.1%)¹¹⁴.

7.1.8 Air Quality

Breathing polluted air affects health to a great degree. Air pollution is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer as well as impacting lung function, exacerbating asthma, increasing hospital admissions and mortality rates. Air pollution does not impact a population equally, however, with the most vulnerable members of society often being at a greater risk of being exposed to poor air quality. For example, less affluent neighbourhoods are often more exposed to dangerous levels of air pollution, and this pollution can trigger or exacerbate symptoms for more vulnerable members of society such as children, the elderly, pregnant women and those with existing health conditions.

Within Tamworth, levels of nitrogen dioxide have reduced gradually over time, however, PM2.5 (particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrometres) continues to have an impact on health in the Borough. In Tamworth, the fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution was 5.7% in 2022, compared with a mean of 5.8% for England¹¹⁵. Comparing Tamworth to the other local authorities within Staffordshire, Tamworth has the highest concentrations of PM2.5 associated with excess mortality.

In order to reduce levels of PM2.5, Tamworth Borough Council is involved in a number of initiatives including promoting sustainable travel, reducing traffic congestion and idling, and optimising traffic flow via signal management and speed enforcement in order to reduce transport-related emissions.

Further information about air quality and pollution in Tamworth can be found in Chapter 10 of this report.

7.1.9 Mental Health

Tamworth has one of the highest GP recorded depression rates in Staffordshire, which is above the national average. In Tamworth, between 2016/17 and 2020/21, 35% of emergency hospital admissions were for adults (20 years and over) with a

¹¹² Under 18's conception rate [Local Authority Health Profiles - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)

¹¹³ Infant Mortality Rates [Local Authority Health Profiles - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹¹⁴ Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 - Staffordshire Observatory](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹¹⁵ [Tamworth-ASR-2024-FINAL-\(accessible\).pdf](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)



mental health diagnosis¹¹⁶. Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm in 2023/24 in the Borough are also above the national average and are particularly high in the ward of Spital¹¹⁷.

Between 2020 and 2021 the Borough's mental health index value fell from 97 to 94.7, which indicates a slight improvement¹¹⁸. Despite this, local charities such as Heart of Tamworth and Changes Tamworth also report rising demand for support services targeting loneliness and grief^{119,120}. Tamworth Samaritans supported over 10,800 callers in 2023-2024¹²¹.

Poor mental health in Tamworth is thought to be linked to pockets of deprivation, financial stress and economic inactivity, particularly among young people, older adults and those with long-term health conditions. Wards such as Belgrave and Glascote have been identified as hotspots for health inequalities, where fuel poverty and cold homes are more prevalent¹²². These conditions are associated with increased risk of mental distress. Smoking, substance misuse and physical inactivity are also known contributors to poor mental wellbeing.

Tamworth has expanded addiction recovery services through groups like Better Way Recovery and Steps Together, while the Tamworth Better Together Partnership promotes healthier lifestyles and access to leisure activities¹²³.

7.1.10 Dementia and Ageing

Dementia is a disease which affects the brain and impacts memory, thinking, language, learning, and movement. Dementia has been found to have several contributing risk factors, including obesity, smoking, excessive alcohol use, high blood pressure, diabetes, an ageing population, deprivation, and ethnic diversity¹²⁴. Tamworth has a high prevalence of dementia, with a rate of 1.44% against the national average of 1.36%¹²⁵. This is slightly lower than the approximate county average however (1.55%)¹²⁶.

In Staffordshire, the quality rating of residential care and nursing home beds for residents aged 65 and older is 62.8%, a figure which is significantly lower than the national average of 75%¹²⁷. As Tamworth exhibits an ageing population in line with

¹¹⁶ [Mental health in adults - Staffordshire Observatory](#) (Access 17/07/2025)

¹¹⁷ Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024 - Staffordshire Observatory](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹¹⁸ [How health has changed in your area - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)

¹¹⁹ [Empowering Lives & Community - Heart of Tamworth Community Project](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹²⁰ [Changes Tamworth |](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹²¹ [Tamworth Samaritans](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹²² [Home energy help | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹²³ [Support for adults | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹²⁴ [Dementia Prevalence by UK Constituency 2024](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)

¹²⁵ [Dementia Prevalence by UK Constituency 2024](#) (Accessed 04/08/2025)

¹²⁶ [Demography - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

¹²⁷ Department of Health and Social Care. Dementia Profile. [Dementia Profile - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)



the rest of the UK, dementia rates are expected to rise. There are currently 12 care homes in Tamworth that provide dementia care, equating to approximately 585 care spaces¹²⁸.

As highlighted by Section 6.1.2, Tamworth is expected to experience a large increase in resident age between 2021 and 2043 (a predicted increase of 73.7% within the 81 years and over age group). This is likely to lead to an increase in the levels of residents living with disability, long-term illness and dementia. It may also increase the frequency of hip fracture admissions to hospital. In 2023, 530 per 100,00 residents aged 65 and over experienced a hip fracture¹²⁹. This is lower than the county (578 per 100,00 residents) and national average (547 per 100,00 residents). The Lichfield and Tamworth Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment suggests a need for some additional nursing and residential care bedspaces in the longer term in order to support the ageing population¹³⁰.

7.1.11 Open Spaces and Activity

Increasing activity levels in the Borough is seen as a key mechanism to improving residents' health. Tamworth Borough Council's Active Tamworth initiative promotes healthier lifestyles by increasing access to physical activity opportunities, developing targeted interventions, and encouraging community engagement¹³¹. The programme supports small, sustainable changes such as walking, cycling, and joining local sports groups. The initiative seeks to engage all age groups in physical activity, with one of its aims being to help children and young people move from education to community sport.

It is widely recognised that access to green spaces and sports and recreational facilities benefit people's mental and physical health. Tamworth contains a number of parks, gardens and nature reserves which are managed by the Borough Council. There are also a number of council-owned allotments within the Borough, as well as the Belgrave Community Allotment and Garden which is community-run. In Tamworth, there is 2.32km² of accessible green space land per 1000 population¹³².

Figure 7-5 shows the distribution of open spaces within the Borough, including those designated as outdoor sports and leisure facilities, parks and gardens and allotments.

¹²⁸ [Dementia Care Homes in Tamworth | Search Tamworth Dementia Care Homes | Care Sourcer](#) (Accessed 30/09/2025)

¹²⁹ [Local Authority Health Profiles - Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

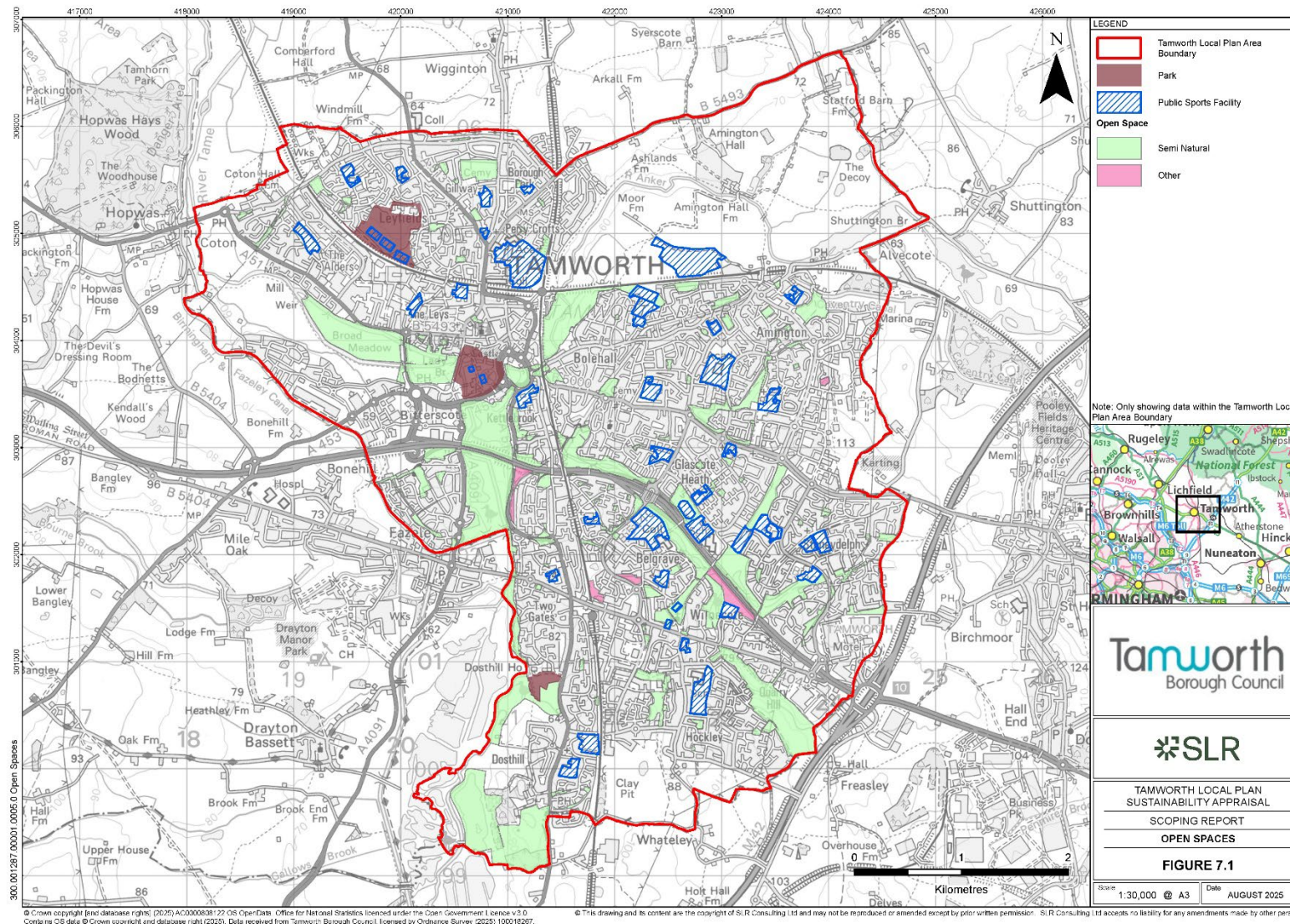
¹³⁰ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 01/10/25)

¹³¹ [visittamworth](#) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

¹³² Natural England Green Infrastructure Framework [Green Infrastructure Map](#) (Accessed 17/07/2025)



Figure 7-5: Designated Open Spaces in Tamworth



7.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Increased development in Tamworth may place additional pressure on existing NHS infrastructure, particularly GP practices and hospital services. There is a need to keep services accessible for all;
- Life expectancy for both men and women is slightly lower than county and national averages;
- Life expectancy is approximately 4 years lower for men and women in the most deprived areas of Tamworth compared to the least deprived areas;
- Levels of obesity and excessive weight in adults within the Borough are significantly higher than the national average. This is likely to contribute to issues such as poor oral health and diabetes;
- Levels of excess weight and obesity in children are also high, which can lead to long-term health problems including poor psychological and emotional health. Healthy eating and physical activity subsequently needs to be promoted from an early age;
- 1 in 4 adults and 1 in 3 children in the Borough are considered as inactive. There is subsequently a need to increase levels of physical activity and encourage healthier lifestyles;
- Almost a fifth of the Borough identify themselves as disabled, which is higher than the county average;
- There is a need to provide housing (new and existing) that is built to accessible and adaptable standards, so that where appropriate, people with disabilities can live comfortably and independently;
- There is a need to support residents with disabilities in finding inclusive and accessible job opportunities, and ensure that the disability employment rate is as high as possible in line with county rates;
- Tamworth is within top five local authorities in England and Wales for under-18 conception rates;
- Air pollution, specifically from PM2.5, significantly affects the health of residents in the Borough, especially among vulnerable groups;
- Poor mental health is a notable issue in Tamworth, where rates of depression and self-harm exceed both national and county averages;
- Dementia prevalence is high in Tamworth, driven by risk factors such as ageing, obesity, smoking and diabetes;
- There is a need to improve and increase the provision of residential care and nursing services for people living with dementia in Tamworth;



- There are high levels of hospital admissions due to falls in those aged over 65. There is a need to improve the adaptability, quality and accessibility of homes, alongside the wider built environment; and
- The needs of the ageing population will need to be considered and addressed, including greater demand for health and care services.

7.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Without the plan, health prospects may worsen over time as there will be an inability to strategically plan for health. This is likely to lead to a rise in the number of adults and children living with poor health, including high levels of obesity and mental health issues. This, alongside increased development, may place additional pressure on the NHS, particularly GP practices and hospital services. Without appropriate planning and investment, this could lead to longer waiting times and reduced access to care for residents.

There is also likely to be a lack of strategic framework to deliver, enhance or maintain open space within the Borough to support physical and mental health. New open space and sports facilities within the Borough could subsequently be located in areas that would be less beneficial to new or existing residents, and policy intervention to support improving levels of physical activity through walking and cycling may not be achieved.

Air quality may worsen with growth in the Borough, particularly levels of PM2.5, which may exacerbate existing health issues, as well as increase the number of individuals suffering with health conditions.

7.4 Data Gaps

Disability data (how residents identify themselves) is age standardised; it is therefore difficult to understand whether disabilities are equally spread across the Borough's population.

The Tamworth Borough Council Joint Indoor and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2009) is now outdated.



8.0 Housing

8.1 Baseline

8.1.1 Households

In 2022, there were 32,894 households in Tamworth. In 2011, there were approximately 31,459 households in Tamworth, highlighting a 4.6% increase in the number of households in the Borough during this time frame¹³³. Tamworth is expected to experience a 2.9% increase in households by 2043 (from 2022 figures), rising to 33,866¹³⁴. This close alignment in growth between population and households suggests that household sizes may remain stable but shifts in household composition by age are likely to reshape local needs. For example, households led by those aged 25-49 are projected to grow substantially (34-37%), suggesting a sustained demand for starter homes and family housing.

Table 8-1 shows the composition of households present in Tamworth, and how this has changed from 2011 to 2021. As shown in the table, the percentage of one person households (aged 66 and over) has increased the most between 2011 and 2021 (1.6% increase). Over the same period, the percentage of single-family households, both with no children and dependent children, has decreased (1.4% and 1.7% respectively). There has been little change in the percentage of single-family households with non-dependent children and lone-parent households.

Table 8-1: Households Composition in Tamworth¹³⁵

Household Composition	2011	2021
One-person household: Aged 66 years and over	10.9	12.5
One-person household: Other	15.2	14.2
Single-family household: Cohabiting-couple family: No children	19.9	18.5
Single-family household: Cohabiting-couple family: With dependent children	21.6	19.9
Single-family household: Cohabiting-couple family: All children non-dependent	7.7	7.8
Single-family household: Lone-parent household	11.6	11.9
Other household types	13.2	15.2

Table 8-2 shows the size of households in Tamworth in 2021. The most common household size in the Borough is 2 persons (36.2%), followed by 1 persons (26.7%). This trend has remained the same between 2011 and 2021. Within this timeframe there has been only minor changes to household size, with an increase of 0.7% in

¹³³ Household projections for England [Household projections for England - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹³⁴ Household projections for England [Household projections for England - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹³⁵ [How life has changed in Tamworth: Census 2021](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



the number of 2 persons households and a decrease of 1.1% in the number of 4 persons households.

Table 8-2: Household Size in Tamworth

Household Size	2011 (%) ¹³⁶	2021 (%) ¹³⁷
1 person	26.1	26.7
2 persons	35.5	36.2
3 persons	17.7	17.9
4 persons	14.4	13.3
5 or more persons	6.3	6.0

8.1.2 Housing Tenure

As shown in Table 8-3, there has been a 1.2% reduction in the number of households being owned or with a mortgage or loan and a 4.1% increase in the number of households being privately rented since 2011. The Lichfield and Tamworth Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment¹³⁸ (HEDNA) suggests that, despite the recent trend of decreasing home ownership, Tamworth's housing strategy is shifting towards increasing home ownership and reducing reliance on social rented housing¹³⁹.

Table 8-3: Tenure of Households in Tamworth¹⁴⁰

Tenure	2011	2021	% Change 2011-2021
Owned or with a mortgage or loan	68.2%	67.0%	-1.2%
Shared ownership	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%
Social rented	19.3%	18.0%	-1.3%
Private rented	11.0%	14.1%	4.1%
Lives rent free	0.9%	0.2%	-0.7%

¹³⁶ [Data Viewer - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹³⁷ [Household and resident characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹³⁸ <https://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/downloads/download/151/housing-development-needs> (accessed 23/10/25)

¹³⁹ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁴⁰ ONS [How life has changed in Tamworth: Census 2021](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)



8.1.3 Dwelling Type and Size

Table 8-4 highlights how housing is comprised in Tamworth, compared to Staffordshire, the West Midlands and England¹⁴¹. In 2021, semi-detached housing was the most common household type within Tamworth (38.5%), followed by detached (26.6%). As shown in Table 8-4, the number of semi-detached homes in Tamworth is very similar to Staffordshire and West Midlands, however the number of detached homes is much lower than county and regional levels.

Table 8-4: Types of Dwelling Present in Tamworth (2021)¹⁴²

Type of Dwelling	Tamworth (%)	Staffordshire (%)	West Midlands (%)	England (%)
Detached	26.6	34.2	24.5	22.9
Semi-detached	38.5	38.2	37.6	31.5
Terraced	21.4	16.5	21.5	23.0
Flats	13.0	11.6	16.0	22.2
A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4

As shown in Table 8-5, dwelling size in Tamworth is skewed toward two-bedroom (21.5%) and three-bedroom homes (50.6%)¹⁴³. These figures vary slightly from the West Midlands and England figures, with the percentage of two-bedroom homes being lower, and the percentage of three-bedroom homes being higher.

Table 8-5: Dwelling Size in Tamworth (2021)¹⁴⁴

Dwelling Size	Tamworth (%)	West Midlands (%)	England (%)
1 bedroom	8.3	9.7	11.6
2 bedrooms	21.5	24.8	27.3
3 bedrooms	50.6	45.6	40.0
4 or more bedrooms	19.6	19.9	21.1

8.1.4 Housing Growth

The Lichfield and Tamworth HEDNA (2025) identifies a minimum housing target of 445 dwellings per year, equating to an additional 7,565 dwellings between 2025 to

¹⁴¹ ONS Census Maps [Accommodation type - Census Maps, ONS](#) (Accessed 23/05/2025)

¹⁴² ONS Census Maps [Accommodation type - Census Maps, ONS](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁴³ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁴⁴ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)



2042¹⁴⁵. Between 2011 and 2023, Tamworth delivered approximately 2,396 net additional dwellings, representing a 7.9% increase in the housing stock¹⁴⁶. This increase remains below the national average and reflects constraints on land availability within the Borough.

8.1.5 Housing Prices

Tamworth's housing market has experienced intensifying affordability pressures. Over the past decade, house prices have risen by 75%, outpacing regional and national trends¹⁴⁷. As highlighted in Table 8-7, the average house price in Tamworth is £233,000, with detached homes averaging £381,000¹⁴⁸. This is lower than the average for Staffordshire (£266,712) and England and Wales (£361,759). This reflects the housing mix in the Borough, which leans towards more affordable dwellings such as semi-detached homes (38.3%). Based on typical mortgage lending criteria, Tamworth's semi-detached properties require an estimated £52,000 annual income, compared to £71,300 at a national average. Flats are the least common dwelling type in Tamworth (9.1%) and require the lowest income, at an estimated £26,889. Overall Tamworth's housing prices are relatively affordable compared with Staffordshire and England and Wales.

While prices remain below the regional and national averages, the gap between local incomes and housing costs has widened. Table 8-6 presents the affordability ratio for Tamworth and the nearby local authority areas of Lichfield and North Warwickshire. Tamworth's affordability ratio has remained relatively stable in recent years, however

¹⁴⁵ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁴⁶ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁴⁷ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁴⁸ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps/choropleth/housing/accommodation-type/accommodation-type-5a/whole-house-or-bungalow-detached?lad=E07000199> (Accessed 31/07/2025)



Lichfield has seen greater fluctuations and is less affordable than Tamworth. Homes in North Warwickshire have become more affordable since 2022¹⁴⁹.

Table 8-6: Ratio of Lower Quartile house price to lower quartile gross annual workplace-based earnings¹⁴⁹

Year	Tamworth	Lichfield	North Warwickshire
2008	7.2	8.8	7.2
2012	6.3	7.9	5.7
2016	7.3	7.5	6.5
2020	7.9	7.8	7.0
2021	8.0	9.5	7.8
2022	7.0	10.1	8.1
2023	7.0	9.2	7.5
2024	7.1	8.4	6.4

There are spatial differences in housing affordability and deprivation across Tamworth. Areas with higher concentrations of social housing, particularly in more deprived neighbourhoods such as Glascote, Belgrave and Amington, tend to experience greater housing stress¹⁵⁰. These areas often face challenges related to both the cost and quality of housing, as well as access to essential services and higher rates of homelessness and overcrowding.

To address these issues, there is a clear need to increase the supply of affordable homes across a range of tenures. This includes a strong emphasis on low-cost rented housing, such as social rent and affordable rent, which are more accessible to households on modest incomes.

Table 8-7: Average Property Prices (2025)^{151 152}

Dwelling type	Tamworth		Staffordshire		England & Wales	
	Average price	% of sales	Average price	% of sales	Average price	% of sales
Detached	£381,000	26.8%	£397,580	32.3%	£508,181	24.6%
Semi-detached	£237,000	38.3%	£230,580	37.1%	£320,850	29.8%
Terraced	£197,000	25.8%	£184,520	22.9%	£304,046	28.5%
Flat	£120,000	9.1%	£136,428	7.7%	£319,018	17.1%

¹⁴⁹ [Housing affordability in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 21/10/2025)

¹⁵⁰ https://www.tamworth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/housing_docs/housing-strategy.pdf (Accessed 01/08/2025)

¹⁵¹ [Housing prices in Tamworth](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁵² [Tamworth Housing Market | Price trends and market breakdown](#) (Accessed 01/08/2025)



Dwelling type	Tamworth		Staffordshire		England & Wales	
	Average price	% of sales	Average price	% of sales	Average price	% of sales
Overall average price	£233,750	100.0%	£266,712	100.0%	£361,759	100.0%

Table 8-8 highlights the average Social and Affordable Rented costs for different sized housing in Tamworth. The costs are significantly below those for private rented housing, particularly for larger homes, indicating a significant gap between the Affordable Rented and market sectors.

Table 8-8: Average Social and Affordable Rented costs per month and Local Housing Allowance (LHA) (2025)¹⁵³

Bedrooms	Social Rent	Affordable Rent	LHA
One bedroom	£329	£440	£499
Two bedrooms	£378	£544	£623
Three bedrooms	£411	£616	£738
Four bedrooms	£460	£763	£992

8.1.6 Affordable Housing

The supply of affordable housing within the Borough remains constrained. Tamworth has a net annual need of over 180 affordable homes, with a gross need exceeding 1,500 households per year¹⁵⁴. However, delivery has consistently fallen short, due in part to viability challenges, limited land availability, and the prevalence of small-scale developments that often exclude affordable units. A high proportion of recent completions have been one- or two-bedroom properties, limiting the availability of family-sized homes¹⁵⁵.

8.1.7 Specialist Accommodation

As shown in Table 8-9, the majority of older person households in Tamworth are owner-occupied, with no mortgage. Single older people have a lower level of owner-occupation than larger older person households however.

¹⁵³ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁵⁴ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁵⁵ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)



Table 8-9: Tenure of Older Persons Households in Tamworth¹⁵⁶

	Owner-occupied (no mortgage)	Owner-occupied (mortgage)	Social rented	Private rented
Single older people	65.0	3.7	25.1	6.1
2 or more older persons	84.8	3.7	8.4	3.1
All older person only	73.7	3.7	17.8	4.8

As referenced in [Section 6.1.2](#), by 2043 there is expected to be an increased number of older persons within Tamworth. There is also expected to be an increased number of residents experiencing a disability (likely to be linked to the increased number of older persons). There is subsequently a growing requirement for accessible properties to meet the needs of older residents and people with disabilities.

The current demand and supply for specialist housing is highlighted in Table 8-10. As highlighted in the table, without significant development/intervention there is likely to be a shortfall of all types of specialist housing within the Borough.

Table 8-10: Current and Future Specialist Housing Need

Specialist Housing Type	Supply	Demand	Additional demand to 2043	Shortfall/Surplus
Housing with support	699	908	543	-752
Housing with care	94	326	196	-428
Residential care bedspaces	251	290	174	-213
Nursing care bedspaces	122	327	195	-400

There is a current need for 302 wheelchair user homes within the Borough. Between 2022 and 2043 there is an estimated additional need of 90 wheelchair user homes. To meet this identified need, it is recommended that a proportion (potentially up to 5%) of all market home to be M4(3) compliant¹⁵⁷.

¹⁵⁶ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹⁵⁷ [housing-and-economic-needs-assessment-lichfield-and-tamworth-2025](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)



8.1.8 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

According to the most recent Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA), there is no current or future need for pitches in Tamworth over the GTAA period to 2040¹⁵⁸. The Borough currently has no permanent authorised sites, with the nearest located in North Warwickshire. Tamworth Borough Council continues to engage with these communities to ensure welfare needs are met and to manage unauthorised encampments through a structured legal process.

8.1.9 Self-build and Custom-build Homes

The Lichfield and Tamworth HEDNA identifies that, if assessed over the seven-and-a-half base periods between 2016 and 2023, there has been a total of 79 registered expressions of interest in a serviced plot of land in Tamworth. This is an average of 10 plots per base period. The HEDNA states that Tamworth is not meeting demand for self-build and custom build plots within the borough.

8.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Tamworth is experiencing modest household growth;
- Tamworth's land constraints mean that the Borough has limited land available for housing delivery. Tamworth will be unable to meet its housing need in full without support from neighbouring authorities;
- There will be limited land available for major housing developments; there will subsequently be a greater reliance on smaller sites to deliver housing need, which may in turn increase pressure on existing infrastructure;
- There is a need to meet the full range of housing needs across all of society. This includes needs for specific types and tenures of housing, across both market and affordable;
- There is a need for continued improvement in the design, build quality and sustainability of new housing;
- There has been an increase in privately rented housing, while ownership and social renting have declined;
- The Borough's existing housing stock is predominantly made up of semi-detached housing. New development subsequently provides the opportunity to further diversify the housing stock, and provide for a greater range of needs;
- The supply of larger family-sized homes (4 or more bedrooms) is limited, contributing to overcrowding, particularly among households with children and multi-generational families;

¹⁵⁸ [Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment \(GTAA\)](#) (Accessed 01/08/2025)



- The cost of housing in the Borough has increased at a higher rate than local earnings, making it difficult for individuals to get onto the property ladder;
- There is a need to provide more affordable housing, which must be appropriate to both the local housing market and income profile. Tamworth's relatively limited land supply means that naturally, there is a greater reliance on minor development sites. These types of sites are not required by local policy to deliver any affordable dwellings;
- Deprivation and housing stress are concentrated in areas with high levels of social housing;
- There will be a need for suitably designed housing to meet demands of an aging population; and
- There is a demand for self-build and custom-build housing in Tamworth. The Council should support the delivery of self-build and custom housebuilding sites, where opportunities for land arise and where such schemes are consistent with other planning policies.

8.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Without the Local Plan, there will be an absence of a strategic framework to appropriately plan for the location of new housing development. The Council is therefore likely to be less effective in encouraging housing in the most sustainable locations and may not be able to ensure the right type, size and tenure of housing is delivered to address local needs. This may adversely impact existing social, economic, environmental, and health inequalities and issues.

Similarly, there is likely to be a lack of control over the quality, design and sustainability of new residential development. This may result in a housing stock that is not entirely fit for purpose, both in the present and future, which also lacks cohesiveness with Tamworth's existing character and sense of place.

Housing delivery could be constrained in the short term, although in the longer-term requirements in the NPPF to have a five-year supply of housing sites would enable the further delivery of housing sites to meet need, through the planning application process. However, this would be on an ad-hoc basis, and will be unlikely to deliver affordable housing beyond the requirements of the NPPF.

Housing affordability is largely determined by house prices (themselves largely based on economic cycles and housing supply), and the ability of households to buy property (household income and availability of credit). Given the difficulty in forecasting economic trends and recent uncertainty surrounding inflation, it is difficult to predict whether housing affordability will change in the near term and which direction such change could take. However, without increased housing provision in the long-term, housing prices may continue to rise, and affordability to worsen. This may subsequently lead to younger residents moving out of the Borough to more affordable areas.

Finally, without an adopted Local Plan the design of suitable housing (e.g. for older people), supply may not meet demand, and it may be located inappropriately. This could have a negative impact on certain populations within Tamworth, as well as



lead to increased pressure on the NHS and private care system, as people are unable to stay in their homes for longer without the correct adaptations.

8.4 Data Gaps

A new Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy is currently being developed for Tamworth Borough. This should be published in October 2025.



9.0 Transport and Accessibility

9.1 Baseline

Tamworth's compact urban form provides good opportunities for transport connectivity both within and beyond the Borough's boundaries.

9.1.1 Tamworth's Road Network

Tamworth is connected to the Major Road Network (MRN) via the A5, which provides links to Cannock, Nuneaton, the M42 and the M6 Toll. The A51, A513, A453 and A4091, which are part of the **Local** Road Network, run north-south through the Borough.

Levels of congestion across the Borough are relatively high, particularly to the North (around the Upper Gungate Corridor), where high levels of development have taken place in recent years. This is partially due to the large number of vehicles on the road from associated population growth, but also partially due to a large proportion (49%) of car/van journeys taken in the Borough being under 5km in length. Car journeys are recorded as the most popular method of transportation for food shopping (70%), other shopping (56%), GP appointments (54%), hospital appointments (73%), and socialising (61%), which supports the large proportion of short journeys being taken by car/van¹⁵⁹.

9.1.2 Tamworth's Rail Network

There are two railway stations in Tamworth: Tamworth Railway Station which is located in close proximity to the town centre, and the smaller Wilnecote Station, which is positioned to the south near Two Gates. **Wilnecote Station has accessibility constraints due to the size of the station, and limited ability to expand.**

Services at both railway stations are provided by **London Northwestern (linking to London, Crewe, Stafford and Lichfield)**, **Avanti West Coast (linking to London)** and Cross County (linking to Birmingham, Derby, Nottingham, Yorkshire, Scotland and Bristol). Tamworth Railway Station is also located on the West Coast Mainline. There is significant passenger and freight demand along both lines, particularly for local routes.

Patronage at Tamworth Railway Station has reduced over time, from over 1,000,000 people making journeys from this station per year in 2013/2014, to around 950,000 in 2022/2023. Patronage at Wilnecote Station has remained steady over this timeframe, however, at around 100,000 people making journeys from this station per year.

The impact of Highspeed 2 (HS2) is likely to positively impact the West Midlands region through improved connectivity to London. Whilst this is not likely to have a significant impact on residents in Tamworth, increased investment and connectivity in the wider region is likely to have a positive effect on residents as a result of long-term economic growth in the region¹⁶⁰.

¹⁵⁹ Tamworth Borough Transport Data Report 2024 (Accessed 26/9/2025)

¹⁶⁰ HS2 in the West Midlands [HS2 in the West Midlands - HS2](#) (Accessed 10/07/2025)



9.1.3 Tamworth's Bus Network

The bus network in Tamworth is extensive and services are operated by a number of different bus companies, including Arriva, Diamond Bus, Stagecoach, South Derbyshire Coaches and A&M Group. The most frequently used bus stops in Tamworth are those in the town centre, as well as in local centres to the south and south east of the Borough (e.g. Fazeley, Glascote, and Amington).

Buses play an important role in the public transport network and are often essential for low-income individuals, young people, and those with health issues. Affordability is another pull towards bus usage and discounted travel offered to eligible groups, however eligibility depends upon the bus company. UK residents at the State Pension age (66 for men and women) are eligible for a free bus pass.

The Staffordshire Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) outlines a strategy to enhance bus services across the county, including in Tamworth¹⁶¹. Tamworth benefits from several key inter-urban routes such as the 110 (Tamworth to Birmingham), 65 (Tamworth to Nuneaton), and 765/X65 (Lichfield to Tamworth), operated primarily by Arriva Midlands. The BSIP identifies challenges such as inconsistent service frequencies, limited evening and Sunday services, and complex fare structures. To address these, the plan proposes more frequent and reliable services, simplified and integrated ticketing (including multi-operator options), and improved infrastructure, such as real-time information displays and accessible bus stops. Tamworth is also included in plans for enhanced cross-boundary connectivity with Warwickshire and the West Midlands.

In Staffordshire, accessible transport options for disabled people include low-floor, wheelchair-accessible buses and the Passenger Assist scheme on trains.

Staffordshire County Council are currently in the process of surveying the level of accessibility provided by all bus stops within Tamworth. This includes consideration of access via a dropped kerb and/or a raised platform¹⁶².

9.1.4 Tamworth's Active Travel Network

The National Cycle Network does not pass through Tamworth, however there are some cycle routes within the Borough. Despite Tamworth having the largest cycling network of any local authority in Staffordshire, levels of cycling are low within the Borough. This is partially due to areas of severance along major cycling routes, particularly around the A5, which make it difficult to travel safely.

Staffordshire County Council's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) 2021–2031 sets out a strategic vision to increase connectivity through active travel, aiming to make walking and cycling safer, more accessible, and more attractive for short journeys¹⁶³. Tamworth is one of six priority urban areas identified for targeted investment, with a dedicated cycle route audit and walking zone audit completed to guide infrastructure improvements. The LCWIP focuses on connecting residential areas with employment, education and leisure destinations.

¹⁶¹ Staffordshire bus service improvement plan [Staffordshire bus service improvement plan - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 11/07/2025)

¹⁶² Tamworth Borough Transport Data Report 2024 (Accessed 26/9/2025)

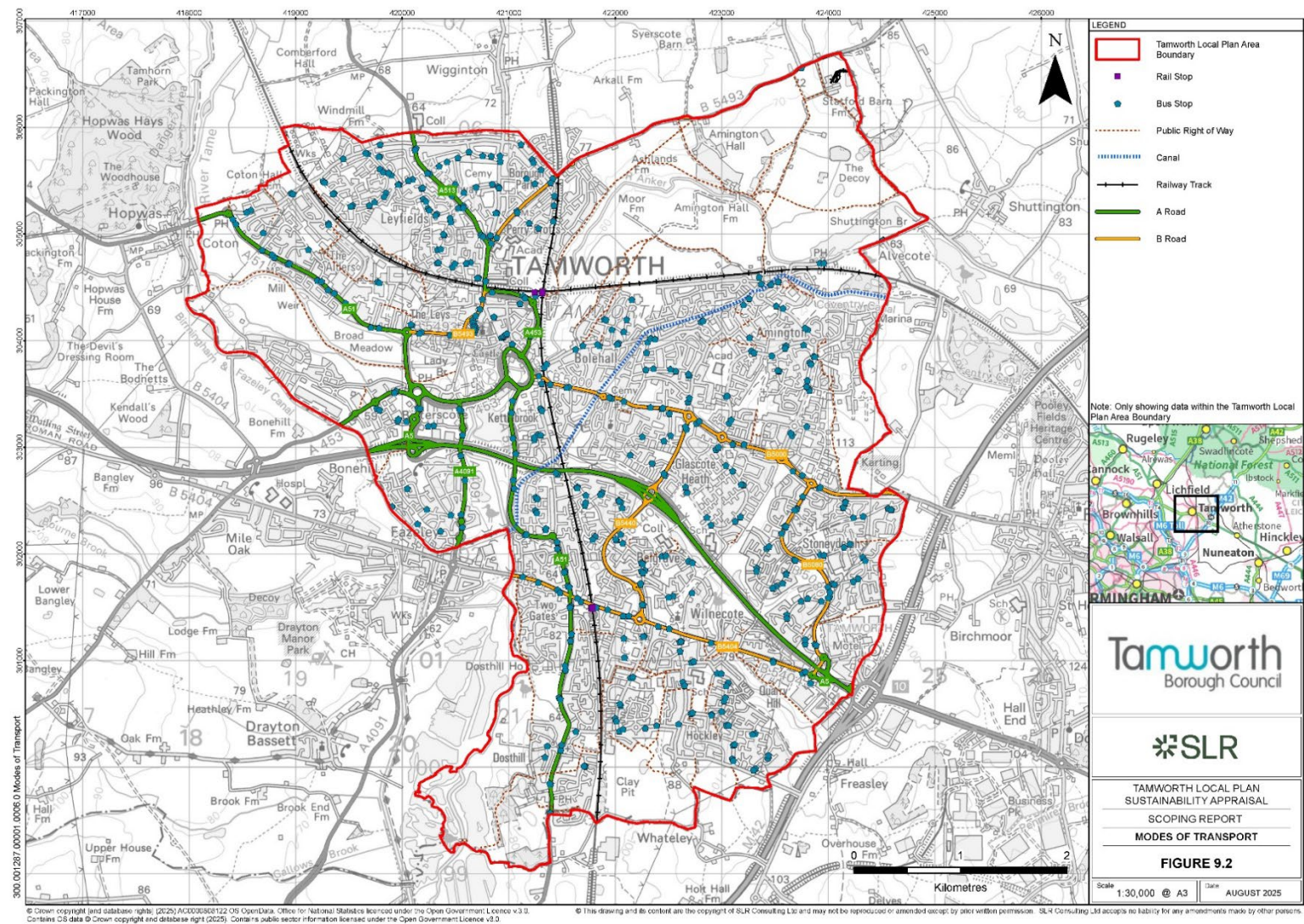
¹⁶³ Walking and cycling [Walking and cycling - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 11/07/2025)



Approximately £31 million is earmarked for transport infrastructure delivery across Staffordshire by 2031, with Tamworth expected to benefit from both short- and long-term schemes. The plan supports modal shift, public health and carbon reduction goals, aligning with national strategies to double cycling levels and increase walking activity by 2025.



Figure 9-1: Transport in Tamworth



9.1.5 Travel Patterns

As highlighted in Table 9-1, 51% of residents who travel to work do so by driving a car or a van. A small proportion of residents travel to work via active means, such as walking (11%). Cycling is not a utilised method of travel to work however. Similarly, some residents travel to work by public transport, with 11% of residents travelling to work by train and 4% by bus.

Table 9-1: Methods of Travel to Work in Tamworth (2024)¹⁶⁴

Method	Tamworth (%)
Bus	4
Train	11
Car/Van driver	51
Car/Van passenger	9
Taxi	0
Bicycle/Scooter	0
Walk	11
Motorcycle/Moped	2
Remote worker	12
Other	0

The most popular methods of travel to education in Tamworth differ slightly from methods of travel to work. For example, walking is the most popular mode of travel to education (34%), followed by car (26%). Public transport use via buses (17%) and trains (11%) is also high. This suggests that education facilities are in closer, more accessible locations than employment facilities in the Borough.

Table 9-2: Methods of Travel to Education in Tamworth (2024)

Method	Tamworth (%)
Bus/Coach	17
Train	11
Car/Van	26
Taxi	3
Bicycle/Scooter	9
Walk	34
Motorcycle/Moped	0
Remote education	0

¹⁶⁴ Tamworth Borough Transport Data Report 2024 (Accessed 26/9/2025)



Method	Tamworth (%)
Other	0

9.1.6 Electric Vehicles

There has been a significant increase in low emission plug-in vehicles (PiVs) in Tamworth since 2020, in line with national trends. In March 2020, there were 188 PiVs in the Borough and by March 2024 this figure had risen to 1,055¹⁶⁵. There is a greater number of PiVs in Tamworth per 100,000 of the population when compared to the regional and national figures, as highlighted in Figure 9-2.

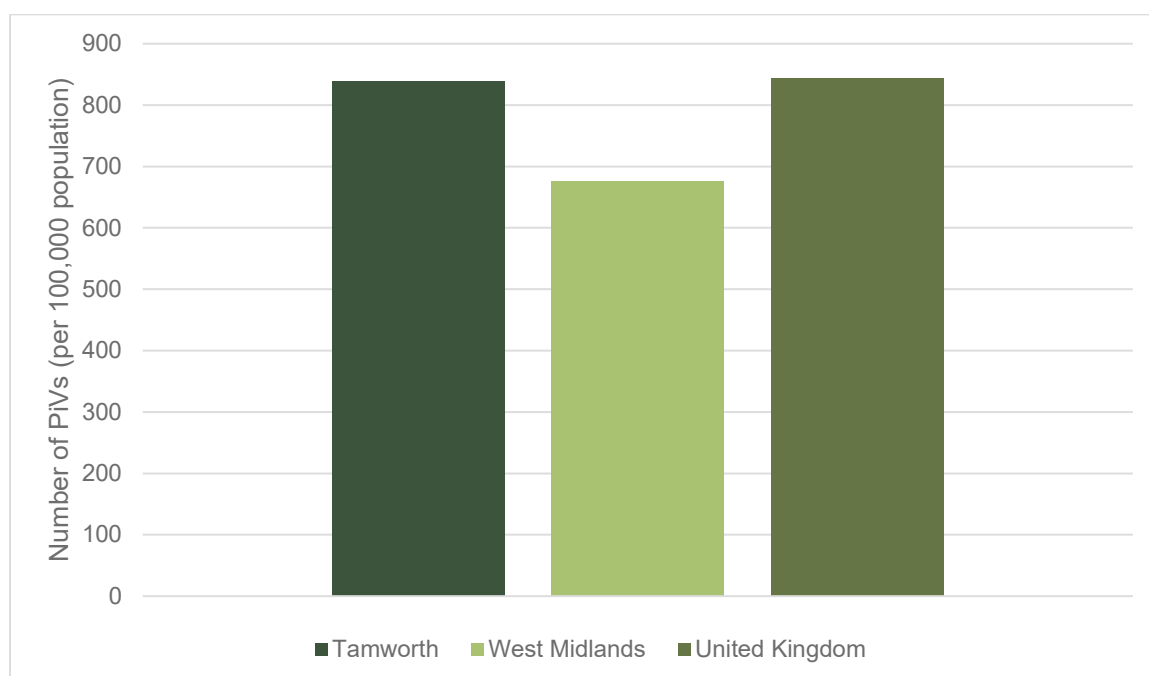


Figure 9-2: Number of registered plug-in vehicles in 2024 per 100,000 population

Despite this, the charging infrastructure to support this growth is lagging behind the figures for the West Midlands and the UK. Tamworth has 22 publicly available charging devices, of which, 11 are rapid chargers or faster. This equates to approximately 0.6% of all publicly available charging EV chargers in the West Midlands, and approximately 0.03% of all publicly available charging EV chargers in the UK. As shown in Figure 9-3, this represents 28 chargers per 100,000, which is significantly lower than the regional and national figures. **Tamworth has recently secured funding from the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) to implement approximately 50 chargers across three car parks in the Borough between 2024 and 2028. This supports findings from the Tamworth Electric Vehicle Strategy (2024)**¹⁶⁶

¹⁶⁵ Electric Vehicles and Charging Points in Local Areas. [Local area data: Electric vehicles and charging points](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

¹⁶⁶ Tamworth Electric Vehicle Strategy (2024) (Accessed 26/9/2025)



that suggests that it is imperative for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations to be implemented across Council-owned car parks.

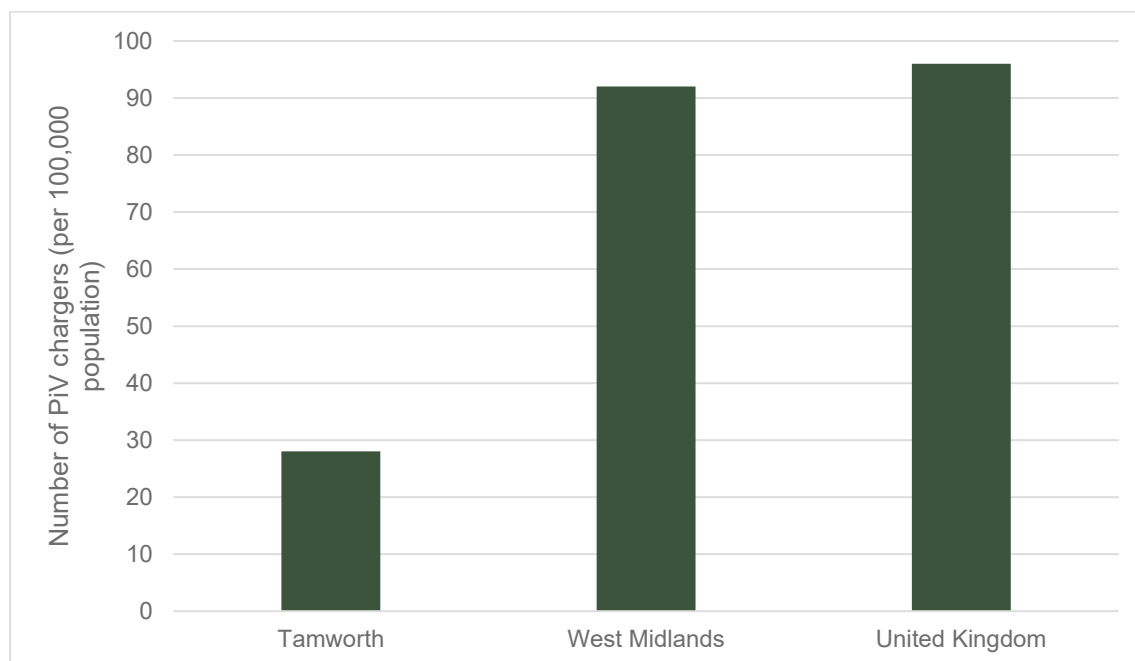


Figure 9-3: Number of EV charging points in 2024 per 100,000 population

9.1.7 Road Safety

Road safety and reducing the number of traffic incidents is a priority across Staffordshire, including in Tamworth. **The Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership¹⁶⁷ works across the County to improve road safety through:**

- **Education and early intervention:** Raising awareness with at risk groups (young drivers) and with drivers who commit traffic offences;
- **Enforcement of traffic laws:** Utilising speed camera vans to identify instances of speeding, mobile phone use, no seatbelt use (etc); and
- **Road network improvements:** Implementing anti-skid surfacing, vehicle activated signs and 20 mph speed limits outside schools.

9.1.8 Transport Improvements

Tamworth plays a key role in the Southern Cross-Boundary Transport Package, which aims to boost links with the West Midlands and Warwickshire through rail upgrades, better bus services, and new active travel routes using old rail lines and canals. The strategy also supports sustainable growth in Tamworth by improving roads and prioritising walking and cycling for local trips.

¹⁶⁷ Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership [Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership – Reducing road casualties in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent](#) (Accessed 26/9/2025)



9.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Increased development within the Borough is contributing towards high levels of road congestion, particularly as there is a significant reliance on the petrol or diesel-fuelled private car as the main mode of transport within the Borough;
- Frequent and short (less than 5km) journeys in particular are often carried out by private car, adding to congestion issues (particularly in the north of the Borough);
- There is a need to ensure that strategic and local road networks can accommodate additional traffic generated from new development;
- There is a need to ensure that the rail network, specifically key local routes, are protected;
- There is a need to make sustainable travel options within the Borough more accessible and inclusive, in order to reduce reliance on the private vehicle;
- Given the Borough's compact nature, there is a need to encourage more walking and cycling journeys (particularly short journeys), to reduce high levels of private car use and existing congestion issues;
- There is a need to make improvements to safe and direct cycling routes across the Borough, in order to reduce level of severance across routes;
- A large number of residents utilise private transport in the form of petrol or diesel cars to commute to work, as well as for travel for leisure activities;
- The proportion of workers using sustainable transport mode to get to work can be improved;
- The number of EV charging points across the Borough is not currently sufficient to meet the needs of residents; and
- Uncertain growth in private car ownership could contribute to further air pollution, and associated impacts on climate, human health and biodiversity.

9.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Without the Plan, there will be an absence of a strategic framework to appropriately plan for the location of new development, infrastructure and supporting services. This may result in new development being located in locations with poor access to sustainable transport modes, which increases the need for residents to travel by unsustainable means. New development will also not have the sufficient levels of infrastructure, services and facilities to support sustainable communities.

Poor cycle networks could restrict the expansion of residents using cycling as a means to travel. Most of the cycle networks are currently focused on recreational use rather than for those who need to use them to access work or local amenities.

Workers may continue to predominately use private cars to travel to work, which will have impacts on the local environment (including air quality) and could exacerbate congestion (particularly in areas that are already identified as particularly



problematic), as well as safety issues for other road users. Use of electric plug-in vehicles is increasing rapidly and will likely continue. Current public and sustainable transport options may not meet the needs of the future population in the long term, which is expected to increase.

9.4 Data Gaps

The Staffordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP4) is currently being developed and is set to be published in December 2025. The Staffordshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan is also being developed, and is expected to be published in March 2026.

Staffordshire County Council are currently updating data on the cycle network across the County, in terms of quality and usability. This work is expected to be completed by December 2025.

Road safety data within the Borough has not been included within this report as it is not accurately recorded.



10.0 Air, Noise and Light

10.1 Baseline

10.1.1 Air

The National Air Quality Strategy¹⁶⁸ provides a framework for air quality control through air quality management and air quality objectives that should be met.

As highlighted in Section 7.1.8, local air quality can have major impacts on residents' health. Tamworth Borough Council has monitored air pollution at sites across the Borough for several years and published its most recent annual Air Quality Annual Status Report¹⁶⁹ (ASR) in 2024. The report shows that pollutant levels have generally decreased across the Borough over the last decade and there have been no exceedances of the national air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide at relevant receptors for at least five years. Tamworth Borough Council revoked its only Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), located in Two Gates in Dosthill, in March 2018 following sustained compliance with air quality standards. Although the A5 trunk road and the M42 motorway run through and near the Borough respectively, there are no sensitive receptors (such as residential properties) close enough to these roads to warrant concern at present.

There are currently 14 areas of the Borough being monitored for air quality exceedances through the use of 'passive diffusion' tubes¹⁷⁰. They are:

- Upper Gungate;
- Claremont Road;
- Lakeland Drive;
- High Broom Court;
- Overwoods Road (Dosthill);
- High Street (Dosthill);
- Dosthill Road (Two Gates);
- Watling Street (Two Gates);
- Tamworth Road (Two Gates);
- Watling Street (Two Gates);
- Glascote Road;
- Perrycrofts Crescent;
- Upper Gungate; and
- Tamworth Road (Amington).

All recorded concentrations at these locations were well below the annual mean objective of 40 µg/m³, according to monitoring data from 2022.

¹⁶⁸ [Air quality strategy: framework for local authority delivery - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)

¹⁶⁹ Tamworth Borough Council, 2024 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) [Tamworth-ASR-2024-FINAL-\(accessible\).pdf](#) (Accessed 14/07/2025)

¹⁷⁰ Air Quality [Air quality | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 09/07/2025)



A permanent air quality monitor is currently being considered for the Borough by DEFRA, which will enable more detailed monitoring of key pollutants, including particulates, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide.

Tamworth Borough Council is a member of the Staffordshire Air Quality Forum (SAQF) which includes representatives of all the Staffordshire Local Authorities, including Staffordshire County Council, as well as national bodies, such as Highways England, the Environment Agency and Public Health England. This partnership ensures Tamworth is aligned with regional and national air quality strategies, particularly in regards to managing cross-boundary pollution and planning for future growth.

As outlined in [Section 9.1.5](#), the majority of residents utilise a private car or van to travel to work or for leisure, whilst a much smaller proportion use public transport or forms of active travel. To improve air quality, Tamworth Borough Council set out a number of measures which include¹⁷¹:

- Installation of EV charging points in public car parks and the development of EV charging hubs for residents;
- Hosting agreement with BP Pulse for a 12-unit ultra-fast EV hub;
- Participation in the Active Travel Fund to promote walking and cycling;
- Borough-wide smoke control area enforcement and new powers to fine for persistent dark smoke from chimneys;
- Public awareness campaigns on proper use of log burners and solid fuels; and
- Participation in Clean Air Day.

The Council's 2022–2027 Air Quality Strategy highlights the importance of integrating air quality considerations into planning decisions, infrastructure development, and community engagement. It recognises that while Tamworth currently meets national air quality standards, future housing and commercial growth could increase traffic and emissions¹⁷².

The Cannock Extension Canal Special Area of Conservation (SAC), located approximately 15km to the west of Tamworth, is particularly sensitive to nitrogen deposition¹⁷³. Significant traffic increases on roads such as the A5 have the potential to increase pressure at this site.

10.1.2 Noise

Noise pollution more generally is associated with roads, traffic, and railways. In Tamworth, areas with the highest levels of road-traffic related noise pollution are focused near to major routes such as the A5 and M42, as well as the A51 in the town

¹⁷¹ Tamworth ASR [Tamworth-ASR-2024-FINAL-\(accessible\).pdf](#) (Accessed 10/07/2025)

¹⁷² Tamworth Borough Council [Air Quality Strategy 2022-2027](#) (Accessed 10/07/2025)

¹⁷³ Assessment of Air Quality Impacts on European Sites in Staffordshire, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley [air_quality_impacts_on_european_sites_report_2024.pdf](#) (Accessed 10/07/2025)



centre¹⁷⁴. The presence of the railway line through the Borough is a source of noise pollution, particularly in the area surrounding Tamworth Railway Station¹⁷⁵.

Tamworth Borough Council actively investigates and manages noise nuisance complaints, such as the following, under environmental health legislation¹⁷⁶:

- Persistent loud music or parties;
- Barking dogs;
- Pubs and clubs;
- Construction and industrial noise; and
- Alarms and machinery.

10.1.3 Light

Light pollution is caused by excessive or intrusive artificial light arising from poor or insensitive design. Light pollution can have a detrimental effect on the character and amenity of an area, as well as the wildlife present, after dark. As highlighted in Figure 10-1, there are areas of Tamworth where light pollution is very high (exceeding 32 NanoWatts/cm²/sr)¹⁷⁷. Tamworth town centre and Birch Coppice Business Park (south of Dordon) records the highest levels of light pollution in the Borough. Light pollution is also high in Kettlebrook, Glascote Heath and Belgrave. Areas to the northeast of the Borough experience less light pollution.

Funding by Staffordshire County Council, Tamworth have recently upgraded some streetlighting to low-energy LED systems. In 2023, more than 300 lights were replaced along the A5 which were part of a nationwide plan to upgrade 70% of lighting along various routes by 2027¹⁷⁸.

¹⁷⁴ England Noise and Air Quality Viewer [Extrium > England Noise and Air Quality Viewer](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

¹⁷⁵ England Noise and Air Quality Viewer [Extrium > England Noise and Air Quality Viewer](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

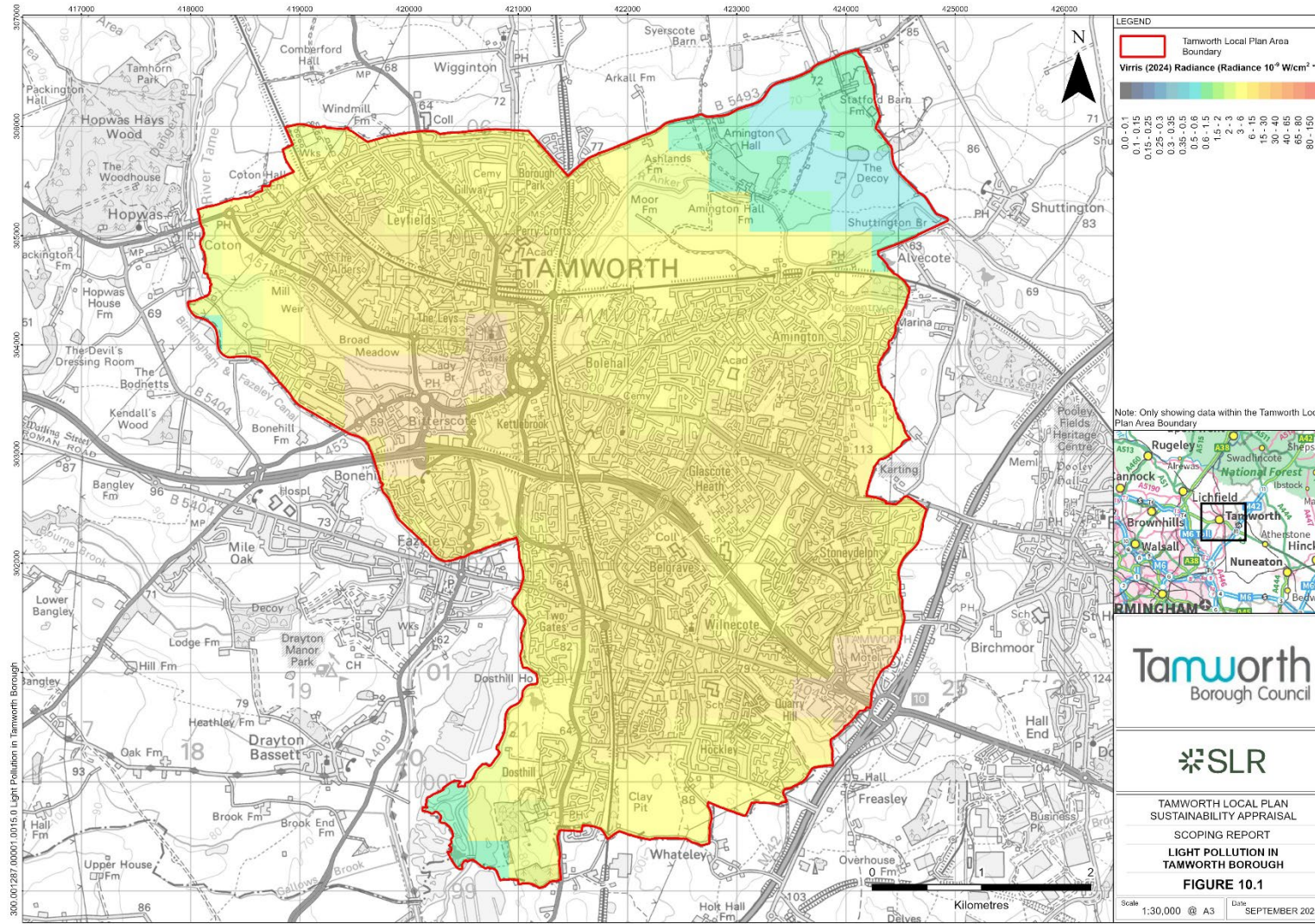
¹⁷⁶ Noise Nuisance [Noise nuisance | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 10/07/2025)

¹⁷⁷ Night Blight: Mapping England's light pollution and dark skies (2019) [England's Light Pollution and Dark Skies](#) (Accessed 14/07/2025)

¹⁷⁸ BBC News [A5 in Tamworth to close as part of lighting upgrade - BBC News](#) (Accessed 14/07/2025)



Figure 10-1: Light Pollution in Tamworth



© Crown copyright (and database rights) (2025) ACO000808122 OS OpenData. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. © 2024, Junji Stare, www.lightpollutionmap.info. VIRIS - NASA's VIRIS/NPP Lunar Eiser UK, Eiser, TomTom, Garmin, GeoTechnologies, Inc. METONASA, USGS

© This drawing and its content are the copyright of SLR Consulting Ltd and may not be reproduced or amended except by prior written permission. SLR Consulting Ltd accepts no liability for any amendments made by other persons.



10.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Air quality issues may be exacerbating inequalities related to air pollution health issues;
- There are no AQMAs in the Borough, however monitoring is ongoing while Tamworth currently meets national air quality standards, future housing and commercial growth could increase traffic and emissions;
- There is significant reliance on the petrol or diesel-fuelled private car as the main mode of transport within the Borough;
- Housing growth is likely to increase additional vehicle movements and this needs to be properly managed so that extra vehicles do not result in a significant deterioration of the local air quality;
- There is the potential for adverse impacts on wellbeing if inappropriate new development is located near a major source of noise, including any existing or new major roads;
- There is a need to reduce light pollution and restrict further intensification of light pollution from new developments; and
- Air, noise and light pollution could be generated through construction works, as well as the development of new homes, in the Borough, resulting from growth proposed in the Local Plan.

10.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Uncontrolled development could lead to development in areas which currently experience manageable levels of noise and light pollution and could exacerbate pollution levels elsewhere. Without policy intervention and significant investments, the target to achieve carbon neutrality and therefore improve air quality in the Borough will not be achieved. Development within the Borough could also exacerbate current air pollution by increasing the number of people travelling by private vehicles.

10.4 Data Gaps

None identified.

11.0 Climatic Factors

11.1 Baseline

11.1.1 Flood Risk

Climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, leading to increased flood risk. **In Tamworth, flooding, particularly fluvial and surface water flooding, is of particular concern.** Tamworth was identified in the Staffordshire County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy as one of the top 10 urban communities at risk from flooding in the county¹⁷⁹.

A network of waterways pass through the Borough including:

- The River Tame, which flows through the heart of Tamworth, forming part of the Tame Valley. It continues northeastward, eventually joining the River Trent;
- The River Anker, which flows westward through the northern part of the Borough and meets the River Tame near the town centre;
- Coventry Canal, which branches off from the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal and runs through the eastern part of Tamworth;
- Birmingham and Fazeley Canal, which passes through the southern edge of the Borough, linking with the Coventry Canal; and
- Kettle Brook, a smaller tributary that flows through the urban areas of Tamworth before joining the River Tame.

These waterways are presented in Figure 11-1.

¹⁷⁹ Staffordshire County Council [Print Template Wizard](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

Figure 11-1: Waterbodies in Tamworth

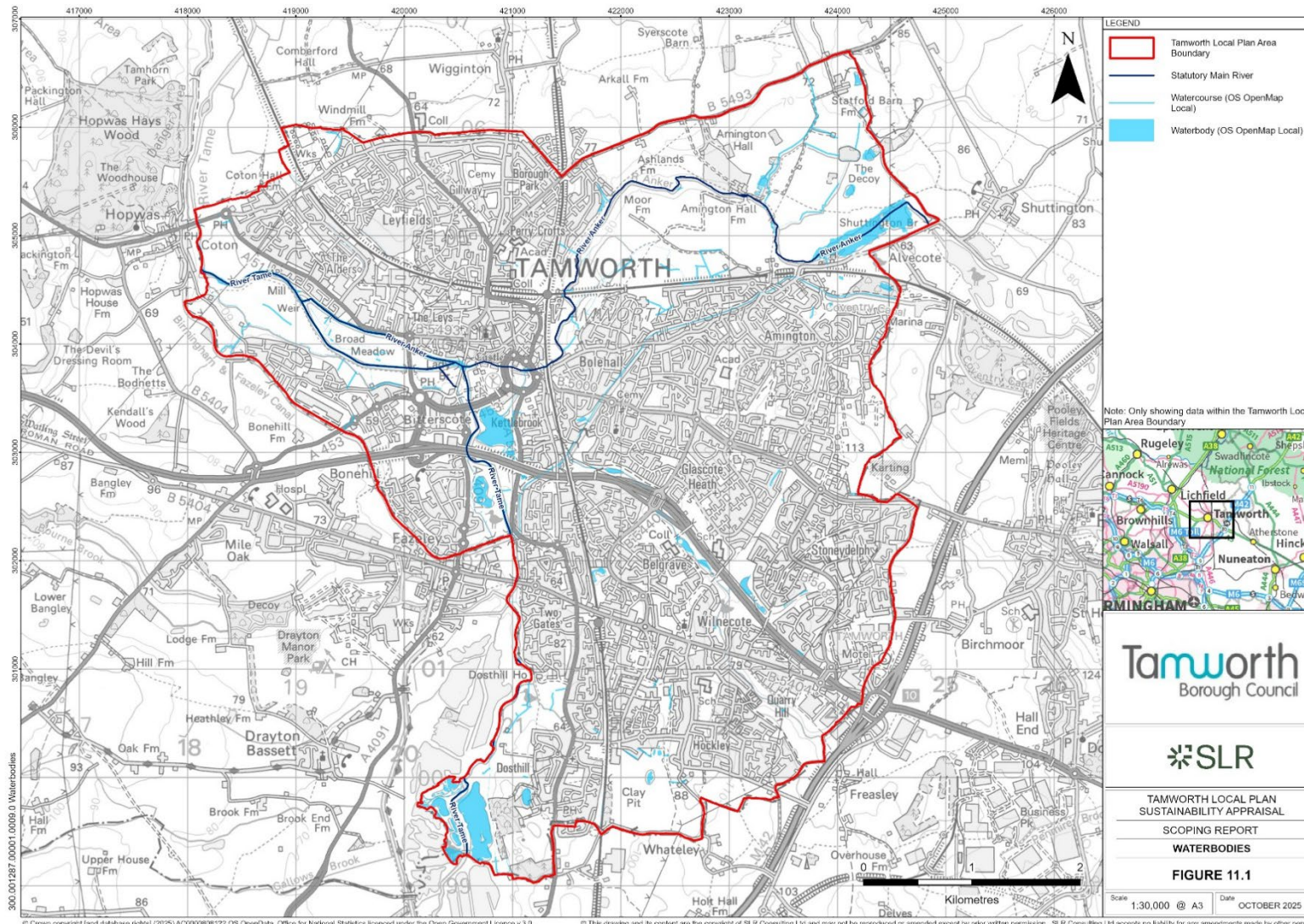


Figure 11-4, which highlights surface water flood risk. The urban nature of the Borough, coupled with the continued loss of green space/natural permeable surfaces, and the increased volume of surface water draining directly into the surface water network are likely to contribute increased surface water flood risk. Whilst heavy rainfall is most often the cause of surface water flooding, poor drainage, blockages and insufficient drainage capacity often exacerbate the problem. Groundwater flood risk is generally low across the Borough, however areas along the River Tame at Tamworth present a risk.

Figure 11-5 presents the vulnerability of the Borough's residents to flood risk. The Neighbourhood Flood Vulnerability Index utilised within the figure considers susceptibility, ability to prepare, ability to respond, ability to recover and community support. As highlighted by the figure, residents in the MSOAs of Central Tamworth would be considered as the most vulnerable to flood risk, followed by those in Glascote Heath. Residents in the Wilnecote East MSOA are considered as the least vulnerable to flood risk¹⁸⁰.

¹⁸⁰ Susceptibility to flooding [ClimateJust](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)



Figure 11-2: Flood risk areas and flood defences in Tamworth

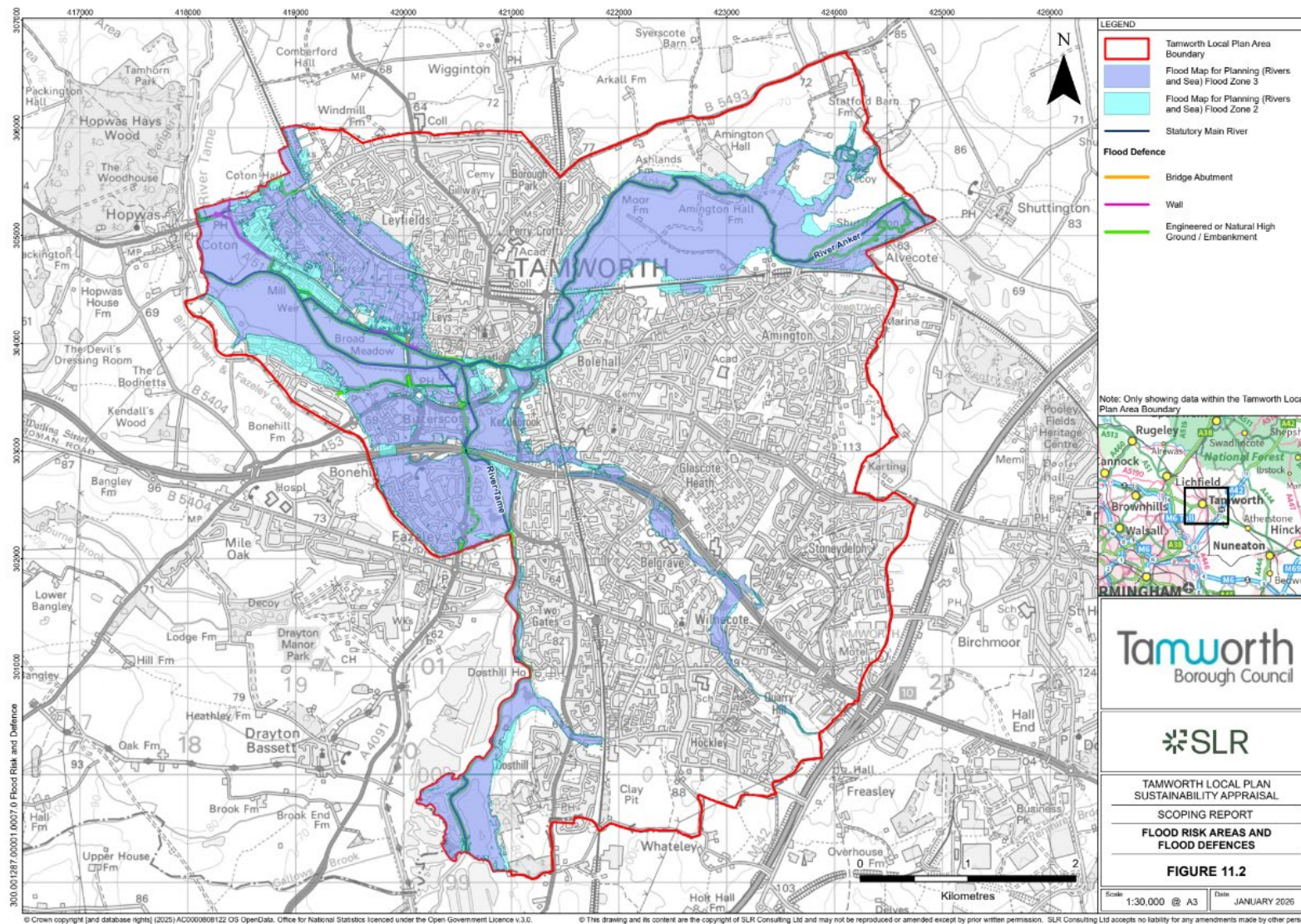
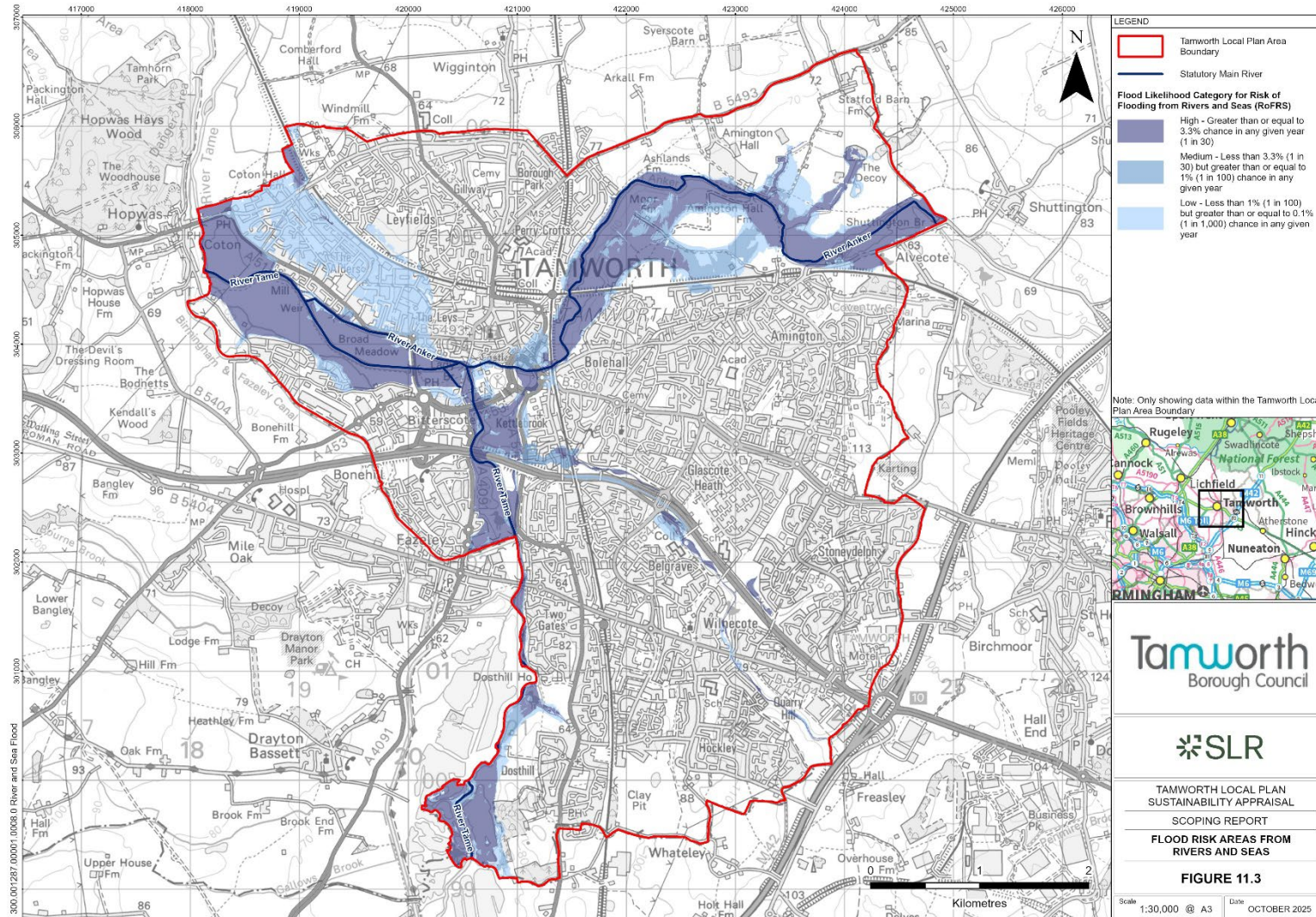


Figure 11-3: Risk of river and sea flooding in Tamworth



© Crown copyright [and database rights] (2025) A00000308122 OS OpenData. Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2025). Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. © Environment Agency copyright and/or database right (2025). All rights reserved.

© This drawing and its content are the copyright of SLR Consulting Ltd and may not be reproduced or amended except by prior written permission. SLR Consulting Ltd accepts no liability for any amendments made by other persons.



Figure 11-4: Risk of surface water flooding in Tamworth

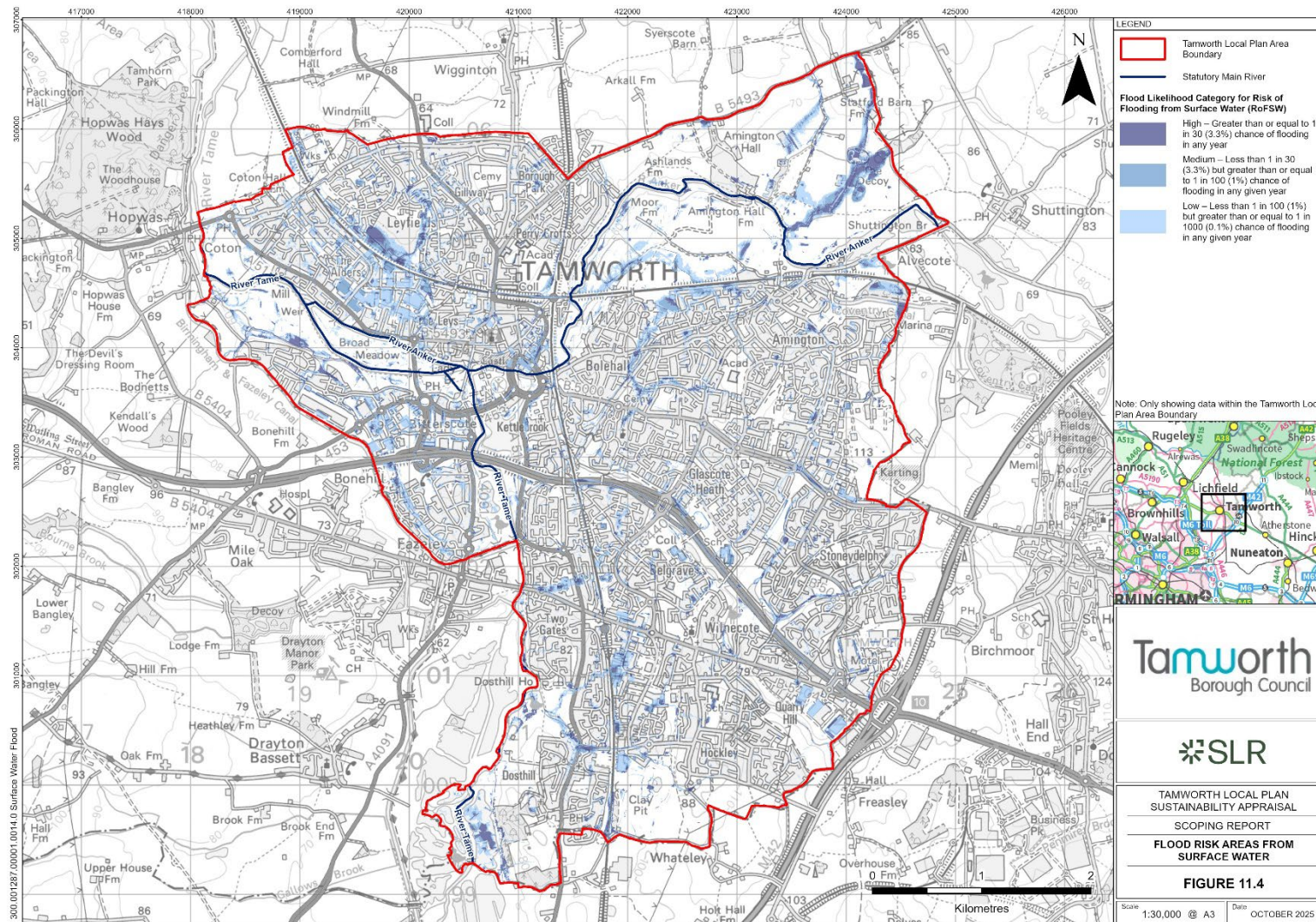
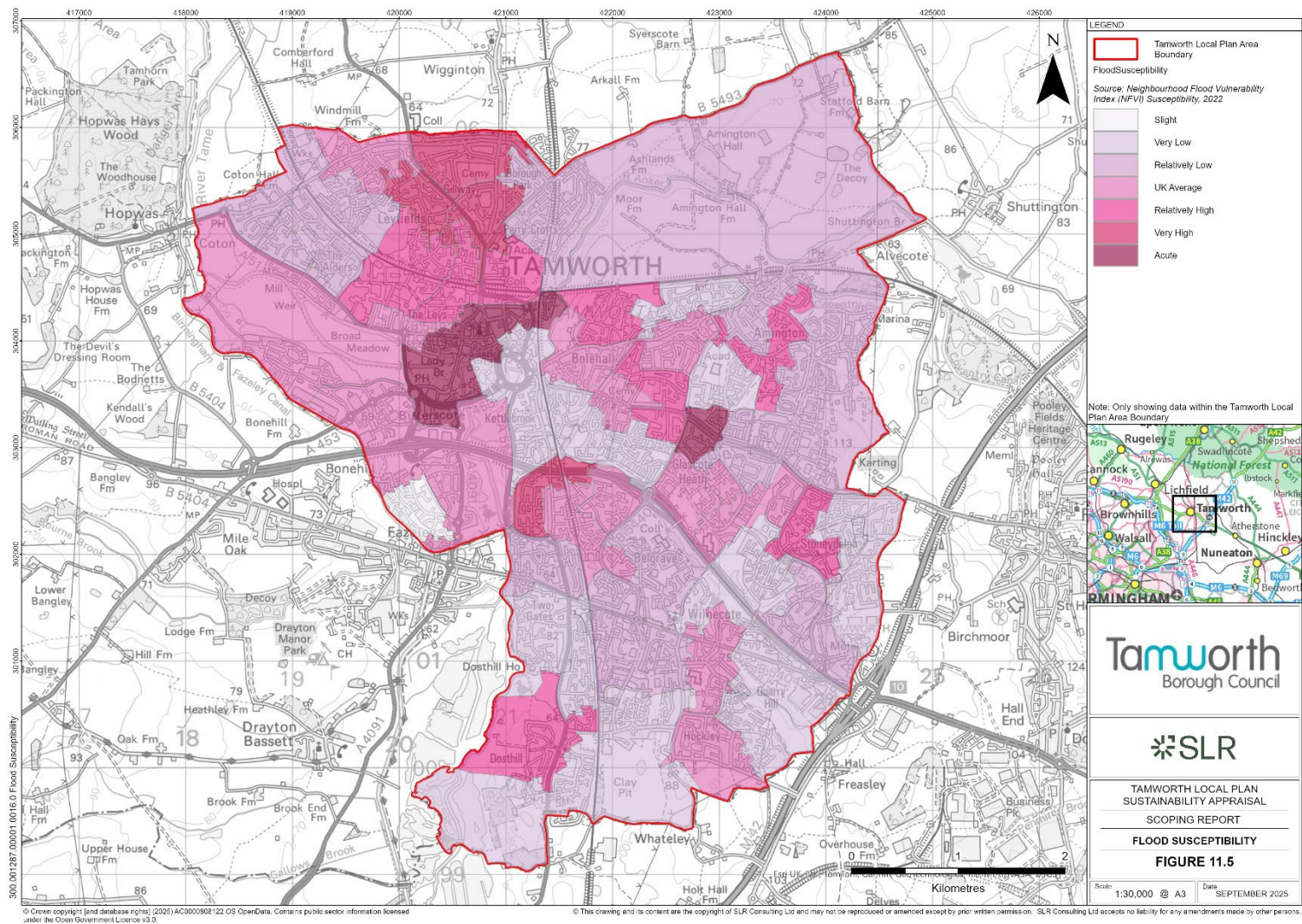


Figure 11-5: Flood Risk Vulnerability



There are a number of initiatives across the Borough and the West Midlands which have sought to reduce flood risk and improve resilience across communities. The 'FAIR Approach to Community Flood Risk' project was created in partnership with Staffordshire County Council, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, City of Wolverhampton Council, Walsall Council and Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council¹⁸¹. FAIR aims to engage, educate and empower communities to contribute to flood risk management activities. Communities are encouraged to contribute to designing small-scale interventions to improve resilience to flooding¹⁸².

There have been five historical flood events in the Borough since 1955, all of which were fluvial floods, along the River Anker and River Tame¹⁸³. There are three flood defences in Tamworth, totalling approximately 5km in length. Each of these flood defences are embankments or walls along the River Tame.

11.1.2 Emissions Contributing to Climate Change

Per capita CO₂ emissions within Tamworth were estimated to be 2.5 t/CO₂ in 2022¹⁸⁴. Table 11-1 highlights the emissions associated with each sector within the Borough and the nearby local authority areas of North Warwickshire and Lichfield, as well as the West Midlands and the United Kingdom. The table highlights that domestic CO₂ emissions were the most significant contributor within Tamworth, followed by transport. Per capita emissions were lower than the regional and national averages, however, emissions per km² were greater. Figure 11-6 highlights how different emissions categories have changed over time in Tamworth and most notably highlights the decrease in domestic, industry and transport-related emissions since 2005.

Table 11-1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 2022¹⁸⁵

Emissions Category	Tamworth	North Warwickshire	Lichfield	West Midlands	United Kingdom
Industry (kt CO ₂)	34.0	123.8	62.4	5,036.8	62,344.1
Commercial (kt CO ₂)	22.6	60.2	36.3	2,633.0	33,895.8
Public Sector (kt CO ₂)	4.1	4.8	13.5	1,013.2	11,694.8
Domestic (kt CO ₂)	88.3	85.6	143.8	7,107.7	84,265.0

¹⁸¹ FAIR Flood, [FAIR - an FCRIP project for Staffordshire and the Black Country](#) (Accessed: 09/07/2025)

¹⁸² FAIR Flood, [FAIR - an FCRIP project for Staffordshire and the Black Country](#) (Accessed: 09/07/2025)

¹⁸³ Southern Staffordshire Councils Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment [Southern Staffordshire Councils Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

¹⁸⁴ Local Authority territorial carbon dioxide emissions. [2005-22-uk-local-authority-ghg-emissions.xlsx](#) (Accessed 08/05/2025)

¹⁸⁵ Local Authority territorial carbon dioxide emissions. [2005-22-uk-local-authority-ghg-emissions.xlsx](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)



Emissions Category	Tamworth	North Warwickshire	Lichfield	West Midlands	United Kingdom
Transport (kt CO ₂)	75.7	520.6	310.7	11,286.3	114,656.4
Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (kt CO ₂)	0.9	-10.7	16.0	-253.7	757.9
Agriculture (kt CO ₂)	3.8	51.9	72.4	3,783.7	49,581.5
Waste (kt CO ₂)	19.2	29.7	31.7	1,761.1	18,733.8
Total (kt CO ₂)	248.7	865.8	686.9	32,367.9	375,929.3
Per Capita Emissions (t)	3.1	13.1	6.3	5.4	5.6
Emissions per km ² (kt CO ₂ e)	8.1	3	2.1	2.5	1.5

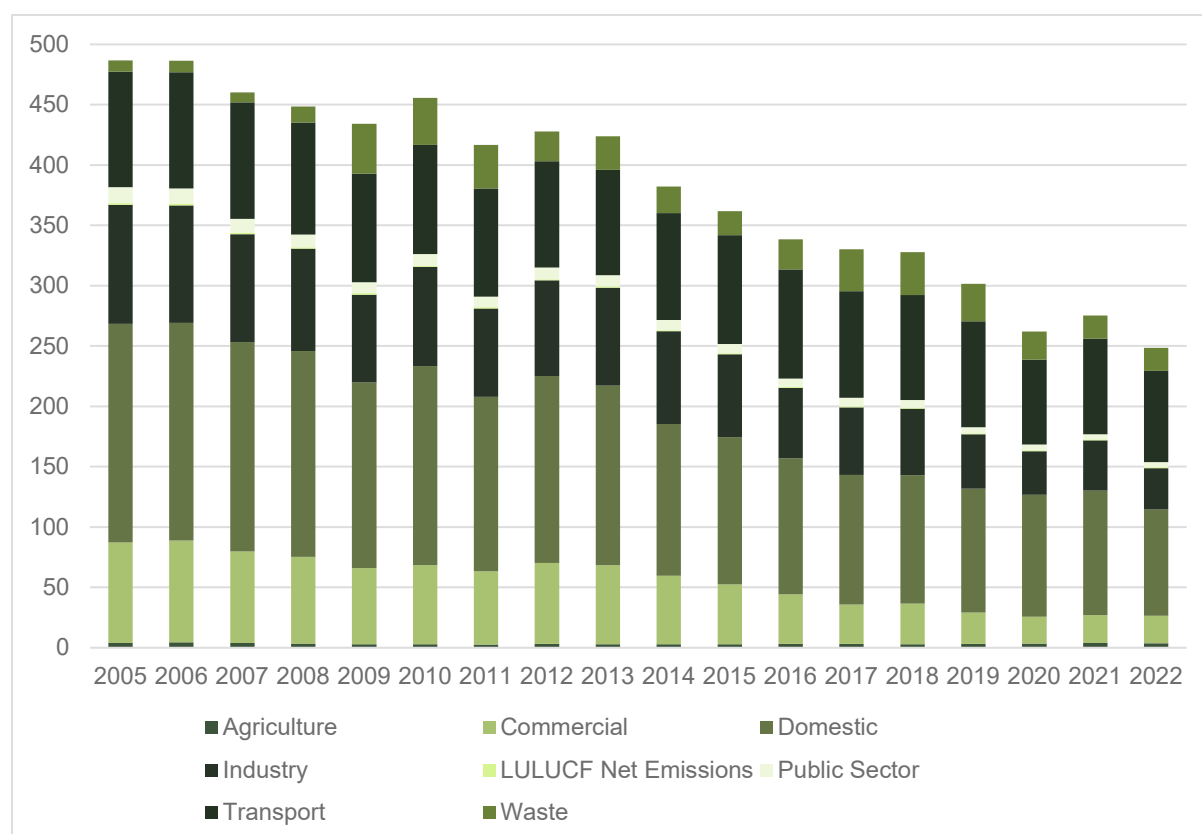


Figure 11-6: Total CO₂ emissions (kt CO₂) per category (2005-2022) in Tamworth Borough¹⁸⁶

As shown in Table 11-2, Electricity consumption across the Borough has decreased over time. This trend has also been seen in the neighbouring authority Lichfield. The neighbouring authority of North Warwickshire has seen its electricity consumption increase over time, however.

Table 11-2: Electricity Consumption¹⁸⁷

Year	Tamworth (GWh)	Lichfield (GWh)	North Warwickshire (GWh)
2005	383	456	517
2008	330	470	531
2011	317	440	522
2014	330	449	524
2017	302.7	437.5	534.9
2020	269.3	422.7	507.3
2023	251.8	415.7	531.7

Gas consumption from both domestic and non-domestic sources has decreased significantly in Tamworth since 2005, as presented in Table 11-3. A decline is also visible in the nearby local authority areas of Lichfield and North Warwickshire, however, the decline in these areas is less prominent than in Tamworth.

Table 11-3: Gas Consumption¹⁸⁸

Year	Tamworth (GWh)	Lichfield (GWh)	North Warwickshire (GWh)
2005	741	994	867
2008	649	877	741
2011	550	777	625
2014	541	758	690
2017	529	769	745
2020	493	786	756
2023	418	726	615

¹⁸⁶ Local Authority territorial carbon dioxide emissions. [2005-22-uk-local-authority-ghg-emissions.xlsx](#) (Accessed 08/05/2025)

¹⁸⁷ Regional and local authority electricity consumption statistics [Regional and local authority electricity consumption statistics - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 29/09/25)

¹⁸⁸ Subnational gas consumption, Great Britain, 2005 – 2023 [Regional and local authority electricity consumption statistics - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 21/10/25)



Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) indicate the energy efficiency of dwellings and are based on data about a building's energy features, such as the building materials used, the heating systems, and insulation. A score is given to each dwelling, typically ranging from 1 to 100 where 100 is the most efficient and 1 is the least efficient. The average energy efficiency rating in Tamworth and the West Midlands is 69 which is similar to the national average of 68¹⁸⁹. New flats and houses were significantly more energy efficient on average than existing houses and flats. The least energy efficient property type in Tamworth was existing houses, which had an average EPC of 66.

Tamworth Borough Council declared a climate emergency in November 2019 and committed to achieving net zero emissions across the Council's estate and operations by 2050. The Council's Net Zero Strategy includes a Climate Change Mitigation Action Plan, which aims to reduce energy consumption, increase efficiency, and transition to renewable energy sources¹⁹⁰.

Key themes include¹⁹¹:

- Energy: Reduce energy consumption, increase efficiency and transition to renewable energy sources;
- Transport and Travel: Lower vehicle emissions through an Electric Vehicle (EV) strategy, fleet electrification, and support for integrated public transport and hybrid working;
- Built Environment: Improve energy efficiency in Council buildings and ensure future developments are sustainable and climate-resilient;
- Circular Economy: Promote sustainable consumption and production through the "7 Rs" (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Redesign, Repair, Renew, Recover);
- Natural Capital and Biodiversity: Enhance green spaces and biodiversity through the Nature Recovery Declaration and local conservation initiatives; and
- Resilience and Adaptation: Prepare for climate impacts by building resilient infrastructure and supporting community adaptation.

Solar photovoltaics are the main source of renewable energy generation in the Borough, with 1,183 installations out of 32,895 homes in 2023. There is also one landfill gas facility present in the Borough¹⁹².

¹⁸⁹ Energy Efficiency Data [Energy efficiency of housing in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#) (Accessed 04/06/2025)

¹⁹⁰ Tamworth Borough Council [Tackling climate change in Tamworth | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

¹⁹¹ Tamworth Borough Council [Tackling climate change in Tamworth | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

¹⁹² Renewable Energy by Local Authority 2005-2023. [Regional Renewable Statistics - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 08/07/25)



11.1.3 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change could lead to changes in the natural environment such as increased temperatures and extreme weather events. Tamworth's future climate is expected to change in the following ways in the future¹⁹³:

- Wetter, milder winters and more extreme rainfall events leading to more frequent, more intense flooding; and
- Hotter, drier summers leading to droughts, wildfires and heatwaves becoming more intense and more likely.

This may affect the environment directly, by changing the distribution of species, or indirectly through changes to land management and local habitats. **For example, higher temperatures are expected to increase the prevalence of diseases spread by mosquitos and ticks**¹⁹⁴.

Water scarcity is also expected to become more common as temperatures increase. This is likely to take the form of physical water stress (e.g. there is not enough water to meet the populations needs). The Environment Agency conducted a study in 2021 into water stressed areas in England and found that the catchment area of Severn Trent Water, within which Tamworth sits, is currently water stressed¹⁹⁵. Additionally, South Staffs Water, which supplies Tamworth with water, has been classified as being in serious water stress¹⁹⁶. Serious water stress is defined as the current or future household demand for water is a high proportion of the current effective rainfall which is available to meet the demand. As of 15th July 2025, the Environment Agency has declared drought status for the West Midlands and the East Midlands, following the driest spring for 132 years¹⁹⁷.

Urban or built-up areas of the Borough, such as Tamworth town centre, may be more significantly impacted by changes in the natural environment as a result of climate change, due to the Urban Heat Island effect. As the Borough is almost exclusively urban, this effect is likely to be particularly pronounced. This is due to heat generated by human activities being more concentrated in these areas, as well as the large concentration of buildings, roads and other infrastructure absorbing and re-emitting large amounts of heat. This could increase energy demand (though the need for cooling systems), exacerbate heat related illnesses, and create environmental stress for local wildlife and plants. **Tamworth Borough Council are in the process of developing a Tree Policy and Framework (2025-2030)**¹⁹⁸, to help ensure that the right trees are planted in the right place at the right time across the

¹⁹³ Tamworth Net Zero Climate Adaptation Strategy (2024) [Appendix 2 Climate Change adaptation strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

¹⁹⁴ Tamworth Net Zero Climate Adaptation Strategy (2024) [Appendix 2 Climate Change adaptation strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

¹⁹⁵ Environment Agency, Water Stressed Areas. [Water stressed areas – 2021 classification - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed: 09/07/2025)

¹⁹⁶ Water Stressed Areas- Final Classification 2021 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60dd7f328fa8f50ab1d0128a/Water_stressed_areas_final_classification_2021.odt (Accessed 29/07/25)

¹⁹⁷ [West and East Midlands move into drought - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 29/07/25)

¹⁹⁸ Draft Tamworth Borough Council Tree Policy and Framework (2025-2030) (Accessed 25/09/25)



Borough. This approach aims to effectively contribute towards climate resilience through carbon sequestration and flood risk minimisation.

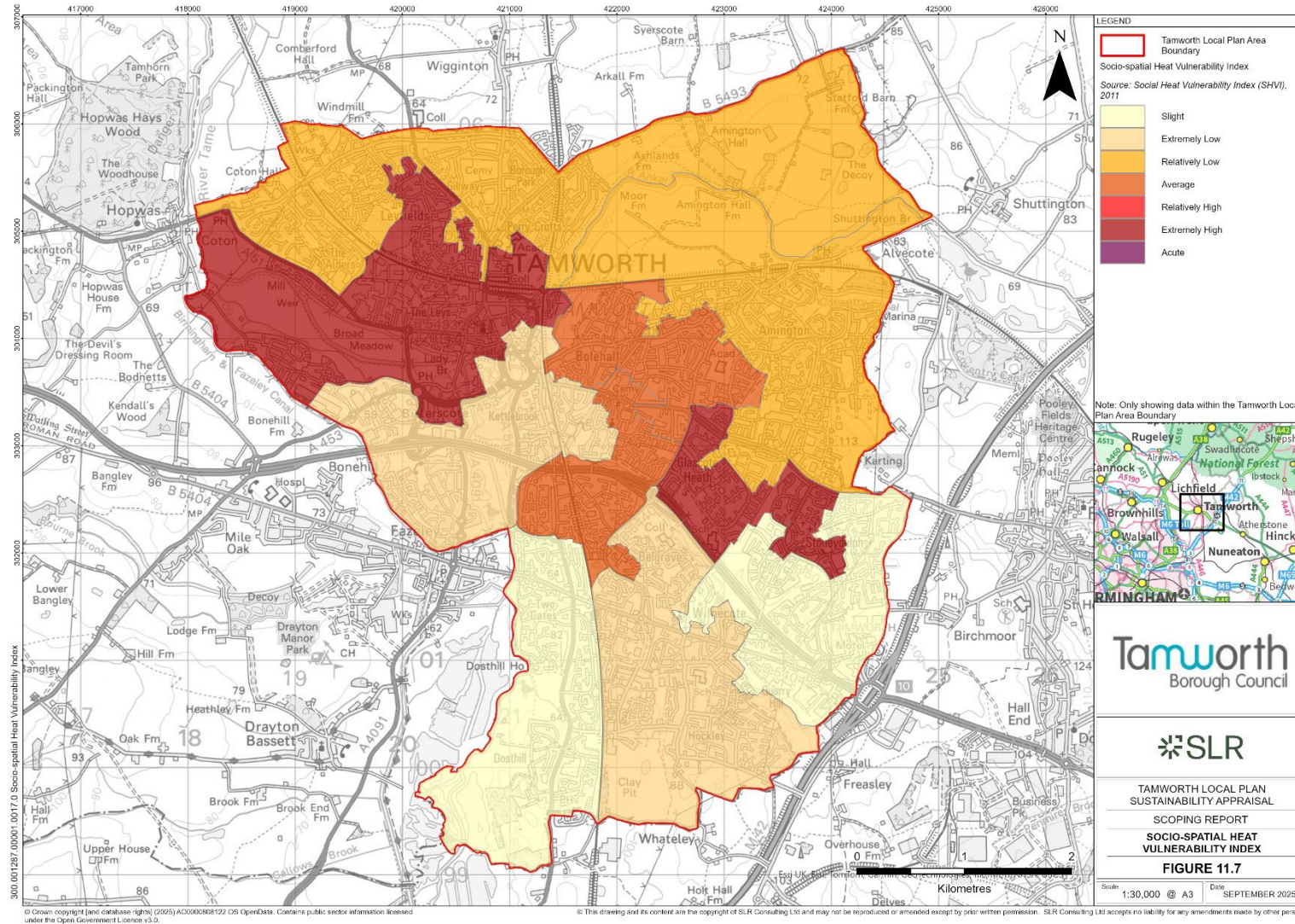
Climate risk refers to the exposure and vulnerability of populations to climate change. Tamworth is increasingly exposed to climate-related risks such as extreme heat, flooding, and changing seasonal patterns. According to Staffordshire County Council's Climate Change Action Plan, vulnerable groups, including older adults, low-income households, and those with underlying health conditions are particularly at risk¹⁹⁹. **Figure 11-7 demonstrates the vulnerability of Tamworth's residents to increased heat. The Socio-Spatial Heat Vulnerability Index outlined by the figure considers five dimensions of vulnerability to heat: sensitivity, ability to prepare, ability to respond, ability to recover and enhanced exposure. As highlighted by the figure, residents in Central Tamworth MSOA would be considered as the most vulnerable to heat, followed by those in Glascote Heath MOSA. Residents in Wilnecote East and Dosthill and Two Gates MSOAs are considered as the least vulnerable to heat²⁰⁰.**

¹⁹⁹ Climate Change - Action Plan 2025-30 [Climate Change - Action Plan 2025-30 - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 09/07/2025)

²⁰⁰ Socio-Spatial Heat Vulnerability Index [ClimateJust](#) (Accessed 30/09/25)



Figure 11-7: Heat Vulnerability Index



While the County has made progress in reducing emissions, the focus is now shifting toward building resilience in communities, infrastructure and the natural environment. In Tamworth, areas with higher deprivation and limited access to green infrastructure may face greater challenges in adapting to climate impacts, mirroring broader regional trends where climate risk often overlaps with social and health inequalities.

The Tamworth Borough Council Mitigation Action Plan (2024)²⁰¹ identifies where and how the Council can reduce their operational emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The Tamworth Net Zero Climate Adaptation Strategy (2024)²⁰² has identified adaptation actions to address and build resilience against the future impacts of climate change to the Borough. Tamworth Borough Council have also developed a Climate Change Communications²⁰³ Plan to help effectively engage with and inform staff and members at Tamworth Borough Council, local people and businesses about the issues surrounding climate change and the changes they can make to help tackle the climate crisis.

New development planned over the Local Plan period should provide opportunities to manage the effects of climate change by:

- Ensuring that flood risk is managed effectively (for example through the provision of sustainable drainage systems, reconnecting rivers to the floodplains and improved land management);
- Helping to offset carbon emissions (tree planting in new development or within large scale green infrastructure projects);
- Designing buildings and spaces to deal with hotter temperatures (e.g. including water features, shading, avoiding solar glare) and more intense weather such as storms and winds; and
- Provisioning for green spaces to influence local (micro) climates (urban cooling).

New development would also be likely to improve the overall energy efficiency of the Borough's housing stock. However, the Local Plan will not be able to deliver energy efficiency improvements beyond those set out in Part L of the Building Regulations.

11.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Fluvial and surface flooding present the greatest flooding risks in the Borough;
- Residents in Central Tamworth and Glascote Heath are most vulnerable to flooding;
- Green Infrastructure presents opportunities to address multiple issues through multifunctional spaces;

²⁰¹ Tamworth Borough Council Mitigation Action Plan (2024) [climate change mitigation action plan](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

²⁰² Tamworth Net Zero Climate Adaptation Strategy (2024) [Appendix 2 Climate Change adaptation strategy.pdf](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

²⁰³ Tamworth Borough Council Climate Change Communications (2025) (Accessed 25/09/25)



- New development will need to incorporate sustainable drainage systems to sustainably reduce flood risk;
- New developments will need to incorporate low-carbon and renewable energy generation to minimise carbon emissions;
- Solar is currently the main form of renewable energy generation in the Borough, however, other sources of renewable energy should be considered in order to support the Borough in its transition away from fossil fuels;
- Domestic and transport emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels are the main contributors of CO2 in the Borough;
- It is important to become more resilient to the wider effects of climate change through adaptation measures. New developments need to minimise vulnerability and provide resilience to climate change, including implementing adaptation measures in respect of rising temperatures, water scarcity and extreme weather events, particularly heavy rainfall/flooding and heat waves. Working with communities to build local resilience is also essential, ensuring a coordinated response to climate-related challenges; and
- The extent to which the effects of climate change are experienced across the Borough is not equally distributed. Residents in Central Tamworth and Glascote Heath are most vulnerable to climate related heat. Measures to mitigate the effects of climate change should consider these inequalities.

11.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Continual growth in the Borough both from development and population growth may increase the effects of climate change. Climate change could increase the number of properties at risk from flooding as more extreme rainfall events take place. National Policy is likely to restrict significant large-scale growth from coming forward in areas subject to flood risk even in the absence of a Local Plan, unless developers can demonstrate that no areas at lower risk are available to meet development needs and schemes can be made safe in the event of flooding.

There is likely to be continued and increasing pressure on water resources. Water resources will be squeezed in the short to long term as a result of increased development, coupled with climate change impacts, and reductions in water resources available (to protect environmentally sensitive areas).

Given the reliance on the private car as the main mode of transport within the Borough, ongoing increases in vehicle ownership, and the requirement for additional residential development, it could be considered likely that greenhouse gas emissions will rise in the future. The increasing use of EV could counteract this, however, local policy will be needed to reduce car-based development and encourage modal shift. Moreover, infrastructure to support EV use will need to be implemented, such as public charging points.

The current estimates for temperature increases and changes to rainfall patterns are unlikely to alter significantly in the near future, given the timescales associated with climate change. This being the case, there will be an increasing need to implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in light of changing environmental conditions.



11.4 Data Gaps

The latest data on GHG emissions is from 2022, so is somewhat outdated. The newest data set (for 2023 data) will be released in July 2025.

A new Water Cycle Study is likely to be commissioned for Tamworth Borough in the next few months. This study will ascertain whether there is sufficient availability of water supply and capacity to treat wastewater in both the network and wastewater treatment works for growth proposed both in Tamworth and in neighbouring districts also reliant on the same infrastructure. A new Water Cycle Study should give Tamworth Borough Council clear recommendations for new developments and any policy requirements needed, also strengthening the Borough's resilience to climate change.

There is need for Level 1 and Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs) to be commissioned.

The SFRA will outline the extent of the functional floodplain in Tamworth which will help the Plan to detect areas unsuitable for development, as well as areas where existing development and infrastructure may not be sustainable in the long term.

There are ongoing discussions regarding the improvement of flood defences within Tamworth. this to be referenced and considered in the evidence base supporting the forthcoming Local Plan.



12.0 Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora and Fauna

12.1 Baseline

The term biodiversity refers to both the species richness and genetic diversity of flora and fauna present within a given area. There are a number of parks and green spaces within the Borough, many of which are designated under local, national and international legislation for wildlife and geological value. Tamworth's Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are detailed within Table 12-1 and all designated wildlife and geological sites are shown in Figure 12-1.

Table 12-1: Local Nature Reserves in Tamworth²⁰⁴

Name	Type of Site	Features
Broad Meadow	LNR (also SBI)	Lowland meadow, floodplain grassland, Snake's Head Fritillary
Dosthill Park	LNR	Woodland, grassland, River Tame habitat, wet woodland paths
Hodge Lane	LNR	Grassland, canal towpath, wildlife pathways
Kettlebrook	LNR	Grassland, water habitats, volunteer-managed nature corridors
Tameside	LNR	Man-made lake, four islands, bird habitat
Town Wall	LNR	Meadow, grassland
Warwickshire Moor	LNR	Wetland wildlife
Wigginton Park	Park	Meadow

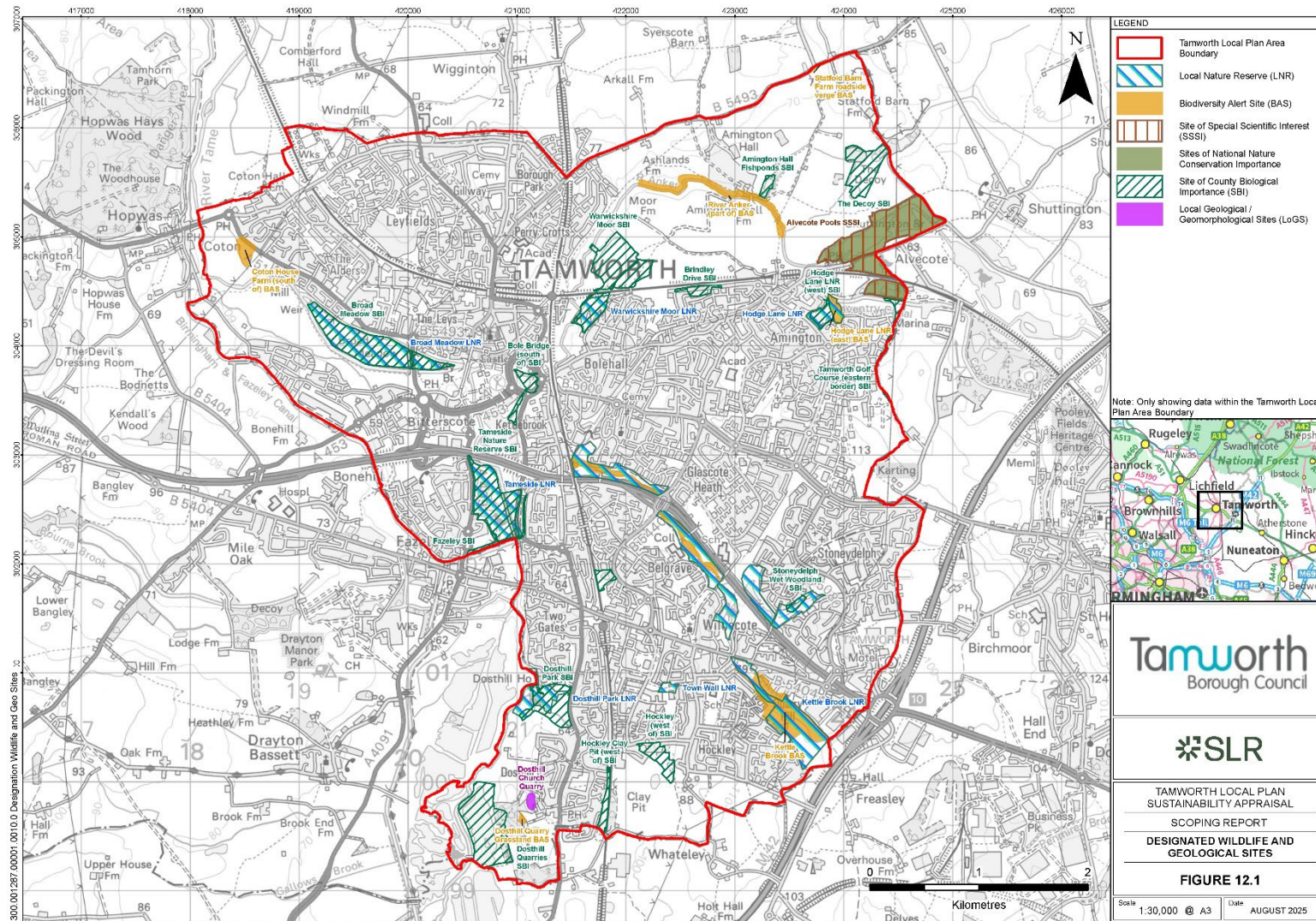
There is one Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the Borough: Alvecote Pools SSSI.

There are no European designated Habitat Sites within the Borough, however Cannock Extension Canal SAC, and the River Mease SAC are located nearby. As outlined in [Section 10.1.1](#) in this report, The Cannock Extension Canal SAC, is particularly sensitive to nitrogen deposition, and significant traffic increases have the potential to increase pressure at this site. The Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) will consider whether there is potential for activities resulting from the Local Plan to affect Habitats Sites outside of the Borough.

²⁰⁴ Visit Tamworth, Nature Reserves and Country Parks <https://www.visittamworth.co.uk/nature-reserves-country-parks> (Accessed 31/07/2025)



Figure 12-1: Designated wildlife and geological sites in Tamworth



Both the River Tame and River Anker which flow through Tamworth, are designated as important for biodiversity in the Borough by the Water Framework Directive²⁰⁵. Designated water bodies are protected in order to conserve important habitats and species, including terrestrial species that depend directly on water; improve biodiversity and the health of green spaces, and protect water resources. This can be achieved by ensuring that there is no deterioration in the ecological health of the water bodies, limiting sources of pollution flowing into the water bodies, and making any water usage linked to these sites sustainable²⁰⁶.

All waterbodies within the River Tame catchment achieved 'Moderate' ecological status in 2022. The majority of waterbodies within the River Anker catchment achieved 'Poor' ecological status in 2022. This is due to pressures such as pollution, urban runoff and physical modifications to watercourses. These factors can degrade aquatic habitats and reduce the diversity of species they support. Improving water quality through targeted measures, such as reducing pollution and restoring natural river features, can enhance ecological conditions, helping to sustain and improve biodiversity across the catchment²⁰⁷.

The aquatic habitats associated with Tamworth's canal network also play a role in supporting biodiversity. Coventry Canal and the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal act as green corridors, particularly between fragmented habitats, allowing species to move through urban landscapes (such as between the River Tame and Tameside Nature Reserve). The canal network also provides a range of ecosystem services, including flood regulation, carbon sequestration and recreation.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, on behalf of Tamworth Borough Council, carried out a strategic assessment of the Borough's biodiversity and habitat networks. Six habitat connectivity opportunity area types were identified and mapped across the Borough, including heathland, woodland, grassland, wetland, pasture and arable land, and urban land, to help inform the best areas to implement nature recovery mechanisms²⁰⁸. The opportunity area for wetland habitat/networks was found to be the most significant for nature recovery.

The Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is a new, statutory strategy under the Environment Act 2021, led by Staffordshire County Council in collaboration with Stoke-on-Trent City Council, District and Borough Councils, the Peak District National Park Authority, Natural England and other partners²⁰⁹. The Staffordshire LNRS is still in progress and is expected to be made publicly available by the end of 2025. The LNRS will agree priorities for nature's recovery, map the most valuable existing areas for nature and outline specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals²¹⁰.

²⁰⁵ Tame Lower River and Lakes Operational Catchment <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/OperationalCatchment/3437> (Accessed 30/07/2025)

²⁰⁶ Water Framework Directive [Water Framework Directive \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2000/60/oj) (Accessed 29/07/2025)

²⁰⁷ Humber river basin district river management plan: updated 2022 [Humber river basin district river management plan: updated 2022 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108888/Humber_river_basin_district_river_management_plan_updated_2022_-_GOV.UK) (Accessed 30/07/2025)

²⁰⁸ Tamworth Borough Nature Recovery Network Mapping (2021) [Appendix 2.pdf](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

²⁰⁹ Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent LNRS [Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)

²¹⁰ Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent LNRS [Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Staffordshire County Council](#) (Accessed 31/07/2025)



The Wild About Tamworth project is a partnership project between Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Tamworth Borough Council, and local communities to enhance green spaces across the Borough²¹¹. The project began in 2003 and has helped set up nine conservation volunteer groups, which meet regularly to look after and improve seven Local Nature Reserves, as well as Wiggington Park. The project also provides environmental education for schools. The project is partly commissioned by the council and partly funded through external grants.

The Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership was established in 2005 by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, local councils, local charities and statutory bodies²¹². As part of this partnership, the National Lottery Heritage Fund funded a series of conservation projects to restore heritage and improve the area for wildlife between 2014 and 2019. More recently, over £20,000 has been secured to support willow tit populations across the Tame Valley Wetlands²¹³.

As part of a nationwide strategy to heighten nature recovery, a minimum target of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) has been introduced for new developments. **BNG is an important mechanism for ensuring habitat connectivity.** BNG should be guided by the Biodiversity Net Gain Hierarchy and DEFRA's Net Gain Metric²¹⁴, which allows developers/ecologists/landowners to assess an area's value to wildlife, and therefore how a development or change in land management will impact this. Since April 2024, this BNG target has been mandatory for most new developments. **Tamworth may be unable to accommodate all of its required BNG within the Borough however, due to land constraints.**

Nature loss, pollution and geodiversity damage causes tangible and real financial costs to local authorities (e.g. dealing with the impacts of flooding). In tandem, tackling climate change, nature loss and sustainability delivers significant and long-term value creation (both economic and adjacent value), including job creation and positively impacts the wellbeing of residents.

12.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- There are a range of nature conservation sites (statutory and non-statutory) within the Borough which require protection from development;
- There is a need to ensure development includes habitat creation and enhancement with consideration of the wider landscape and ecological corridors;
- The majority of waterbodies within the River Anker catchment achieved 'Poor' ecological status in 2022;

²¹¹ Staffordshire Wildlife Trust [Wild About Tamworth | Staffordshire Wildlife Trust](#) (Accessed 20/08/2025)

²¹² [Tame Valley Wetlands | Warwickshire Wildlife Trust](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

²¹³ [Willow tit conservation | Warwickshire Wildlife Trust](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

²¹⁴ [Biodiversity metric: calculate the biodiversity net gain of a project or development - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) (Accessed 27/07/2025)



- Potential effects on European designated Habitats Sites outside of the Borough needs to be considered;
- There is need to ensure favourable management of protected sites within the Borough;
- There is a need to increase resilience of nature in light of climate change. Green spaces should be joined up, particularly through use of the canal network, and water resources protected from damage;
- There is a need to prioritise nature recovery across the Borough, in line with the emerging Staffordshire LNRS; and
- There is a need to ensure that as much of the minimum target of 10% BNG is met within the Borough as possible.

12.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Without the Local Plan setting out a positive strategy for growth to meet future housing and commercial development needs, the location and scale of new development will be controlled through the development management process rather than through development being targeted to locations with greater environmental capacity. This could lead to the degradation and possible loss of habitat and species. The Local Plan could help safeguard existing sites of value, protect notable and protected species, and improve the management of locally important wildlife sites where these are integrated into development. Climate change will increase stress on habitats and species.

In the absence of the Local Plan it is likely that the number or extent of non-statutory sites in the Borough will remain similar to current provision, although ad-hoc opportunities may arise to increase overall provision.

12.4 Data Gaps

The forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) will add detail regarding sites and opportunities for BNG. A draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy is expected to be published in Autumn 2025.



13.0 Cultural Heritage

13.1 Baseline

Heritage Assets

There are 140 Nationally Listed Buildings within Tamworth Borough²¹⁵. Grade I Listed Buildings are considered of 'exceptional interest', Grade II* listings are considered 'of more than special interest', and Grade II listings are considered of 'special interest'.

There are three Grade I Listed Buildings in the Borough²¹⁶:

- Tamworth Castle (Holloway, Tamworth);
- Church of St Editha (Church Street, Tamworth); and
- Causeway Walls to North East of Tamworth Castle (Holloway, Tamworth).

There are five Grade II* Listed Buildings in the Borough²¹⁷:

- Spital Chapel of St James (Ashby Road, Perrycrofts);
- Dosthill Sunday School and Parish Room (Church Road, Dosthill);
- The Moat House (Lichfield Street, Tamworth);
- Town Hall (Market Street, Tamworth); and
- Amington Hall (Ashby Road, Tamworth).

The remaining 132 Listed Buildings in the Borough are Grade II listed.

In addition, there are three Scheduled Monuments in the Borough²¹⁸:

- Tamworth Castle (The Holloway, Lady Bank, Tamworth);
- Medieval Deanery, Lower Gungate (Tamworth); and
- Saxon Defences (these are in two separate areas of protection overlooking the confluence of the rivers Tame and Anker to the South).

There are no Registered Parks and Gardens or World Heritage Sites within the Borough.

In addition to nationally designated heritage assets, Tamworth Council maintains a Local List of buildings and structures that are considered to have local historic and architectural value. While buildings on the list are not subject to the same statutory protections as nationally Listed buildings, planning applications involving them are assessed with greater care and sensitivity. This list forms part of the Borough's commitment to preserving and enhancing its unique character and townscape. There

²¹⁵ Listing [The List Search Results | Historic England](#) (Accessed 25/09/2025)

²¹⁶ Conservation and Heritage [Conservation and heritage | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

²¹⁷ Conservation and Heritage [Conservation and heritage | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)

²¹⁸ Conservation and Heritage [Conservation and heritage | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 08/07/2025)



are currently 91 properties on the Local List²¹⁹. These include buildings and structures that:

- Exhibit special architectural or historic interest (though not nationally listed);
- Represent traditional or historic industrial processes;
- Act as townscape or landscape landmarks;
- Are associated with significant events or personalities;
- Contain features of antiquity (pre-1800); or
- Demonstrate good quality modern architecture.

There are seven areas of Tamworth designated as Conservation Areas, which cumulatively account for approximately 160ha (5%) of Tamworth's land area. Conservation Areas have been designated by the Council to protect the character of many settlements and restrict inappropriate development. These areas often provide locally significant leisure and recreation locations and can play a key role in defining the character and identity of the Borough. Conservation areas can also help to protect key Borough assets. For example, there are over 85 protected trees in Tamworth, due to either their presence within a Conservation Area, or because they are subject to a Tree Preservation Order²²⁰. The Conservation Areas present within the Borough are²²¹:

- Albert Road/ Victoria Street (5.4 ha);
- Amington Green (1.1 ha);
- Amington Hall Estate (106.4 ha);
- Dosthill (1.5ha);
- Hospital Street (6.0 ha);
- Tamworth Town (35.7 ha); and
- Wilnecote (4.0 ha).

The Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) holds around 21,000 records of known archaeological sites and monuments, historic buildings and historic landscapes across the county and includes information related to Tamworth Borough²²².

Heritage assets in the Borough are presented in Figure 13-1.

²¹⁹ Locally Listed Buildings, Tamworth [Locally listed buildings | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 08/08/2025)

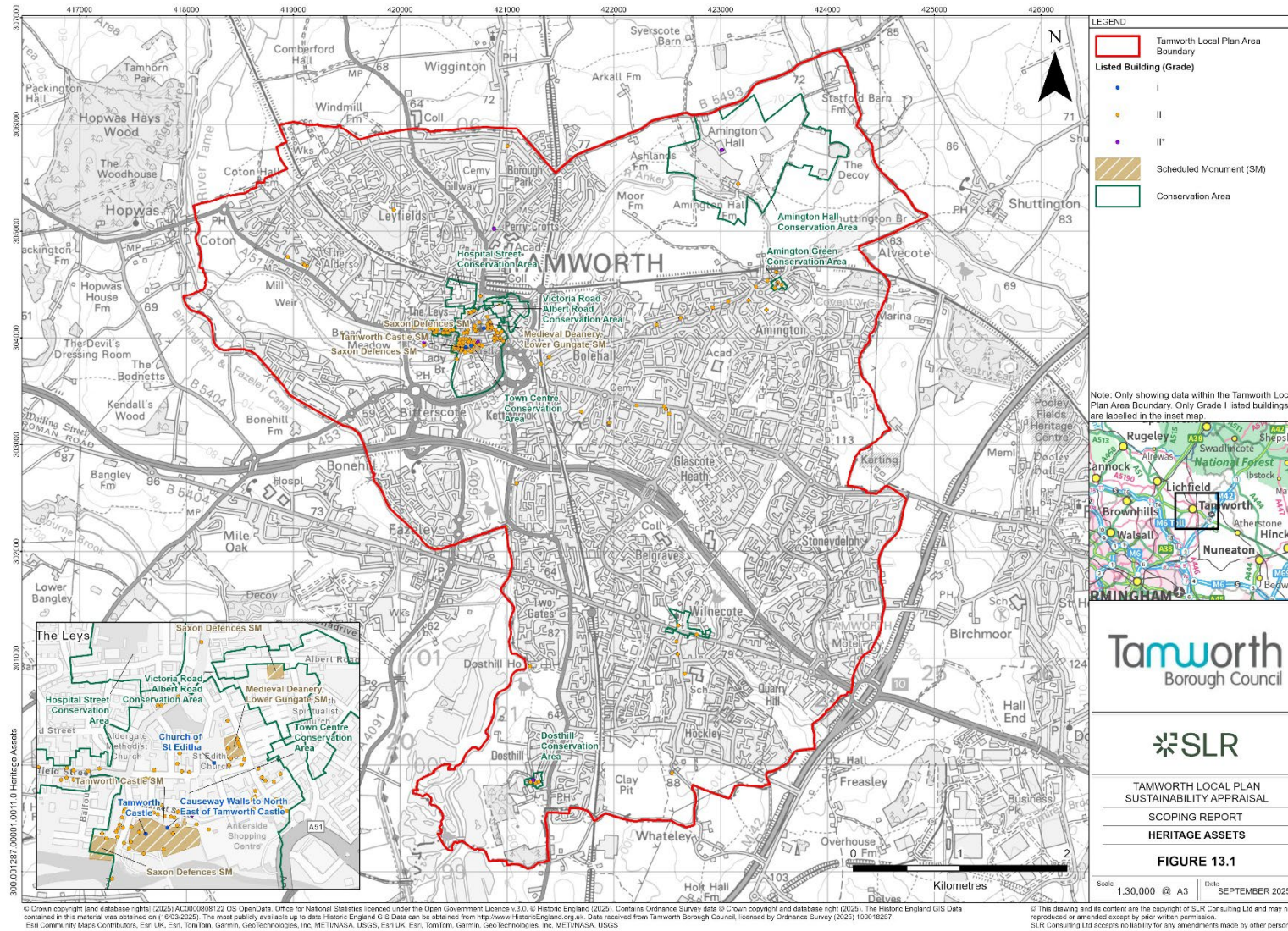
²²⁰ Tamworth Tree Preservation Order List [Tree Preservation Order List | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²²¹ Tamworth Conservation Areas [Conservation areas | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²²² Staffordshire HER [Staffordshire County Council Public WebMap](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)



Figure 13-1: Heritage assets within Tamworth



The Tamworth Historic Character Assessment²²³ identified 37 Historic Urban Character Areas (HUCAs) and 11 Historic Environment Character Zones (HECZs) throughout the Borough. The areas exhibiting the greatest heritage significance within the built environment, in terms of both the legible and archaeological heritage assets, are largely associated with the Tamworth Town Centre, Tamworth Castle, Aldergate and Lichfield Street and the Moat House. The areas of greatest heritage significance in the rural fringe are associated with two landscape parks: Amington Hall Park and Dosthill Park.

Heritage at Risk refers to historic sites and assets in England that are most at risk of being lost due to neglect, decay or inappropriate development. There are two Heritage at Risk entries in the Borough, as detailed in Table 13-1.

Table 13-1: Heritage at Risk Entries for Tamworth²²⁴

Site Name	Designation(s)	Description of site	Condition
Deanery Wall, Lower Gungate, Tamworth	Scheduled Monument	A section of 14th-century masonry wall, once part of St Editha's Deanery, survives in three fragments that are now in urgent need of maintenance and repair. These historic remains are deteriorating due to overgrown vegetation and weathering, and require removal, as well as repointing of mortar joints and the resetting of loose stones along the wall tops. However, the responsibility for carrying out these repairs remains unclear, complicating efforts to preserve this important piece of Tamworth's medieval heritage.	Poor
Tamworth Castle, Holloway	Listed Building – Grade I	Tamworth Castle is a historically layered site that originated as a late 11th-century motte and bailey castle. Over time, it evolved to include a 12th-century shell keep and the remains of a 13th-century gatehouse, bridge and curtain wall, some of which are now ruined or buried. Due to centuries of alterations, the castle features complex structural junctions and has experienced ongoing structural movement, leading to significant repair needs. In 2023, Tamworth Borough Council funded an initial phase of repairs to the curtain wall, while Historic England supported further structural and archaeological investigations to assess and guide future conservation efforts.	Poor

²²³ Staffordshire Extensive Urban Survey- Tamworth Historic Character Assessment [Tamworth EUS Report Part 1.cdr](#) (Accessed 25/09/25)

²²⁴ Heritage at Risk Register. [Tamworth Castle, Holloway - Tamworth | Historic England](#) (Accessed 08/08/2025)



From Spring 2026, Tamworth Castle will be undergoing an enhancement and repair project following its identification as a Heritage at Risk entry, to help address the significant structural issues that the Castle is currently facing. Repairs and enhancements are also being made to the heritage assets surrounding the castle, including Hollway Lodge and the Coach House.

Heritage crime presents a recognised risk to archaeological sites and historic assets within Tamworth. Such offences typically include unauthorised excavations, damage to heritage structures (such as through vandalism or arson), demolition without the necessary permissions, and theft of building materials, including lead.

Climate change impacts, such as increased extreme weather events (heavy rain, storms, extreme heat) and flooding are likely to threaten the historic environment of Tamworth through damage, decay and degradation. The historic environment can play a vital role in climate change mitigation however, through the reuse, retention and repair of historic assets.

Cultural Assets

There are a number of cultural assets within the Borough of Tamworth, including:

- Tamworth Castle and Museum (a Norman motte-and-bailey castle with interactive exhibits and events);
- Tamworth Assembly Rooms (a historic theatre and arts venue hosting music, drama, and community events);
- Tamworth Library and Archive Services (located in the town centre, offering access to local history and cultural programming);
- Tamworth Town Hall (a historic civic building used for events and ceremonies);
- Castle Grounds and Bandstand (a public park with gardens, a bandstand for performances, and seasonal events);
- Tamworth Street Art and Public Art Trail (which includes murals and installations created by local artists and schoolchildren);
- The Snowdome (primarily a leisure facility, but also hosts seasonal cultural events and exhibitions); and
- Places of Worship, including St Editha's Church, Sacred Heart Church, Tamworth Islamic Centre and other local chapels and community churches.

In addition, Tamworth Borough Council supports cultural development through:

- Heritage-led regeneration projects (e.g. Castle Gateway);
- Community arts programming;
- Partnerships with schools and local artists; and
- Efforts to improve access to cultural venues and events.



13.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- The cumulative impact of development proposals and associated infrastructure requirements is likely to be one of the most significant issues for the historic environment and special character of Tamworth;
- Designated and non-designated heritage assets in the Borough, and their settings, could be negatively affected by new development which can erode the quality of the built environment and heritage features or sterilise or lead to the loss of existing heritage assets. A good understanding of heritage value will therefore be required;
- Heritage assets are irreplaceable resource and need to be conserved in a manner that is appropriate to their significance;
- Climate change is likely to be a significant issue for the historic environment, however the historic environment can play a vital role in climate change mitigation, through the reuse, retention and repair of historic assets;
- There are two assets on the heritage at risk register, both of which are in poor condition;
- Funding for enhancement and repair work of cultural heritage assets needs to be maintained;
- There is a need to maintain and preserve cultural assets and access to cultural facilities;
- There is an opportunity to enhance the setting of existing heritage assets or contribute to their preservation through sensitive design or appropriate repurposing;
- There is an opportunity to improve the appearance of the town centre and encourage increased tourism rates through heritage led regeneration; and
- The protection of the Borough's cultural heritage remains a significant issue for many local residents, businesses and community groups.

13.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Without the Plan, continual growth in the Borough and the increasing demand for housing may mean development could negatively affect designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings. Assets currently in poor condition may continue to deteriorate, and potential harm to the character, appearance or setting of conservation areas may be generated as a result of new development.

Opportunities for heritage led regeneration may not be implemented without policies encouraging it. Sites, areas and buildings that have not been formally designated, including those on Tamworth's Local List, are also likely to have limited protection against inappropriate or potentially harmful development.



13.4 Data Gaps

Conservation Area appraisals are not adopted (and therefore available) for all Conservation Areas, and the majority of adopted appraisals are outdated. A review of all Conservation Area appraisals is currently being undertaken by Tamworth Borough Council.

Lists of locally listed buildings and local heritage at risk are also under review.



14.0 Landscape and Townscape

14.1 Baseline

14.1.1 Landscape

Landscape refers to the visible features of a natural or rural environment. The Borough comprises predominantly urban areas with peripheral semi-rural and green spaces. The River Tame and River Anker contribute to the landscape of the Borough. The surrounding rural landscape includes areas of open space, historic field patterns and localised elevation changes, particularly near Hopwas and Wigginton.

Tamworth has a land area of 31km², which is mostly comprised of urban land. Approximately 2.1km² (6.8%) of this land is designated as Green Belt²²⁵. The Green Belt is located to the south of the Borough, to the east of Dosthill. The Tamworth Green Belt forms part of the West Midlands Green Belt²²⁶. The West Midlands Green Belt was designated in 1975 to prevent the expansion of the West Midlands Conurbation into the surrounding countryside and to prevent the merging of towns²²⁷.

The Borough falls within three different National Character Areas (NCA):

- The Trent Valley Washlands, which consists of narrow, low-lying river flood plains and gravel terraces, bordered by higher ground²²⁸;
- The Mease/Sence Lowlands, which is a gently rolling agricultural landscape centred around the rivers Mease, Sence and Anker²²⁹; and
- The Arden, which features gently rolling farmland, ancient woodlands, and historic parklands between Birmingham and Coventry, bordered by higher ground to the west and east²³⁰.

NCAs were updated and republished by Natural England in 2014. The last assessment of NCAs was undertaken in 2003, but whilst dated, this information is referenced in recent NCA reports and provides some context regarding the quality of landscapes within the Borough. The NCAs within Tamworth can be seen in Figure 14-1.

14.1.2 Townscape

Townscape refers to the visual appearance of a town or urban area. Areas of Article 4 direction are also in place across the Borough, to protect local amenities from

²²⁵ [Local Plan 2043 Issues and Options Document](#) September 2022 (Accessed 27/01/2026)

²²⁶ Local Authority Green Belt Statistics [Local authority green belt statistics for England: 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²²⁷ Black Country Plan, Green Belt [Green Belt | Black Country Plan](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²²⁸ National Character Areas <https://nationalcharacterareas.co.uk/Trent-Valley-Washlands/> (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²²⁹ National Character Areas <https://nationalcharacterareas.co.uk/Mease/Sence-Lowlands/> (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²³⁰ Natural England – National Character Area Profiles [Natural England - National Character Area Profiles - National Character Area Profiles](#) (Accessed 22/05/2025)



development. These legal measures, made under the Town and Country Planning Order 1995, remove certain permitted development rights, particularly in Conservation Areas. Article 4 directions withdraw certain permitted development rights to give extra protection to certain properties, such as removal of timber windows, doors and chimneys and painting of previously unpainted brickwork. Areas currently under Article 4 Direction include:

- Albert Road/ Victoria Street Conservation Area;
- Amington Green Conservation Area;
- Hospital Street Conservation Area;
- Tamworth Town Centre Conservation Area; and
- Wilnecote Conservation Area.

Residents are advised to consult the Council's Conservation Officer before making alterations.

Key areas of landscape and townscape within Tamworth, including Green Belt, Article 4 direction areas and national character types can be seen in Figure 14-1.



LEGEND

- Tamworth Local Plan Area Boundary
- Statutory Main River
- Green Belt
- Conservation Area

Article 4 Direction Areas

- Albert Road/ Victoria Street Conservation Area
- Armington Green Conservation Area
- Hospital Street Conservation Area
- Tamworth Town Centre Conservation Area
- Wilecote Conservation Area

National Character Type (NCT)

Source: National Character Type (NCT), 2013

- 33 - Mease/Sence Lowlands
- 33 - Trent Valley Washlands
- 43 - Arden

Note: Only showing data within the Tamworth Local Plan Area Boundary

Tamworth Borough Council

SLR

TAMWORTH LOCAL PLAN SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

SCOPING REPORT

KEY LANDSCAPE AND TOWNSCAPE

FIGURE 14.1

Scale: 1:30,000 © A3 Date: SEPTEMBER 2025

Some areas of the Borough, such as parts of the town centre, are experiencing issues related to degradation and underuse and could therefore benefit from targeted investment and conservation efforts. The Tamworth Future High Streets Fund has been awarded £21.65 million to transform the town centre. There are five core elements of the project, including²³¹:

- The relocation of Tamworth College to a new building on the site of the Tamworth Co-operative Society department store;
- The refurbishment of the Co-operative society department store, specifically the Colehill frontages, into a new enterprise centre for small businesses;
- The refurbishment and improvements to Middle Entry and construction of new flexible use units for small business use; and
- The transformation of St Editha's Square into a multi-purpose outdoor space for entertaining and events.

The Tamworth Investment Strategy²³² outlines proposals for new housing, commercial and community spaces, improved transport connectivity, and public realm enhancements, with the aim of guiding investment and planning decisions in line with local priorities and existing funding initiatives.

14.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- A small proportion of the Borough is protected as Green Belt. Any loss of Green Belt would need to ensure that the remaining area still serves its purpose.;
- There are three different landscape character areas in the Borough, indicating the diversity in landscape types; and
- Targeted investment and conservation efforts are being used to improve areas experiencing degradation and underuse.

14.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Continual growth in the Borough and the increasing demand for housing and employment sites, may also mean unplanned development could encroach on Green Belt, Conservation Areas and negatively affect townscape and landscape.

14.4 Data Gaps

A Green Belt review for Tamworth is currently being undertaken as part of the South Staffordshire Green Belt Review and will be published in early 2026.

A Landscape Strategy for Tamworth Borough is currently being developed.

²³¹ [Future High Streets Fund | Tamworth Borough Council](#) (Accessed 12/09/25)

²³² [Tibbalds | Tamworth Investment Strategy](#) (Accessed 21/08/25)



15.0 Soils, Water and Minerals

15.1 Baseline

Soils

The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) provides a method for assessing the quality of land in order to make informed choices within the planning system. As highlighted in Table 15-1 below, the majority of Tamworth is classified as ‘urban’ or ‘non-agricultural’, although there are some areas of Grade 2 (very good quality agricultural land), Grade 3 (good to moderate quality) and Grade 4 land (poor quality agricultural land)²³³. This is also demonstrated in Figure 15-1.

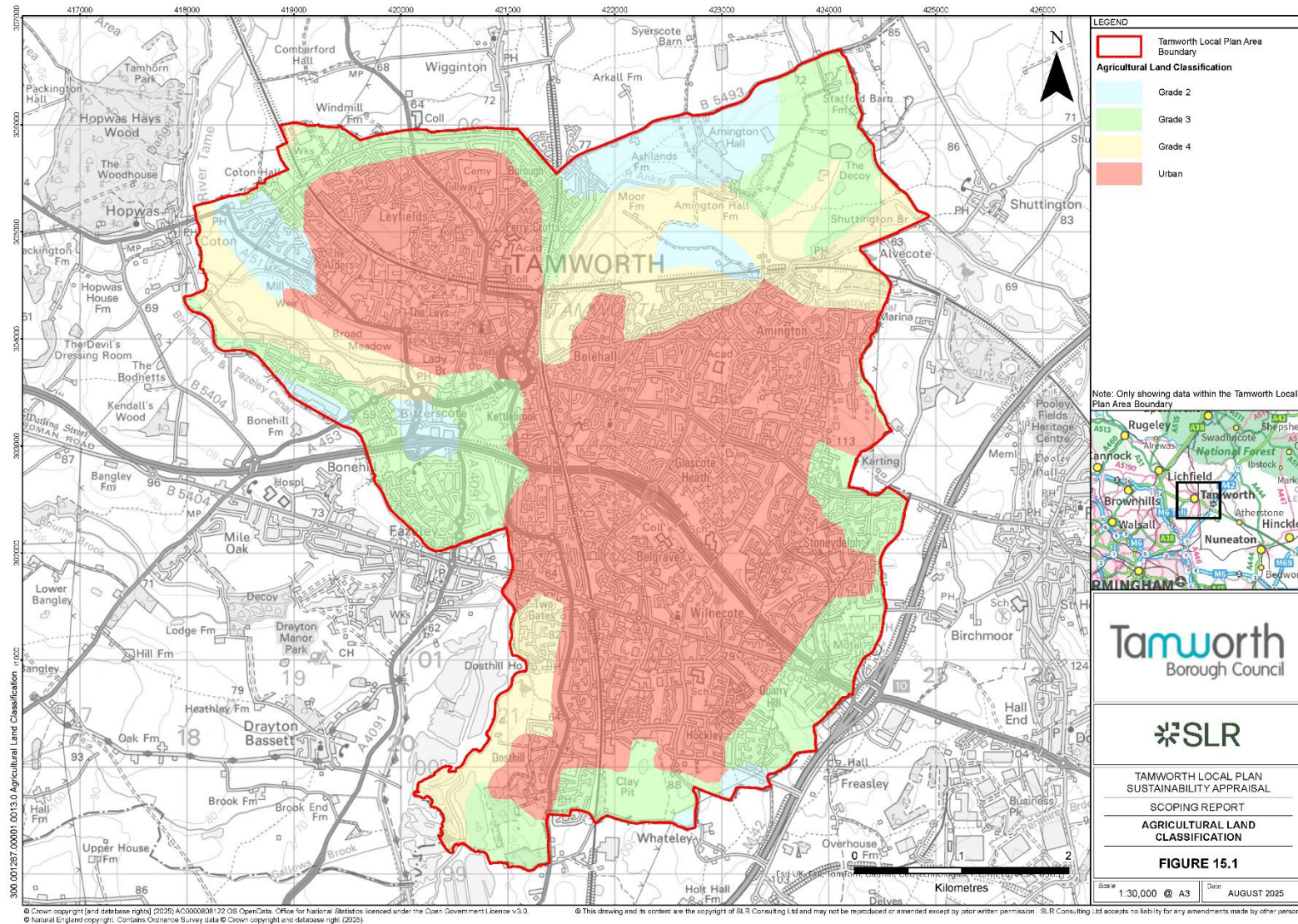
Table 15-1: ALC Land Area across Tamworth

ALC	Land Area (m ²)	Land Area (%)
Urban/Non-agricultural	15,871,796	51.5
Grade 2	2,621,847	8.5
Grade 3	7,417,864	24.0
Grade 4	4,939,211	16.0

²³³ Natural England (Provisional Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) (England). [Provisional Agricultural Land Classification \(ALC\) \(England\) | Natural England Open Data Geoportal](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)



Figure 15-1: Agricultural Land Classifications in Tamworth



‘Soilscape’ data held by National Soil Resources Institute (NSRI) shows that the soil in Tamworth is comprised of a range of different soil types. Within Tamworth town centre, and along the River Tame, the soil is mostly “loamy soils with naturally high groundwater” or “loamy and clayey floodplain soils with naturally high groundwater”. In the north of the Borough the soil is “slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage”, and to the south, it is “slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils”²³⁴.

Land contamination is principally a legacy of historical industrial activities and past waste disposal practices. Examples of such industries include gas works, chemical works, landfill sites, sewage works, petrol stations and scrap yards. In some instances, substances and waste materials from these activities may have caused pollution to the ground. This contamination has the potential to cause harm to human health, ground and surface waters, ecological systems and the built environment. Land contamination can also include areas of land with elevated levels of naturally occurring substances or where substances are present as a result of accidents, spillages, aerial deposition or migration. In April 2000, the Government introduced new legislation (Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990) requiring all local authorities to inspect their areas for potentially contaminated land and, if necessary, to ensure that any contamination is ‘cleaned up’ (remediated).

Land uses that are considered sensitive to contamination include:

- All residential development;
- Allotments;
- Schools;
- Nurseries;
- Playgrounds; and
- Hospitals.

There are currently no sites in Tamworth which have been formally identified as contaminated land. **The Tamworth Borough Council Statutory Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy²³⁵ outlines the strategic approach that Tamworth Borough Council utilises to inspect all areas of contaminated land within the Borough, as well as to identify and mitigate health and environmental risks that are unacceptable.**

Water

Tamworth takes its name from the River Tame, which is the main river flowing through the Borough. The River Anker is a major tributary of the River Tame and joins the Tame in Tamworth.

Tamworth Borough’s water supply is provided by South Staffs Water and Seven Trent Water provide sewerage services.

²³⁴ Soilscales Map [LandIS - Land Information System - Soilscales soil types viewer](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²³⁵ The Tamworth Borough Council Statutory Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy (2016) (Accessed 25/09/25)



Table 15-2 shows the water quality status of the water bodies within the River Tame which flow through the Borough.

Table 15-2: Water Quality of the waterbodies within the River Tame catchment in Tamworth²³⁶

Waterbody Name	Ecological Status	Chemical Status
Tame from River Anker to River Trent Water Body	Poor	Does not require assessment
Tame from River Blythe to River Anker Water Body	Poor	Does not require assessment

The classification status of all water bodies has been used to derive a relative understanding of quality to assess the combined potential impact of growth in the region. All of the waterbodies are currently recording a 'poor' ecological status. For both water bodies, assessment of chemical status was deemed to not be required.

The River Tame Environmental Report refers to the river as being 'heavily urbanised', with all waterbodies in the catchment being modified or artificial which has adversely impacted the natural environment which relies on these waterbodies. Other pressures include contaminated urban runoff and treated sewage effluent. In addition, industrial activities have contaminated land in some areas which has led to pollution of groundwater²³⁷. For both waterbodies, reasons for not achieving good status include:

- Sewage discharge;
- Urban development;
- Trade/ industry discharge;
- Quarrying; and
- Poor livestock management.

A significant portion of the Borough is underlain by a secondary aquifer. Secondary aquifers support water supplies at a local rather than strategic scale and play a role in sustaining rivers, wetlands and lakes. In contrast, the eastern part of the Borough is underlain by a principal aquifer. These are highly permeable geological formations that can provide a high level of water storage and flow, making them important for strategic water supply. Principal aquifers are typically used for public water supply and are more likely to be protected due to their significance²³⁸.

²³⁶ Tame Catchment Data Explorer. [Tame Lower Rivers and Lakes Operational Catchment | Catchment Data Explorer](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²³⁷ Tame Catchment Data Explorer. [Tame Lower Rivers and Lakes Operational Catchment | Catchment Data Explorer](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)

²³⁸ MAGIC Map [Magic Map Application](#) (Accessed 07/07/2025)



Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDs) can promote infiltration of surface water into the ground and recharge aquifers and can therefore play a long-term role in safeguarding and sustaining water resources, and improving water quality.

Groundwater Vulnerability is an important consideration in parts of this area. The entirety of Tamworth is located within an area of high or medium groundwater vulnerability²³⁹. The areas of highest vulnerability are located to the west of the Borough, in areas surrounding Wilnecote, Glascote and Stonydelph. In these areas, the underlying geology and soil conditions mean that pollutants at the surface can reach groundwater more easily, making them sensitive to development or activities involving potential contaminants.

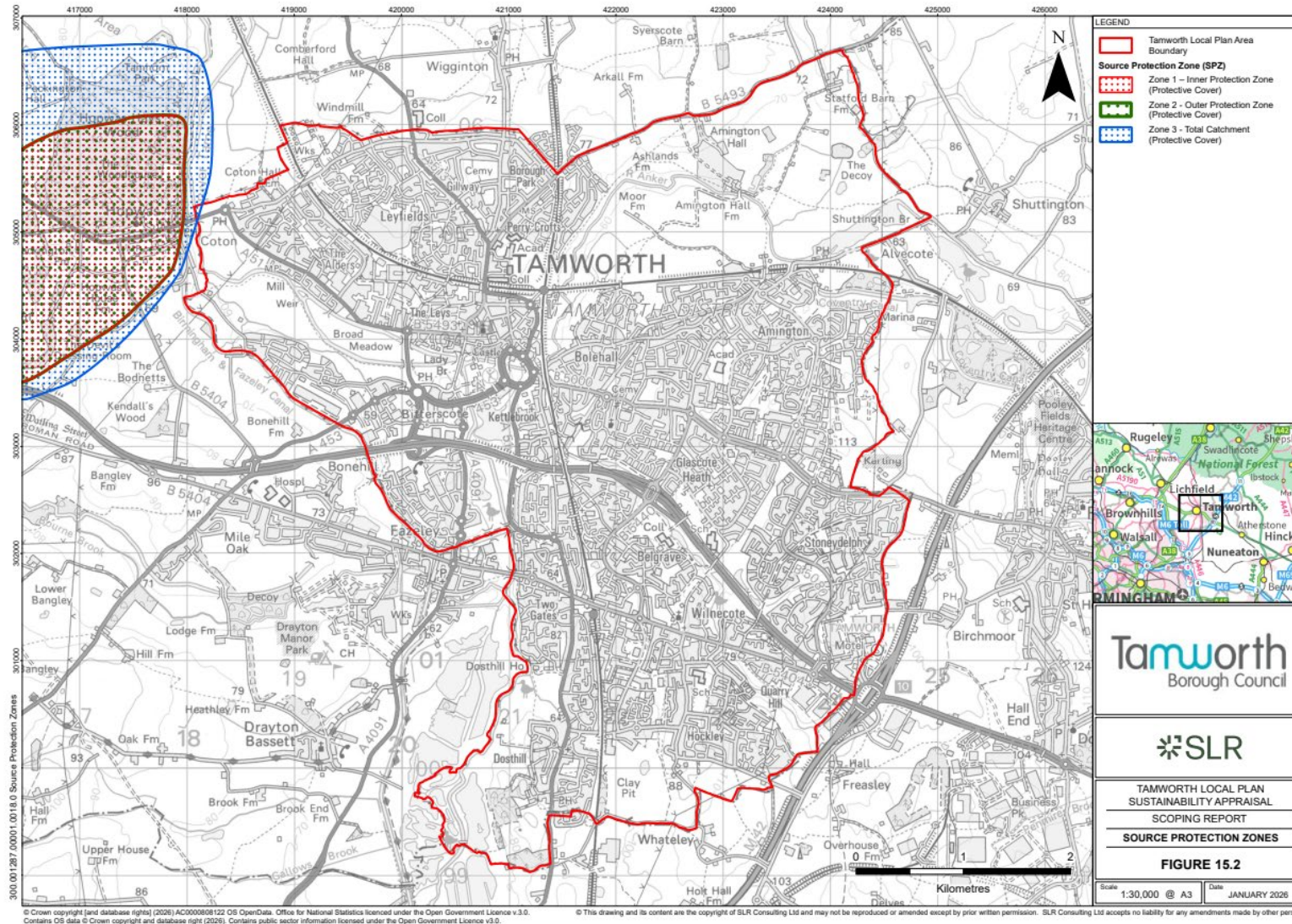
Whilst not within Tamworth itself, there is a Source Protection Zone to the west of the town, on Tamworth Road, presented within **Figure 15-2**. The zones are defined using models to estimate how long it will take for groundwater to travel below ground (any point below the water table) to the source (the point where water is taken)²⁴⁰. It is important that the areas surrounding the source are protected from potential pollution due to the proximity to drinking water sources.

²³⁹ BGS, Groundwater Vulnerability [Groundwater vulnerability data - British Geological Survey](#) (Accessed 28/01/2026)

²⁴⁰ Gov.UK, Source Protection Zones [Source Protection Zones \[Merged\] - data.gov.uk](#) (Accessed 06/01/2026)



Figure 15-2 Source Protection Zones in Tamworth



Minerals

Tamworth has a history of coal and clay extraction²⁴¹. Historically, Tamworth was part of the South Staffordshire Coalfield. Several collieries operated in and around the area, including Amington Colliery, Beauchamp Colliery, Kettlebrook Colliery and Wilnecote Colliery. These sites were active during the industrial period but are no longer in operation.

The Glascote Clay Pit is one example of clay extraction in the area which supported local brickworks and ceramics industries. Kingsbury Works is the only operational brick and tile works in the Borough. It is operated by Wienerberger and located in Dosthill. There is also a permitted minerals site in Dosthill.

15.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Tamworth is a small Borough which is comprised of predominantly urban land with small areas of Grade 2 and Grade 3 agricultural land on the edges of the Borough. Over time, the amount of available and suitable land for development will continue to decline, making it increasingly challenging to meet future needs. This will place increasing pressure on Tamworth's small stock of greenfield land;
- The soil is predominantly composed of loamy and clayey soils with high groundwater, which may limit agricultural productivity and drainage in the small areas of agricultural land within the Borough;
- New development could lead to increased soil compaction and erosion, particularly during the construction phase of development, which may increase flood risk;
- Disruption to soils due to the construction phase of development will lead to the release of CO₂, as well as impede the ability of the soil to sequester carbon;
- All of the waterbodies within the Borough are currently achieving 'moderate' or 'poor' ecological status. Reasons for this include sewage discharge, urban development, trade/ industry discharge, quarrying, and poor livestock management;
- There is a need to improve water quality within the River Tame and River Anker catchments;
- Population growth will increase demand on already stressed water resources and waste treatment infrastructure. SuDS, water-efficient development and improvements to watercourses, including more naturalisation, are needed to manage future demand and climate change impacts;
- There are areas of high and medium-high groundwater vulnerability within Tamworth. The areas surrounding the Source Protection Zone to the west of

²⁴¹ Mindat, Tamworth [Tamworth, Staffordshire, England, UK](https://www.mindat.org/loc-100000.html) (Accessed 08/08/2025)



the town need to be protected from potential pollution due to the proximity to drinking water sources; and

- There is a need to safeguard existing mineral resource areas.

15.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

Continual growth in the Borough and the increasing demand for housing and employment sites is likely to lead to a greater consumption of natural resources, including minerals. It is also likely to lead to an increase in water demand in the Borough, placing increasing strain on water resources (along with climate change) and wastewater treatment.

Inappropriate development may come forward that leads to impacts on land, water and soil quality, meaning that waterbodies within the Borough will continue to fail good status targets. Increases to flood risk may also occur due a lack of consideration of cumulative and downstream flood risks, as well as the implementation of impermeable surfacing in inappropriate locations.

15.4 Data Gaps

A new Water Cycle Study is likely to be commissioned for Tamworth Borough shortly. This study will ascertain whether there is sufficient availability of water supply and capacity to treat wastewater in both the network and wastewater treatment works for growth proposed both in Tamworth and in neighbouring districts also reliant on the same infrastructure.

The Tamworth Borough Council Statutory Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy is due for a review, and is likely to be updated in coming years.



16.0 Waste

16.1 Baseline

Tamworth's waste stream is made up of a variety of materials, including landfill waste, common dry recyclables, food and green garden waste, hazardous waste, industrial waste, construction and demolition waste, and materials including textiles, electricals and cleaning chemicals. Tamworth Borough Council and Lichfield District Council operate in partnership through a Joint Waste Service (JWS) and are responsible for waste disposal across the Borough. There are two recycling centres which serve the Borough's population:

- Lichfield Recycling Centre; and
- Lower House Farm Recycling Centre.

There are a number of key partnerships associated with waste management in Tamworth²⁴²:

- Staffordshire Waste Partnership (SWP): An informal collaboration comprising ten councils in Staffordshire, including Staffordshire County Council, Stoke-on-Trent City Council, and eight district and borough councils. The SWP aims to promote sustainable waste management practices across the county;
- Staffordshire Waste Officers Group (SWOG): A subgroup within the SWP, consisting of waste management officers from the member councils. SWOG meets bi-monthly to discuss operational matters, share best practices, and coordinate waste management strategies across Staffordshire;
- Staffordshire Sustainability Board (SSB): A board comprising senior officers and members responsible for environmental sustainability including waste management within the SWP councils; and
- Communications Recycling Officers Group (CROG) A group focused on recycling and communication campaigns within Staffordshire. The CROG collaborates on campaigns, such as waste minimisation efforts and organizes events to promote recycling and sustainable waste practices among residents.

Tamworth's Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) is disposed of through landfill, incineration, composting, and recycling. Food Waste collection is not currently available but is set to be introduced in 2026. Waste that cannot be recycled or composted is incinerated at Energy from Waste Facilities (EfW) which provides energy for the National Grid. In line with the Environment Act 2021, household waste in the Borough must be collected separately from recycling.

The proportion of waste which is being incinerated at EfW facilities in the UK has increased drastically over the past decade. In Tamworth, all household waste which

²⁴² JWS Lichfield District and Tamworth Borough 2025-2026 business plan [Agenda+item+7a+-+Joint+waste+business+plan+-+2025+-+2026+-+draft.pdf](#)



is disposed of in black bins is sent to Four Ashes EFW plant which is operated by Veolia UK in Wolverhampton.

In respect of recycling performance, the percentage of household waste sent for recycling in 2023-24 in Tamworth was 39%²⁴³, as shown in Table 16-1. Recycling rates were lower than those in nearby local authorities of Lichfield, North Warwickshire and South Derbyshire and across England, and the quantity of waste collected per person was higher. Tamworth performed better than all neighbouring local authorities and the England average with respect to their recycling contamination rate.

Table 16-1: Recycling Rates for Tamworth and Neighbouring Authorities between 2023 and 2024²⁴⁴

	Tamworth	Lichfield	North Warwickshire	England
Household recycling rate (%)	39	45	48	42
Collected waste per person (kg)	494	455	451	467
Recycling contamination rate (%)	1	3	5	6

Source: GOV.UK - Annual Recycling League Table

The household recycling rate in Tamworth has decreased significantly since 2015, reaching their lowest rate in the financial year of 2022-23, as shown in Figure 16-1. Whilst less pronounced, this trend was visible across England as a whole. Recycling rates increased during 2023-24 in Tamworth, Lichfield and England. As shown in Figure 16-2, Tamworth produces marginally more waste per person per year than the average across Lichfield and England.

²⁴³ Recycling Rates for Local Authorities. [Waste management - Local Authority Data Explorer](#) (Accessed 06/07/2025)

²⁴⁴ Recycling Rates for Local Authorities. [Waste management - Local Authority Data Explorer](#) (Accessed 06/07/2025)



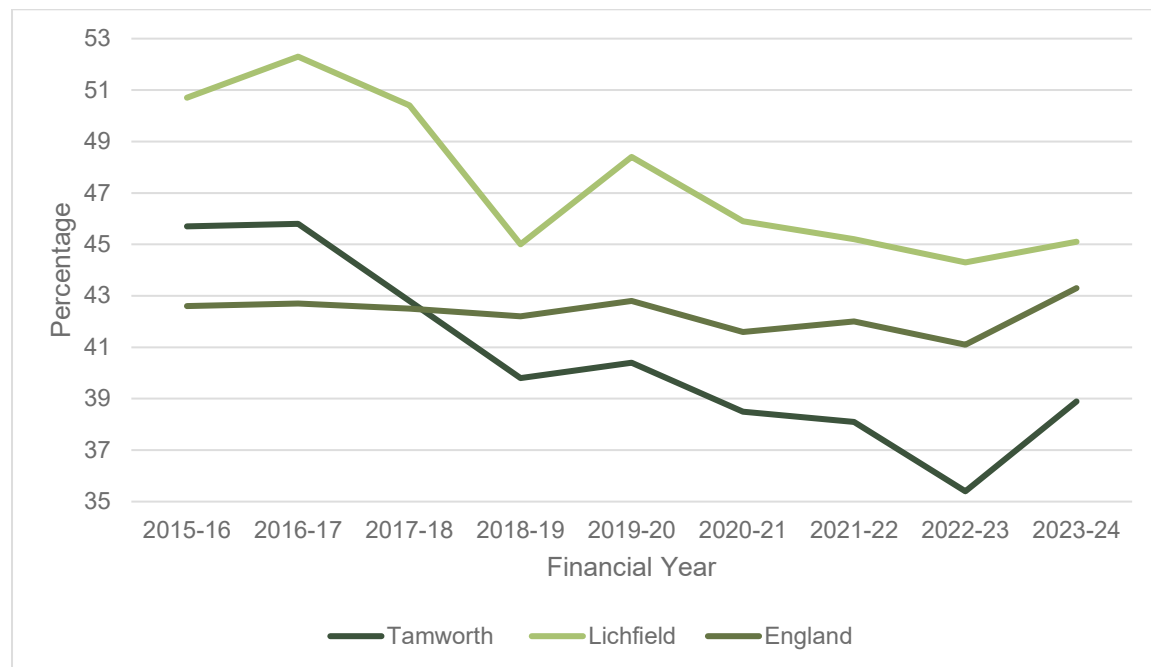


Figure 16-1: Percentage Household Recycling Rates in Tamworth and England over time²⁴⁵

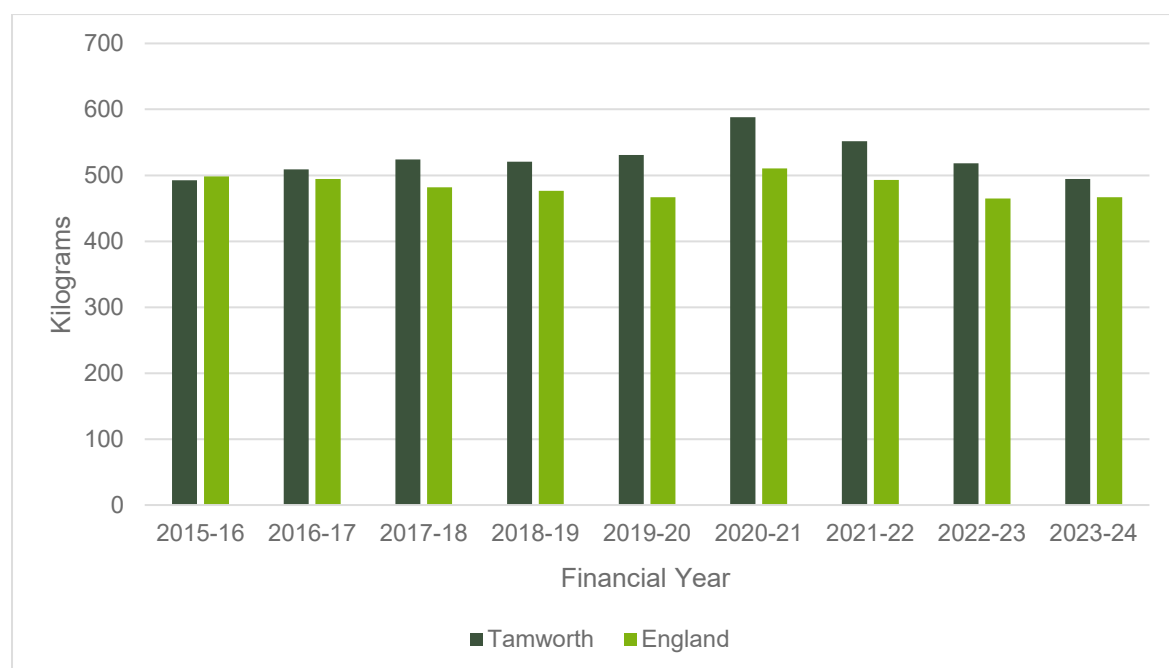


Figure 16-2: Quantity of household waste per person in Tamworth over time (kg)²⁴⁶

²⁴⁵ Recycling Rates for Local Authorities. [Waste management - Local Authority Data Explorer](#) (Accessed 04/07/2025)

²⁴⁶ Recycling Rates for Local Authorities. [Waste management - Local Authority Data Explorer](#) (Accessed 06/05/2025)



16.2 Key Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified:

- Local Authority Waste Collection (LAWC) includes landfill, recycling, composting and incineration;
- Recycling rates for LAWC in Tamworth are below the national average;
- Household recycling rates for LAWC in Tamworth decreased between 2015 and 2023, but increased during the 2023-24 financial year;
- The quantity of household waste produced in Tamworth is greater than the national average;
- In order to implement the circular economy, new developments need to ensure that there is adequate space for waste separation; and
- To support the waste hierarchy, buildings should be repurposed and demolition waste should be recycled where possible.

16.3 Likely Evolution without the Local Plan

With an increasing population within the Borough, it is likely that the amount of waste produced will continue to rise. Offering more options for waste disposal, such as the introduction of food waste bins, would help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. Development within the Borough could produce waste from construction.

16.4 Data Gaps

An update to the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2007-2020) is currently being prepared.



17.0 The Proposed SA Framework

This chapter presents the proposed SA Framework (**Table 17-1**) containing SA Objectives and decision making considerations. The Local Plan and its alternatives will be tested against the SA Objectives. These objectives are supported by decision making considerations, which will be used to help guide the assessment of the plan and its alternatives. The considerations included in the Framework should not be interpreted as an exhaustive list, and they may not be applicable in every circumstance. Baseline data evidence will also be referred to when using the SA Framework to assess the Local Plan and its alternatives.

The structure of the SA Framework has been drawn from the consultants' experience of developing assessment frameworks. The SA Objectives and decision making considerations have been developed to address the key messages from the PPP review and the Sustainability Issues, as demonstrated within Appendix B.

Changes to the SA Framework resulting from stakeholder engagement are shown using **red text**. Changes resulting from statutory consultee comments are shown in underlined text.

An SA Framework compatibility matrix has also been included within this chapter (**Table 17-3**) to provide a holistic overview of how the SA objectives interact with each other. The inclusion of the matrix supports the following requirement of the SEA Directive²⁴⁷:

"The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors."

The matrix will help to pinpoint where one objective may undermine another (e.g. housing and biodiversity), allowing early identification of where careful mitigation and management will be needed within the Local Plan. This may not mean that the SA objectives are completely incompatible however, as some aspects of the objectives may undermine, whilst others support (e.g. economy and housing). The matrix will also help to pinpoint where one objective may support another (e.g. health and transport), allowing multi-benefit policies to be designed.

²⁴⁷ [A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive](#) (Accessed 01/10/25)



Table 17-1: SA Framework

Proposed SA Objective	Decision Making Considerations (Does the policy or option...?)
SA1 Economy: To deliver economic growth and support the creation of new businesses, whilst supporting the growth and retention of existing businesses	• Protect and retain the right amount of land to address existing and new business and employment needs? • Encourage and support high value businesses that will enhance the local economy? • Promote economic regeneration opportunities? • Support the local economy to become more diverse and resilient? • Enables centres, including the town centre, to enhance their viability and vitality? • Support the visitor economy and leisure sector? • Support flexible working practices through the provision of digital infrastructure and connectivity?
SA2 Employment: To create greater employment opportunities and high value jobs for all across the Borough	• Help to widen and diversify the local employment market? • Support the provision of high value local jobs? • Contribute to enhancing educational and training opportunities/skills?
SA3 Accessibility: Improve local accessibility to education, healthcare, employment, community, recreational and cultural facilities	• Ensure everyone has equitable access to local services and facilities, including: - Education facilities? - Health facilities? - Employment facilities? - Community facilities? - Recreation facilities? - Cultural facilities? • Protect and enhance existing facilities and services which meet local needs? • Deliver new facilities and services to meet an identified local need? • Increase education facility provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities? <u>Increase capacity to provide education provision for children with SEND to meet identified needs?</u> • Ensure everyone has safe and convenient access to local services and facilities within a reasonable distance (appropriate to the type of facility)? • Ensure development is built to accessible and inclusive design standards to address the needs of a range of users, including those who are disabled, elderly, and families with children?



Proposed SA Objective	Decision Making Considerations (Does the policy or option...?)
SA4 Health: Maintain and improve the mental and physical health and wellbeing of residents	• Promote good health, including healthy behaviours <u>and</u> active lifestyles? • <u>Reduce health inequalities between communities?</u> • Support the mental health of residents? • Increase and/or improve access to health facilities and services? • Increase and/or improve access to green infrastructure/open space? • Encourage the protection of allotments and encourage the delivery of new spaces to grow food? • Encourage easy access to healthy food?
SA5 Quality of Life: Create safe and attractive places which contribute towards quality of life and community cohesion	• Provide attractive and inclusive places which provide opportunities for communities to interact, including those with sensory and mobility issues? • Reduce opportunities for crime and promote feelings of safety? • Ensure that everyone has access to a range of facilities to meet their everyday needs? • Improve quality of and access to cultural heritage? • Ensure that everyone has access to a range of different types of outdoor space? • Ensure provision of private amenity space? • Reduce inequalities associated with deprivation across the Borough?
SA6 Housing: To deliver a range of housing sites and ensure everyone has access to high quality and affordable housing, which meets the needs of all residents	• Increase the delivery of homes built to accessible and adaptable standards? • Improve the condition and sustainability of the existing housing stock to improve climate change resilience and living environment? • Contribute towards <u>meeting</u> housing need and deliver new homes? • Contribute towards meeting identified needs for all sections of society, including the provision of affordable homes and specialist homes? • Support all residents to live independently? • Ensure that an appropriate mix of dwelling size, type and tenure is provided? • Provide self-build and custom-build housing opportunities? • Avoid the loss of, or other negative impact on, the Borough's existing housing stock?
SA7 Sustainable Travel: Reduce or minimise the need to travel and promote the use of sustainable travel modes	• Encourage new development to be located within an accessible distance to facilities, services and, for example, jobs in order to reduce journey length/time and/or the need to travel? • Maximise access to public transport services by improving public transport connections to new and existing destinations?



Proposed SA Objective	Decision Making Considerations (Does the policy or option...?)
including walking, cycling and public transport usage.	• Maximise opportunities for active travel (including walking and cycling) by improving and creating safe and secure active travel networks?
SA8 Air, Light and Noise Pollution: Minimise air, light and noise pollution and ensure that future growth does not lead to the deterioration of environmental conditions	• Maintain and improve air quality within the Borough? • Ensure that new and existing communities are not adversely affected by poor air quality? • Minimise noise pollution, ensuring that sensitive receptors, including new and existing communities are not adversely affected by ambient noise? • Avoid exacerbating light pollution by keeping external lighting to the minimum required for safety and security?
SA9 Soils and Water Pollution: Minimise soils and water pollution and ensure that future growth does not lead to the deterioration of environmental conditions	• Protect and maintain soil quality • Prevent soil pollution? • Improve or remediate contaminated land? • <u>Protect groundwater quality in source protection zones?</u> • Maintain and improve surface water and groundwater quality?
SA10 Minimising Contributions to Climate Change: Reduce emissions that contribute toward climate change and support the achievement of a net zero carbon Borough	• Minimise carbon emissions from new developments, both in their construction and future use, through energy efficiency and sustainable use of materials? • Encourage the re-use of existing buildings? • Reduce carbon emissions of existing buildings? • Reduce the need to travel by private vehicle? • Support the shift towards use of electric and ultralow emissions vehicles (ULEVs)? • Encourage renewable energy generation or use of energy from renewable sources to minimise greenhouse house emissions?
SA11 Adaptation to Climate Change: Adapt to the effects of climate change including extreme weather and overheating and strengthen climate change	• Ensure new development is designed to withstand future climate change (e.g. overheating, increased storm severity and to withstand extreme weather changes)? • Ensure surface and groundwater water resources are used efficiently?
SA12 Flood Risk: Minimise current and future flood risk	• Reduce flood risk and ensure new development provides sustainable urban drainage? • Ensure new development is directed away from areas of fluvial flood risk? • <u>Restore watercourses to a more natural state?</u>



Proposed SA Objective	Decision Making Considerations (Does the policy or option...?)
SA13 Biodiversity: Safeguard and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and improve connectivity between functional habitats	• Avoid adverse effects on internationally designated habitats sites? • Maintain and enhance nature conservation assets, including nationally and locally designated wildlife sites? • Supports the achievement of biodiversity net gain (BNG) in new developments? • Support habitat connectivity through linking existing and new functional habitats and creating an improved network of blue and green infrastructure across the Borough? • Improve non-designated habitat maintenance? • Protect sites of geological importance?
SA14 Historic Environment: Conserve and enhance the significance of heritage and archaeological assets and their settings	• Conserve and enhance designated and non-designated heritage, cultural and archaeological assets, historic landscapes and features, and their settings? • Improve the condition of the historic environment including heritage at risk, through conservation and renewal efforts? • Maintain and enhance access to and understanding of heritage, cultural and archaeological assets and features for enjoyment and educational purposes? • Ensure that new development uses existing historic character and heritage significance to guide design? • Encourage heritage-led regeneration? • Encourage the re-use, retention and repair of historic assets?
SA15 Landscape and Townscape: Protect and enhance local distinctiveness and landscape and townscape quality	• Maintain and strengthen local landscape and townscape character and distinctiveness? • Avoid coalescence of settlements and/or urban sprawl? • Promote high quality design which successfully responds to its context such as edge of settlement or urban environments? • Improve the appearance landscape and/or townscape? • Safeguard natural landscape and townscape features such as trees and hedgerows?
SA16 Land Resources: Ensure the efficient use of land and mineral resources	• Protect Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land? • Prioritise the development of previously developed, degraded, and/or under-used land? • Avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources and safeguard existing mineral resource areas?



Proposed SA Objective	Decision Making Considerations (Does the policy or option...?)
SA17 Waste: Minimise the generation of waste and effectively manage waste that is created in line with the Circular Economy	• Enable waste to be treated in line with circular economy principles (e.g. recycling, re-using, composting)? • Require adequate waste separation facilities in new and existing developments in order to encourage more recycling? • Support the circular use of the built environment by encouraging the repurposing and refurbishing of buildings, instead of demolition? • Safeguard existing waste management sites as key infrastructure for enabling circular economy practices?

Table 17-2: SA Matrix Key

Key	Explanation
✓	SA objectives may support each other
✗	SA objectives may undermine each other
	SA objectives have no/minimal relationship

Table 17-3: SA Framework Compatibility Matrix

	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
SA1		✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
SA2	✓		✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗



	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
SA3	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	✓	×	×
SA4	×	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×
SA5	×	×	✓	✓		✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	×	×
SA6	×	×	✓	✓	✓		×	×	×	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×
SA7	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×		✓	×	✓	×	×	✓	✓	✓	×	×
SA8	×	×	×	✓	×	×	✓		×	✓	×	×	✓	×	×	×	×
SA9	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		×	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓	×
SA10	×	×	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	×		✓	×	×	✓	×	×	×
SA11	×	×	×	✓	×	✓	×	×	✓	✓		✓	×	×	✓	×	×
SA12	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	✓		×	×	×	×	×
SA13	×	×	×	×	✓	×	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×		×	✓	✓	×
SA14	×	×	✓	×	✓	×	✓	×	×	✓	×	×	×		✓	×	✓
SA15	×	×	✓	×	✓	×	✓	×	×	×	✓	×	✓	✓		✓	×
SA16	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×	✓	×	✓		×
SA17	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×	



18.0 Next Steps

The next stage of the SA is Stage B in which plan alternatives are tested against the SA Framework. Information on the relative sustainability performance of alternatives will be used to inform decision making before the preferred options are developed into a draft Local Plan and that is in turn tested against the SA Framework. The formal SA Report will be prepared (SA Stage C) to accompany the draft Local Plan during consultation (SA Stage D).

Consultation comments and any changes made to the draft Local Plan will be considered and, if necessary, changes made to update the SA prior to further consultation or submission of the Local plan.



C.2 Full PPP Review





Tamworth Borough Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Post- Consultation Scoping Report

Post Consultation Scoping Report

Tamworth Borough Council

Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth, B79 7BZ

Prepared by:

SLR Consulting Limited

7th Floor, 36 Great Charles Street, Birmingham, B3 3JY

SLR Project No.: 300.001287.00001

5 February 2026

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
1	21 August 2025	LJ	VP	VP
2	2 October 2025	LJ	VP	VP
3	29 October 2025	LJ	VP	VP
4	5 February 2026	LJ	VP	VP

Basis of Report

This document has been prepared by SLR Consulting Ltd (SLR) with reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescales and resources devoted to it by agreement with Tamworth Borough Council (the Client) as part or all of the services it has been appointed by the Client to carry out. It is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment.

SLR shall not be liable for the use of or reliance on any information, advice, recommendations and opinions in this document for any purpose by any person other than the Client. Reliance may be granted to a third party only in the event that SLR and the third party have executed a reliance agreement or collateral warranty.

Information reported herein may be based on the interpretation of public domain data collected by SLR, and/or information supplied by the Client and/or its other advisors and associates. These data have been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

The copyright and intellectual property in all drawings, reports, specifications, bills of quantities, calculations and other information set out in this report remain vested in SLR unless the terms of appointment state otherwise.

This document may contain information of a specialised and/or highly technical nature and the Client is advised to seek clarification on any elements which may be unclear to it.

Information, advice, recommendations and opinions in this document should only be relied upon in the context of the whole document and any documents referenced explicitly herein and should then only be used within the context of the appointment.



Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	3
2.0	Overarching Documents	3
3.0	Review of Documents by Topic.....	6

19.0 Introduction

This appendix presents the findings of the review of Policies, Plans and Programmes (PPP) including relevant international, national and local documents undertaken as a part of the Scoping Process (Stage A) of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.

The Planning Practice Guidance²⁴⁸ states that:

“The sustainability appraisal should only focus on what is needed to assess the likely significant effects of the Local Plan. It should focus on the environmental, economic and social impacts that are likely to be significant. It does not need to be done in any more detail, or using more resources, than is considered to be appropriate for the content and level of detail in the Local Plan”.

The review of PPP has therefore focused on the documents that could have an influence on the Tamworth Borough Council Local Plan and is not an exhaustive list of documents prepared in the UK under each topic.

20.0 Overarching Documents

There are a number of key overarching documents, including the SEA Directive, the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024. Relevant messages from the NPPF have been set out within Section 2 of the main report and are also included within the tables within Section 3 of this document.

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy ‘Securing the Future’ was published in 2005. The document set out some guiding principles for sustainable development:



²⁴⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal#sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-local-plans>

More recently, is the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development²⁴⁹ a historic global agreement to eradicate extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice and leave no one behind. Agreed by world leaders at the UN in 2015, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)²⁵⁰ succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The SDGs are universal with all signatories expected to contribute to them internationally and deliver them domestically. The UK is committed to the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals by ensuring that the Goals are fully embedded in planned activity of each Government department. The 17 SDGs include the following:

1. End poverty in all its form everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

²⁴⁹ Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (October 2015)
https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

²⁵⁰ Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals--2>

Furthermore, the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan (2018) sets out their approach to protecting and enhancing England's natural landscapes and habitats for the next generation. The goals of the 25 year plan are:

To achieve:

1. Clean air
2. Clean and plentiful water
3. Thriving plants and wildlife
4. A reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought
5. Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently
6. Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment.

To manage pressures on the environment by:

1. Mitigating and adapting to climate change
2. Minimising waste
3. Managing exposure to chemicals
4. Enhancing biosecurity.

The plan also sets out how it will follow a 'natural capital' approach to help make key choices and decisions that can support environmental enhancement and help deliver benefits such as reduced long-term flood risk, increases in wildlife, and a boost to long term prosperity. 'Natural capital' is defined in the Plan as:

"Natural capital is the sum of our ecosystems, species, freshwater, land, soils, minerals, our air and our seas. These are all elements of nature that either directly or indirectly bring value to people and the country at large."

21.0 Review of Documents by Topic

Table 4: Economy and Employment

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
National	
This original report was published in 2012 with a key aim of creating fair employment and good work for all. The report was reviewed in 2022 to see what changes had been made in the ten years since its publication. Findings included: • Employment rates have increased since 2010; • There has been an increase in poor quality work, including part time, insecure employment; • The number of people on zero hours contracts has increased significantly since 2010; • The incidence of stress caused by work has increased since 2010; • Real pay is still below 2010 levels and there has been an increase in the proportion of people in poverty living in a working household; and • Automation is leading to job losses, particularly for low paid, part time workers; the North of England will be particularly affected.	Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 years on, 2022
Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has an overarching economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure. (Para 85) Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. The approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future. (Para 86) Planning policies should: • Set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to the national industrial strategy and any relevant Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration; • Set criteria, and identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period; • Pay particular regard to facilitating development to meet the needs of a modern economy, including by	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
identifying suitable locations for uses such as laboratories, gigafactories, data centres, digital infrastructure, freight and logistics; • Seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment; and • Be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, and allow for new and flexible working practices and spaces to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances. (Para 87) Planning policies and decisions should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors. This includes making provision for: • Clusters or networks of knowledge and data-driven, creative or high technology industries; and for new, expanded or upgraded facilities and infrastructure that are needed to support the growth of these industries (including data centres and grid connections); • Storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations that allow for the efficient and reliable handling of goods, especially where this is needed to support the supply chain, transport innovation and decarbonisation; and • The expansion or modernisation of other industries of local, regional or national importance to support economic growth and resilience. (Para 88d) Planning policies and decisions should enable the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.	
Local planning authorities can take a leading role in promoting a positive vision for these areas [city and town centres, district and local centres], bringing together stakeholders and supporting sustainable economic and employment growth. Amended from the 2019 publication to reflect changes to the Use Class Order.	National Planning Practice Guidance, Town Centres and Retail, 2020
The Industrial Strategy sets out a long term plan to boost the productivity and earning power of people throughout the UK. It sets out how the Government are working towards building a Britain fit for the future – how they will help businesses create better, higher-paying jobs in every part of the UK with investment in the skills, industries and infrastructure of the future. The strategy includes 5 foundations: • Ideas: the world's most innovative economy; • People: good jobs and greater earning power for all; • Infrastructure: a major upgrade to the UK's infrastructure;	UK Industrial Growth Strategy, 2017

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Business environment: the best place to start and grow business; and • Places: prosperous communities across the UK. The Government will use this strategy to work with industry, academia and civil society over the coming years to build on the UK's strengths, make more of untapped potential and create a more productive economy that works for everyone across the UK.	
The National Infrastructure Delivery Plan brings together the government's plans for economic infrastructure over the next 5 years with those to support delivery of housing and social infrastructure. Objectives of the plan relating to infrastructure delivery include the following: • To meet current demand through the renewal of existing infrastructure; • To meet future demand; • To grow a global economy; and • To address climate change and energy security.	National Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016-2021, Infrastructure & Projects Authority, 2016
The Enterprise Act includes measures to: • Establish a Small Business Commissioner to help small firms resolve issues; • Extend the Primary Authority scheme to make it easier for businesses to access tailored and assured advice from local authorities, giving them greater confidence to invest and grow; and • Protect and strengthen apprenticeships by introducing targets for apprenticeships in public sector bodies in England.	The Enterprise Act, 2016
Sets out the Government's framework for raising productivity and is built around two pillars: • Encouraging long-term investment in economic capital, including infrastructure, skills and knowledge; and • Promoting a dynamic economy that encourages innovation and helps resources flow to their most productive use. Includes policies regarding: • A modern transport system, with a secure future; • Reliable and low-carbon energy, at a price we can afford; • World-class digital infrastructure in every part of the UK; • A dynamic economy; and • Planning freedoms and more houses to buy.	Fixing the Foundations: Creating a more prosperous nation, HM Treasury, 2015

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The World Economic Forum in 2020 identified that tackling the global nature crisis could create 400 million jobs and \$10trn in business value each year by 2030. Green jobs will be a significant part of employment creation opportunities in the future.	World Economic Forum Annual meeting 2020
'Build Back Better: our plan for growth' is replacing the industrial strategy, and works alongside the Ten Point Plan for Green industrial Revolution, in order: • To level up the whole of the UK; • Support the transition to net zero; and • Support the vision for a Global Britain.	Build Back Better, Our Plan for Growth, HM Treasury, 2021
The green paper sets out the Government's vision for a modern industrial strategy; a 10-year plan to deliver the certainty and stability businesses need to invest in the high growth sectors that will drive our growth mission. It will provide the firm foundation for investment that businesses need, allowing businesses to plan for the next 10 years and beyond.	Invest 2035: the UK's modern industrial strategy, 2024
Local	
Working in conjunction with local authorities and universities as local anchor institutions, the Combined Authority will deliver conditions for growth through: • New powers over economic development- Investing £88m from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, targeting the £33m West Midlands Innovation Accelerator, the £23m Commonwealth Games Business and Tourism Programme and leading a rejuvenated business support system that capitalises on the private sector offer and expertise across the West Midlands; • Transport investment- Investing in transport corridors that drive development with £363 million invested in 2021/2022 and over £1 billion in transport funding secured for the next five years; • Housing and land investment- Making our mark with over £600 million of devolved housing and land funds secured, hundreds of hectares of land unlocked and a revolution in brownfield development; • Pioneering new approaches to regeneration- Bringing affordable, modular and net zero homes to our towns and cities; • Skills- Delivering a £130 million annual Adult Education Budget (AEB), contributing to an almost 10% increase in 2020 alone in the proportion of the population with Level 3 skills; • Working with investors- Securing partnerships with investors to deliver growth and realise strong Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) commitments that boost investment, like the long-term agreements with major developers like L&G which will	West Midlands Combined Authority Plan for Growth, 2022

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
see £billions of private, patient capital invested across the region; and • Net zero- Committing ourselves to a regional net zero target by 2041 and pursuing landmark innovations in transport mobility, zero carbon buildings, smart local energy systems, the environment and affordable housing.	
The strategy uses the economy plus model to deliver the vision and is based on the strengths, challenges and opportunities faced across the area and the development of a strategic approach that focuses on priority actions, channels and principles. The eight priority actions are: • New manufacturing economy- harnessing the biggest concentrations of high value manufacturing businesses in Europe and their supply chains; • Creative and digital- further developing the area's vibrant and flourishing sector; • Environmental technologies- securing transformational environmental improvements; • Medical and life sciences- enabling the further growth of the medical and life sciences sector and supporting other businesses to diversify and become part of the sector's supply chain; • HS2 growth- maximising the benefits of the largest infrastructure project in Europe; • Skills for growth and employment for all- ensuring the skills needs of businesses are met and everybody can benefit from economic growth; • Housing- accelerating the delivery of current housing plans to increase the level of house building to support increased level of growth; and • Exploiting the economic geography- making the most of the scale and diversity of the West Midlands' geography to enable economic growth and community wellbeing throughout the urban core and rural areas.	West Midlands Combined Authority Strategy Economic Plan, 2016
The Local Industrial Strategy sets out the steps the West Midlands will take to: • Drive growth by strengthening the foundations of productivity; contributing towards the Grand Challenges; and taking advantage of market driven opportunities in mobility, data-driven health and life sciences, modern services, creative content, techniques and technologies; and • Ensure all communities can contribute to and benefit from economic prosperity whilst protecting and enhancing the environment; investing further in social infrastructure; measuring progress; and • Designing actions using a balanced set of inclusive indicators.	West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy, 2019

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The West Midlands Digital Roadmap sets out aspirations for the West Midlands to: • Become the UK's best connected region; • Use digital public services to build a fairer, greener and healthier region; and • Realise the potential of digital to transform the economy and build economic resilience.	West Midlands Digital Roadmap 2024-2027
The Strategic Plan outlines outcomes that the county council most wants to achieve, including that, "Everyone in Staffordshire will have access to more good jobs and share the benefits of economic growth." Key ambitions of the strategy include: • Tackle the challenges faced by many of our town centres and strive to create places that we can be proud of; • Create the conditions to allow more people to start and grow their business within Staffordshire, thereby addressing our relatively low levels of business start-ups across large parts of the county; • Address the low levels of skills across some parts of the county and support more of our residents to gain the high-level skills needed to take advantage of many better paid job opportunities; • Build upon our existing strengths and future opportunities to increase innovation activity throughout the county, both within our businesses and innovation institutions; • Play our part in supporting the substantial planned growth within the county through the development of investment ready projects and securing funding for our infrastructure and services; • Ensure we do not miss the substantial opportunities afforded by our location in the centre of the country by developing our key strategic A50 / A500 and A38 corridors; and • Put climate change at the heart of all that we do, including supporting businesses on their journey to Net Zero. To achieve this, the Council will: • Work with their partners to regenerate our town centres; • Support people to start and grow their business; • Develop investment-ready projects that will be vital to the future of the county; • Enable people to benefit from better paid, local job; • Develop A50 / A500 and A38 strategic corridors to enable businesses in Staffordshire to innovate and grow, as part of the wider West Midlands Region; and	Staffordshire Economic Strategy 2023-2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Encourage greater levels of innovation activity.	
The Visitor Economy Action Plan (VEAP) is intended to add value to existing activity and highlight where collaboration can reap greater rewards. The aims and deliverables of the plan are: - To make a strong contribution to economic growth and prosperity, supporting businesses, improving the product, and increasing the impact of marketing; - To make a strong contribution to achieving net zero by 2050, keeping the needs of the environment, communities, businesses and visitors in balance; and - To improve the quality of life for Staffordshire's communities and provide more opportunities for employment and enjoyment.	Staffordshire Visitor Economy Action Plan 2023-2026
The purpose of the Tamworth Investment Strategy is to illustrate the potential for future development and investment to regenerate the town and transform it into a vibrant centre that attracts businesses, visitors and residents, and that celebrates its rich historic environment. The Investment Strategy incorporates the following key sections: - A set of 'key moves' for the town centre that aim to create a better connected and high quality environment. The changes will improve the accessibility and vibrancy of the town attracting more residents and visitors; - A town centre framework that illustrates how key opportunities will come together to deliver a vibrant and people-friendly town centre; and - Illustrative layouts and a framework for how future development could evolve on three key identified sites, maximising the potential of currently under-utilised areas.	Tamworth Investment Strategy, 2023
This Economic Strategy and Action Plan establishes the following actions to improve economic prospects in Tamworth: - Establish a collaborative vehicle; - Boost the visitor economy by creating and promoting a brand and enhancing the offer; - Promote and support enterprise; - Improve the business accommodation offer; - Address economic inactivity; - Develop Lower Gungate; and - Invest in the Economic Development Team.	Tamworth Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan, 2025
The range of office land need in Tamworth starts at 0 ha in the net completions scenario to 4.2 ha in the Experian baseline. The Net Absorption scenario sits in the centre of this range at 1.3 ha. Given, market signals it would be appropriate to consider planning for a point at the upper end of this scale at 1ha. The need for industrial land ranges is very broad starting at 3.6 ha under the Experian scenario to 34 ha in the net	Lichfield and Tamworth Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment, 2025

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
absorption scenario. The gross and net completions scenarios both sit at around 20ha, with gross completions being higher at 24.6 ha. We considered that it would be reasonable to plan for an industrial need figure that sits toward the upper end of this range at 24 ha. In total, this would result in a total need for 25 ha of employment land in Tamworth.	
The Tamworth Town Centre and Retail Study 2025 updates retail and town centre needs across the Borough to 2043. The study provides the following strategic recommendations: • The role and function of town centres is evolving, and town centres will need to have a balanced mix of uses in order to be successful. Recent national and legislative updates provide the market with flexibility to do this, but it needs to be informed by strategic policy where necessary. A balanced mix of uses, offering interest and activity at different times of the day, will not only help increase footfall and patronage to a town centre, but also mean that people may spend longer in the centre, or visit more frequently. Tamworth town centre is currently underperforming in this respect, and the need to improve the diversity of the town centre (both in terms of range of uses, and quality of uses within individual ranges) should be considered a priority; • Retail will still continue to act as a key driver of footfall in town centres, but when experiencing competition as strong as the offer at Ventura, it will not be enough to sustain the long-term vitality of the town centre; • On this basis, it is strongly recommended that the new Local Plan contains specific policies setting out the Council's policy approach to supporting the long-term vitality of the town centre. This should make reference to supporting the diversification of the offer in the town centre, enhancement of its commercial leisure offer, and enhancement/diversification of its evening economy, and strengthening its tourism role; • Our analysis has not identified a requirement for significant additional retail floorspace to be planned for over the new Local Plan period, but a small positive need for additional comparison goods floorspace has been identified. These identified needs should be directed towards Tamworth town centre in the first instance in line with established national policy; • It should, however, be remembered that need forecasts are not a 'ceiling' for development and planning applications for retail and other main town centre uses should be considered on individual merits and, where necessary, demonstrate compliance with retail policy (sequential and retail impact) tests; • We have not identified a quantitative need for additional convenience goods retail floorspace, but in qualitative terms it is considered there is a case to support provision of a medium-sized foodstore in	Tamworth Town Centre and Retail Study, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Tamworth town centre in order to meet a gap in the town centre offer and support its long term vitality and viability; • Our analysis has forecast significant growth in the commercial leisure sector over the new Plan period. Whilst it is not possible to directly translate this into floorspace requirements, we expect there to be a need to plan for additional provision of this nature. Accordingly, proposals which seek to deliver additional floorspace of this nature should be supported in principle provided amenity, retail policy and other relevant considerations are met. Proposals for additional commercial leisure provision should be directed towards Tamworth town centre; • The Ventura Retail Warehousing is likely to be the default choice for shopping for many residents of the Borough. Its 'market share' appears to have grown since the Council's last retail study in 2011, and it has a shopper catchment that extends significantly wider than that of the town centre. There have been a number of enhancements to the offer at Ventura since the last retail study, including new floorspace and modernisation of existing floorspace stock, which appears to have cemented and grown its market share; and • It is understood that that much of the Ventura Retail Warehousing floorspace trades as open class A1/E, and in practical terms this limits the scope to which the Council can control its trading impacts vis-à-vis the town centre. However, we would recommend that the Council has clear development management policies in place which resist the creation of smaller-format units at Ventura, i.e. of the type which will more directly compete with the town centre offer.	
The vision of the Plan is to 'Build a Better Tamworth'. Five priorities, under pinned by key actions, have been identified to help achieve this vision. • Prosperity and place- Growth in the local economy by creating jobs and a Tamworth we are all proud of, ensuring financial stability for all: - Work with businesses to help them grow and create jobs; - Identify and address skills shortages; - Make the town centre more vibrant and accessible; - Regenerate and create spaces for people to use and enjoy; and - Promote tourism and nightlife by using our culture and heritage sites. • Environment- Achieve net-zero carbon emissions, protect the environment and enhance local biodiversity:	Tamworth Borough Council Corporate Plan 2025-2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Keep Tamworth's local areas clean; - Tackle fly tipping, littering and environmental offences; - Cut down on using carbon in our operations; - Collaborate with partners to protect the environment; and - Provide eco-friendly housing options. • Community wellbeing- Residents live safe, healthy and happy lives in communities that are cohesive, where diversity is celebrated: - Work with our partners to support children and vulnerable individuals' wellbeing; - Ensure our active health and wellbeing offer supports the improvement in residents physical and mental health; - Improve our offer to provide suitable homes and make good quality, eco-friendly and affordable housing available; - Work with our partners to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping; and - Work with our partners to reduce crime and help our residents feel safe. • Council- Being a caring, accessible and effective council that is financially resilient: - Being visible, accessible, approachable and accountable to the community; - Learn and work with communities to provide broader social benefits; and - Maintain balanced budgets in our financial strategies.	

Table 5: Population and Equalities

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
National	
(Para 96) Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which: • Promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other; • Are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and • Enable and support healthy lives, through both promoting good health and preventing ill-health, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs and reduce health	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
inequalities between the most and least deprived communities. (Para 98) To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should: • Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; • Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community; • Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs; • Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community; and • Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.	
The Localism Act 2011 sets out: • New freedoms and flexibilities for local government; • New rights and powers for communities and individuals; • Reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective; and • Reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally.	Localism Act, 2011
The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of: • Age; • Being or becoming a transsexual person; • Being married or in a civil partnership; • Being pregnant or having a child; • Disability; • Race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin; • Religion, belief or lack of religion/belief; • Sex; and • Sexual orientation.	Equality Act, 2010
The report brings together evidence about today's older population, with future trends and projections, to identify the most critical implications for government policy and the socio-economic resilience of the UK.	Future of an Ageing Population, Government Office for Science, 2016

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The report highlights the under provision of specialist housing for older people and the need to plan for the housing needs of the older population as well as younger people.	Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change Report: Ready for Ageing, 2013
Local	
The vision of the Strategic Transport Plan is “We will make great progress for a Midlands economic ‘Engine for Growth’, clean air, improved health and quality of life for the people of the West Midlands. We will do this by creating a transport system befitting a sustainable, attractive and economically vibrant conurbation in the world’s sixth largest economy.”. Relevant objectives to support the achievement of this vision include: • To improve the well-being of socially excluded people.	Movement for Growth: The West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan
There are three priority visions of the Communities Strategy, underpinned by key actions: • Great places where we live: - Strengthen our work with partners and residents to help people feel safer and more included within their communities; - Help residents to get more involved in tackling climate change, take care of our environment and make Staffordshire more sustainable; - Help people to have better access to thriving local areas, by improving our roads and developing a Local Transport Plan; and - Engage with our Borough, District, Town and Parish Councils, community groups and other external partners to understand and work with our communities better. • Connected communities: - Continue to work with and support our thriving Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector; - Make it easier for residents to find information, opportunities and connections that help them do their bit and be independent; - Connect people of all ages to the right help, at the right time, in the right place; and - Support people to become digitally included, informed, and connected across the county. • The way the Council listens, talks and acts: - Try our best to engage with residents earlier, more accessibly, more creatively, more consistently and more locally; - Change our approach to help residents get more involved, and support officers to understand how they can help; and	Staffordshire Communities Strategy 2024-2029

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Support all our councillors to access the local information they need.	
The aim of the Strategy is to integrate the council's equality and diversity activities into normal service delivery mechanisms, while at the same time encouraging departments to deliver their products and services in an innovative and creative way: 'We aim to create and maintain a community that embraces change and welcomes diversity; diversity helps to build such communities by celebrating differences and combining our talents.' To achieve this, the council continues to be committed to removing discrimination from public life. This includes major commitments that establish the council as a community leader. • The council is committed to ensure that it does not discriminate against employees or members of the public; • We want Tamworth to have a workforce that reflects the community it serves and to be seen as an employer of choice that values diversity and the perspectives it brings; • The council is working to make Tamworth a place free from discrimination; • People are proud to be who they are; • We strive to ensure that the contribution of all groups is valued; • Differences between people are welcomed; • Removing barriers to ensure that all groups have the same chances of success; and • The council will provide services that are inclusive and designed to meet customer needs, including those most vulnerable.	Tamworth Equality and Diversity Strategy, 2025-2028
The vision of the Plan is to 'Build a Better Tamworth'. Five priorities, under pinned by key actions, have been identified to help achieve this vision. • Prosperity and place- Growth in the local economy by creating jobs and a Tamworth we are all proud of, ensuring financial stability for all: - Work with businesses to help them grow and create jobs; - Identify and address skills shortages; - Make the town centre more vibrant and accessible; - Regenerate and create spaces for people to use and enjoy; and - Promote tourism and nightlife by using our culture and heritage sites. • Environment- Achieve net-zero carbon emissions, protect the environment and enhance local biodiversity: - Keep Tamworth's local areas clean;	Tamworth Borough Council Corporate Plan 2025-2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Tackle fly tipping, littering and environmental offences; - Cut down on using carbon in our operations; - Collaborate with partners to protect the environment; and - Provide eco-friendly housing options. • Community wellbeing- Residents live safe, healthy and happy lives in communities that are cohesive, where diversity is celebrated: - Work with our partners to support children and vulnerable individuals' wellbeing; - Ensure our active health and wellbeing offer supports the improvement in residents physical and mental health; - Improve our offer to provide suitable homes and make good quality, eco-friendly and affordable housing available; - Work with our partners to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping; and - Work with our partners to reduce crime and help our residents feel safe. • Council- Being a caring, accessible and effective council that is financially resilient: - Being visible, accessible, approachable and accountable to the community; - Learn and work with communities to provide broader social benefits; and - Maintain balanced budgets in our financial strategies.	
Tamworth Community Safety Partnership is a collection of statutory agencies working together to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour across the town. Key targets of the Plan are: • More positive outcomes for victims; • Increased positive promotion of actions and communications across all areas; • Reduction of repeat callers across all agencies; • Improvement of identification, monitoring and resolution of problems; • Increased use of proportionate intervention powers; and • Improved perception and feelings of safety Priority areas of focus between 2023 and 2026 are: • Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB); • Community Cohesion (including preventing radicalisation, exploitation and hate crime); • Domestic Abuse (Including stalking and harassment);	Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2023-2026

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Drug Related Crime and Harm (including the prevention of exploitation of young people – County Lines); • Public Place and Serious Violence (including Violence, Abuse and Intimidation of Women and Girls – VAIWG); and • Vehicle Crime Vulnerable Persons (the prevention of harm to persons at risk of criminal exploitation or becoming victims of crime).	

Table 6: Health

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
National	
(Para 96) Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which: • Promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other; • Are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and • Enable and support healthy lives, through both promoting good health and preventing ill-health, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs and reduce health inequalities between the most and least deprived communities. (Para 98) To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should: • Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; • Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community; • Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs; • Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community; and • Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
This document sets out information on the action plan for Year 2 of the Quality Matters initiative which is aimed at improving adult social care. It sets out 4 areas to make progress in the second year: • Supporting collaborative commissioning; • Collecting and using data; • Strengthening the feedback culture in the sector; and • Providing support for quality environment.	NHS Adult Social Care: Quality Matters Action Plan for Year 2, 2019
This mandate sets out the following priority objectives: • Reform to cut waiting times; • Reform to improve primary care access; • Reform to improve urgent and emergency care; • Reform to the operating model; and • Reform to drive efficiency and productivity. Funding expectations are also discussed.	Road to recovery: the Government's 2025 mandate to NHS England, 2025
The report brings together evidence about today's older population, with future trends and projections, to identify the most critical implications for government policy and the socio-economic resilience of the UK.	Future of an Ageing Population, Government Office for Science, 2016
The original Sporting Future Strategy (2015) for sport and physical activity concentrated on five key outcomes: • Physical wellbeing; • Mental wellbeing; • Individual development; • Social and community development; and • Economic development. The 2018 follow up report analysed data since the original strategy implementation, to understand its success.	Sporting Future- Second Annual Report, 2018
Reducing health inequalities is a matter of fairness and social justice. In England, the many people who are currently dying prematurely each year as a result of health inequalities would otherwise have enjoyed, in total, between 1.3 and 2.5 million extra years of life. Ensure a healthy standard of living for all; Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities; and Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.	Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review: Strategic review of health inequalities in England- post 2010
The framework sets out a high-level overview of public health outcomes. It has two high-level outcomes as follows: • Increase healthy life expectancy; and • Reduce differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities. It also has six policy objectives: • Give every child the best start in life;	Public Health Outcomes Framework, NHS, March 2023

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives; • Create fair employment and good work for all; • Ensure healthy standard of living for all; • Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities; and • Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention. The framework also examines indicators to help us better understand trends in public health. Since its inception, a number of indicators have been added, removed or altered in order to obtain the most effective data.	
This strategy outlines priorities to improve health nationally. Ten priorities were highlighted, and were split into four categories in order to promote a healthier, fairer, safer, and stronger nation. • Smoke-free society (healthier); • Healthier diets, healthier weight (healthier); • Creating cleaner air (healthier); • Better mental health (healthier); • Best start in life (fairer); • Effective responses to major incidents (safer); • Reduced risk from antimicrobial resistance (safer); • Predictive prevention (stronger); • Enhanced data and surveillance capabilities (stronger); and • New national science campus (stronger).	PHE Strategy 2020-2025
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. The Plan includes ten key targets, some of which interact with human health. • Helping people improve their health and wellbeing by using green spaces; • Encouraging children to be close to nature, in and out of school; • Greening our towns and cities; and • Making 2019 a Year of Action for the environment. It should also be noted that the 25YEP refers to the need to protect and enhance green and blue spaces – both for biodiversity and human health reasons.	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018
A newly implemented framework to expand the green and blue networks we have across the UK. The publication highlights the principles of green infrastructure, standards required based on quantity and quality, and a planning and design guide to help users understand the best way to design green infrastructure. The framework promotes the creation of connected, multifunctional green spaces that contribute to environmental	Green Infrastructure Framework- Principles and Standards for England, 2023

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
sustainability, climate resilience, biodiversity, and public wellbeing. It includes five core standards: • Green Infrastructure Strategy Standard; • Accessible Greenspace Standard; • Urban Nature Recovery Standard; • Urban Greening Factor Standard; and • Urban Tree Canopy Standard. The framework also highlights the role of green infrastructure in improving health outcomes, reducing flood risk, mitigating urban heat, and enhancing quality of life. It encourages equitable access to green space and supports local decision-making through evidence-based planning.	
Strategy aims that: • In every residential area there are a variety of supervised and unsupervised places for play, free of charge; • Local neighbourhoods are, and feel like, safe, interesting places to play; • Routes to children's play space are safe and accessible for all children and young people; • Parks and open spaces are attractive and welcoming to children and young people, and are well maintained and well used; • Children and young people have a clear stake in public space and their play is accepted by their neighbours; • Children and young people play in a way that respects other people and property; • Children and young people and their families take an active role in the development of local play spaces; and • Play spaces are attractive, welcoming, engaging and accessible for all local children and young people, including disabled children, and children from minority groups in the community.	Play Strategy for England; DCMS, 2008
Local	
The vision of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) is to: 'Increase people's connectivity through cycling and walking to employment, education and leisure, leading to positive changes in modal shift, enabling people to lead safer, healthier and more independent lives'. If funding opportunities arise, LCWIP appraisals, audits and business cases intend to be completed, when appropriate, to justify investment in the following: • Local cycle networks and walking zones in Staffordshire's smaller towns; • Expansion and upgrade of the National Cycle Network; • Upgrade of greenways and well-used leisure routes; • Potential use of disused rail lines;	Staffordshire County Council Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan 2021-2031

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Accessible canal towpaths in the vicinity of local settlements and canal side attractions; • Maximising the opportunity to enhance walking and cycle provision at the interfaces with HS2; and • Maximising the opportunity to create new walking and cycling infrastructure associated with strategic development sites.	
The vision of the Strategic Transport Plan is “We will make great progress for a Midlands economic ‘Engine for Growth’, clean air, improved health and quality of life for the people of the West Midlands. We will do this by creating a transport system befitting a sustainable, attractive and economically vibrant conurbation in the world’s sixth largest economy.”. Relevant objectives to support the achievement of this vision include: • To significantly increase the amount of active travel in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; • To significantly reduce the number and severity of road traffic casualties in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; • To assist with the reduction of health inequalities in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area.	Movement for Growth: The West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan
The vision of the strategy is: ‘Creating communities and environments that enable healthy choices and delivering high quality support to keep people independent and well.’ The ambition of the strategy is to reduce inequality and increase healthy life expectancy. The following principles will be used to achieve this: • Prioritising prevention and early intervention; • Engaging with communities to co-produce solutions; • Recognising the importance of voluntary organisations in improving health and wellbeing; • Recognising diversity and responding to inequalities and inequities; • Commissioning and delivering high quality services that provide excellent value for money for those who need them most, tailored to people’s needs; • Communicating clearly to make sure we are understood, and that information is accessible to everyone; • Being strengths-based, making the most of existing community assets and insight; • Having a good understanding of data, improving care coordination, and designing proactive models of care; • Ensuring that local people have access to the information and support they need to remain independent and stay well; • Developing the wider health and care workforce; and • Embracing digital solutions.	Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
<u>Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board has outlined a number of priority areas where attention and actions should be focused. These are:</u> • <u>Health in early life</u> • <u>Good mental health</u> • <u>Healthy weight</u> • <u>Healthy ageing</u>	
The Strategy will aim to achieve six outcomes: • Everyone can look after their own mental well-being and find support in their communities when they need it; • People have access to services when needed; • A timely response to crises; • There is equal access to support to improve mental well-being and services to manage mental health problems; • People with severe mental health problems are supported to live in the community and have good quality, integrated care; and • More integrated, good quality services for young people that focus on achieving independence in adulthood. The six strategy outcomes will form the basis of an action plan for this strategy. Delivery of the action plan will be monitored by the Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board every year.	Good Mental Health in Staffordshire 2023-2028
The vision of the Strategy is: 'We want Staffordshire to become a place where people living with disabilities and neurodivergences can do what matters to them; where they are valued and treated as equals in all aspects of society; and where they can live a healthier and better quality of life for longer.' Five outcomes the Strategy aims to achieve have been identified, all underpinned by key actions: • Staffordshire is more open and inclusive: - Co-ordinating training and awareness raising for 'all.'; and - Expanding 'Celebrating Differences' as a tool to record, share and grow good practice. • Stronger partnerships are built around and include disabled and neurodivergent people: - Continuing to establish the Disability Partnership Board and promoting inclusion and equality as a core theme for local partnerships; - The Council and Integrated Care Board (ICB) working closer together to improve outcomes; - Creating more safe spaces in Staffordshire; and - Ensuring Supportive Communities and Family Hubs link with disabled and neurodivergent people and professionals.	Living My Best Life: A joint strategy for disabled and neurodivergent people in Staffordshire 2023 - 2028

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Disabled and neurodivergent people are communicating their needs and action is being taken: - Expanding opportunities to give more people a voice (self-advocacy), so they can communicate confidently, be heard and influence action. • Disabled and neurodivergent people and their carers are better informed and in control: - Identifying people's preferences and making information, advice and guidance and signposting information more accessible to them; and - Making sure that existing information, advice and guidance is comprehensive. • In carrying out their responsibilities for care and support, the ICB and Council will consider the whole person's needs, aspirations and what they can do. It will not stop them doing what they want to do: - Reinforce a strengths-based approach across health and care; - Reduce health inequalities and improve access to NHS services; and - Ensure quality and value for money of dedicated services.	
Staffordshire County Council have set four strategic objectives for Health and Care in Staffordshire: • Promote good health and independence, and encourage and enable people to take personal responsibility for maintaining their well-being; • Ensure effective and efficient assessment of needs that offers fair access to services; • Maintain a market for care and support that offers services at an affordable price; and • Ensure best use of resources, people, data and technology. The Strategy identifies four priorities, underpinned by objectives: • Prevention- To support older people who don't require adult social care to live independently at home: - People will have the right information and advice to be able to maintain a healthy lifestyle and remain independent for longer; - Older people are able to stay connected to friends and the local community; and - People have the skills and technology to be able to make use of digital information and advice and can access information in traditional ways if they choose to. • Quality care- To ensure that when older people need adult social care support, that there are good quality services available:	Older People Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy, 2024-2029

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Improve the quality of care in Staffordshire. • Living Independently- To support older people who require adult social care to continue living at home for as long as possible: - Older people and their carers are able to access support when they need it; - People know how to access social care services when they need them; - Approaches to care recognise peoples' strengths and skills; and - Promote innovation and the use of technology to support people with care needs. • Care Homes- To ensure that when older people need adult social care support but can no longer stay at home, that the right support is available: - Enabling choice and control for people who have care needs; and - Older people are able to continue to stay connected to friends and the local community, and participate in activities within care homes and the wider community.	
The aim of the Staffordshire Suicide Prevention Strategy is to provide a multi-agency approach that enables all local partners to work together to reduce the suicide rate, and to better support those affected by suicide in Staffordshire. The following objectives have been implemented as part of the Strategy: • To implement the local elements of the national suicide prevention strategy; • To promote a life course approach to suicide prevention, better understanding the circumstances that might prompt people to desperate measures and to recognise the key risk groups for Staffordshire; • To provide a shared and valid baseline for measuring improvement in reducing suicide rates; • To address the Staffordshire Children's Board serious case review recommendation regarding reducing suicide and self-harm in adolescents; • To work across partners and with stakeholders to better understand effective interventions that will improve the current provision of services; and • To influence the commissioning intentions of local commissioners to address any identified gaps or shortfalls in services.	Staffordshire Suicide Prevention Strategy 2015/16-2020/21
Our vision is for 'Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to be a place where alcohol-related harm is minimised.' The following priorities have been identified as part of the Strategy:	Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Alcohol Strategy 2025-2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Children and families will be protected from the impact of alcohol; • People will drink alcohol responsibly and safely; • People will avoid using alcohol as a coping mechanism; • Services and communities will work together to build resilience and address alcohol-related harm; • People will enjoy safe and vibrant nighttime economies; and • Individuals with alcohol problems can recover and live fulfilling lives.	
The Tamworth Wellbeing Partnership is the task group of the Tamworth Strategic Partnership (TSP) and assist and advise the TSP in relation to health and wellbeing issues across the Borough. The partnership will adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to the development and delivery wellbeing priorities in Tamworth Borough. The approach of the partnership should contribute towards the wider health and wellbeing of all residents of Tamworth including: • Supporting a joined-up approach to health and wellbeing by incorporating 'health in all' in everything we do; and • Supporting the independence of vulnerable people especially older people, children and families. Aims of the Partnership include: • To encourage people to be engaged in developing strong communities that promote health and wellbeing; • To ensure that 'health in all' is fully integrated in the partnership approach and key development initiatives; • The partnership will lead and co-ordinate the development and delivery of projects and initiatives that contribute to improving the quality of life and the achievement of better outcomes for local people; and • To adopt a multi-agency partnership approach to delivery and lead agency for each initiative.	Tamworth Health and Wellbeing Partnership
The purpose of this study was to produce a strategic framework, audit, assessment and needs analysis of indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities for Tamworth Borough to: • Inform the Community Leisure Strategy; • Guide investment decisions; • Provide an evidence base for the Local Development Framework (LDF), including recommendations on the development of local planning standards and policy; and • Inform the Building Schools for the Future programme in Tamworth Borough.	Tamworth Borough Council Joint Indoor and Outdoor Sports Strategy, 2009
The vision of the Plan is to 'Build a Better Tamworth'. Five priorities, under pinned by key actions, have been identified to help achieve this vision.	Tamworth Borough Council Corporate Plan 2025-2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Prosperity and place- Growth in the local economy by creating jobs and a Tamworth we are all proud of, ensuring financial stability for all: - Work with businesses to help them grow and create jobs; - Identify and address skills shortages; - Make the town centre more vibrant and accessible; - Regenerate and create spaces for people to use and enjoy; and - Promote tourism and nightlife by using our culture and heritage sites. - Environment- Achieve net-zero carbon emissions, protect the environment and enhance local biodiversity: - Keep Tamworth's local areas clean; - Tackle fly tipping, littering and environmental offences; - Cut down on using carbon in our operations; - Collaborate with partners to protect the environment; and - Provide eco-friendly housing options. - Community wellbeing- Residents live safe, healthy and happy lives in communities that are cohesive, where diversity is celebrated: - Work with our partners to support children and vulnerable individuals' wellbeing; - Ensure our active health and wellbeing offer supports the improvement in residents physical and mental health; - Improve our offer to provide suitable homes and make good quality, eco-friendly and affordable housing available; - Work with our partners to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping; and - Work with our partners to reduce crime and help our residents feel safe. - Council- Being a caring, accessible and effective council that is financially resilient: - Being visible, accessible, approachable and accountable to the community; - Learn and work with communities to provide broader social benefits; and - Maintain balanced budgets in our financial strategies.	

Table 7: Housing

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
National	

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
(Para 61) To support the Government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes, it is important that a sufficient amount and variety of land can come forward where it is needed, that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed and that land with permission is developed without unnecessary delay. The overall aim should be to meet an area's identified housing need, including with an appropriate mix of housing types for the local community. (Para 62) To determine the minimum number of homes needed, strategic policies should be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning practice guidance. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for. Within this overall requirement, strategic policies should also set out a housing requirement for designated neighbourhood areas which reflects the overall strategy for the pattern and scale of development and any relevant allocations. (Para 63) Within this context of establishing need, the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies. These groups should include (but are not limited to): • Those who require affordable housing (including Social Rent); • Families with children; • Looked after children; • Older people (including those who require retirement housing, housing with-care and care homes); • Students; • People with disabilities; • Service families; • Travellers; • People who rent their homes; and • People wishing to commission or build their own homes. (Para 73) Small and medium sized sites can make an important contribution to meeting the housing requirement of an area, are essential for Small and Medium Enterprise housebuilders to deliver new homes, and are often built-out relatively quickly. (Para 64) Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required (including the minimum proportion of Social Rent homes required), and expect it to be met on-site unless: • Off-site provision or an appropriate financial contribution in lieu can be robustly justified; and • The agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. (Para 65) Provision of affordable housing should not be sought for residential developments that are not major developments,	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
other than in designated rural areas (where policies may set out a lower threshold of 5 units or fewer). To support the re-use of brownfield land, where vacant buildings are being reused or redeveloped, any affordable housing contribution due should be reduced by a proportionate amount. (Para 79)To maintain the supply of housing, local planning authorities should monitor progress in building out sites which have permission. Local planning authorities should identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing against their housing requirement set out in adopted strategic policies, or against their local housing need where the strategic policies are more than five years old.	
The Plan's aim is: We will support the creation of vibrant and successful places that people can be proud of, working with local leaders and other partners to deliver housing-led, mixed-use regeneration with a brownfield first approach The Plan is aiming to deliver four objectives: • More land reused and made available for regeneration; • Key enabling infrastructure in place to unlock development; • Local places effectively supported to deliver on their regeneration ambitions; and • Mixed-use places that create value and benefit local communities.	Homes England Strategic Plan 2023-2028
The Act places legal duty on English councils so that everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness will have access to meaningful help, irrespective of their priority need status, as long as they are eligible for assistance.	Homelessness Reduction Act, 2017
Local	
The vision of the Strategic Transport Plan is "We will make great progress for a Midlands economic 'Engine for Growth', clean air, improved health and quality of life for the people of the West Midlands. We will do this by creating a transport system befitting a sustainable, attractive and economically vibrant conurbation in the world's sixth largest economy." Relevant objectives to support the achievement of this vision include: • To help meet future housing needs, by supporting new housing development in locations deemed appropriate by local planning authorities, following their consideration of sustainable development criteria.	Movement for Growth: The West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan
The aim of the Strategy is 'By 2029 we aim for all adults who require it to have a choice of good quality Housing with Care, and for there to be an improved transition pathway for young people with Housing with Care needs. This strategy sets out how the local authorities will work with existing and new partners to ensure the quality of existing schemes and to develop new Housing with Care schemes where required.'	Staffordshire Housing with Care Strategy 2024-2029

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The objectives of the Strategy are: • To have a sufficient supply of Housing with Care for adults in Staffordshire; and • To provide for easy and equitable access to Housing with Care. Four priorities have been identified as part of the Strategy: • To develop and maintain a strong partnership to ensure a collective understanding of housing with care requirements and oversee developments; • To stimulate the development of housing with care to meet growth in demand; • To ensure good quality and consistent information and advice about housing with care as well as integrated and streamlined pathways for access; and • To ensure good quality care and support in housing with care schemes.	
The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with a robust and up-to-date evidence base that enables an understanding of the Borough's current and future housing needs through to the end of the new Local Plan period (2043). Under the new Standard Method approach, Tamworth Borough will need a baseline annual growth of 445 dwellings.	Lichfield and Tamworth Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment, 2025
There are four main priorities of the Strategy, underpinned by key actions: • Enable the provision of sufficient new homes to meet the needs of the existing population and those attracted to the area for work; ensure a range of provision to reflect both need and aspiration - Deliver average of 177 new homes per year in the Borough, in line with the Local Plan; at least 40 of these to be affordable - Ensure a range of provision to reflect both need and aspiration - Ensure housing plays a key role in the regeneration of Tamworth town centre - Maximise the delivery of affordable housing through all available funding options. • Make best use of existing housing and related assets - Improve conditions in the private sector - Deliver the landlord business plan and asset management strategy - Ensure best use of stock in the social rented sector; increase options for older and younger people - Continue to tackle empty homes; consider options for creating homes in other empty or under-utilised spaces • Ensure housing plays a key role in delivering Tamworth's response to climate change	Tamworth Housing Strategy 2020-2025

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Ensure all new homes emphasise energy efficiency and the use of new renewable energy - Work with homeowners and private sector landlords to encourage retrofitting to reduce carbon emissions and promote use of renewable energies. • Ensure that everyone who lives or works in Tamworth has access to appropriate housing that promotes their well-being - Provide appropriate information on housing options and choices - Reduce homelessness, its causes and consequences - Increase tenancy sustainment rates, particularly in the private rented sector - Focus targeted intervention on areas with the highest levels of deprivation	
The four main aims of the Strategy are: • Halve rough sleeping by 2022 (and end rough sleeping by 2027); • Prevent homelessness by meeting affordable housing and social needs; • Promote independence; and • Create and maintain sustainable communities so as to make Tamworth. The five priorities of the Strategy are: • Prevention and early intervention through working with partners and stakeholders; • Develop rapid pathways for rough sleepers; • Improve the supply of and access to affordable and supported housing; • Offer a high quality and innovative service to homeless households and those threatened with homelessness; and • Improve health and well-being aspirations.	Tamworth Borough Council Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025

Table 8: Transport and Accessibility

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
National	
Following the UK's departure from the European Union, the National Infrastructure Strategy (2020) provides a domestic framework for long-term infrastructure planning and investment. It outlines the government's approach to improving transport, digital, energy, and utility networks, with objectives that include supporting economic growth, addressing regional disparities, and meeting statutory climate targets. The strategy is informed by the National Infrastructure Commission's 2018 assessment	National Infrastructure Strategy, 2020

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
and integrates both long-term infrastructure goals and short-term economic recovery measures. It includes provisions to support private investment, improve project delivery processes, and incorporate technological developments across infrastructure sectors.	
• Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places, and make sufficient provision for infrastructure for transport • Planning policies should provide for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks with supporting facilities such as secure cycle parking (drawing on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans) • Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, using a vision-led approach to identify transport solutions that deliver well-designed, sustainable and popular places. • Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable; • Create places that are safe, secure and attractive – which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles and avoid unnecessary street clutter; • Incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles; • Consider the needs of people with disabilities and people with reduced motility by all modes of transport; and • Local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024
Sets out the government's long-term plan to ensure that the government can deliver the investment required to meet the UK's infrastructure needs to 2020 and beyond. Objectives of the plan in respect of infrastructure delivery are as follows: • Meet current demand through the renewal of existing infrastructure; • Meet future demand; • Grow a global economy; and • Address climate change and energy security.	National Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016-2021
A long-term strategy for buses in England, outside London. The new National Bus Strategy and the national Government expect local authorities like Derbyshire County Council to form enhanced partnership arrangements with local bus companies to improve bus services . In lower-density rural areas not served or barely served by conventional buses, the	Bus Back Better; National Bus Strategy for England, Department for Transport, 2021

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Government supports new forms of provision, such as demand responsive travel in smaller vehicles.	
This Strategy sets out how the government will build on recent transport progress and how they intend to respond realistically and pragmatically to today's challenges. They aim to create a more reliable, less congested, and better connected transport network that works for the users who rely on it. Through investment they aim to achieve: • A network that is reliable, well-managed, and safe; • Journeys that are smooth, fast, and comfortable; and • The right connections in the right places.	Transport Investment Strategy, Department for Transport, 2017
This guidance outlines a range of actions that can be taken in relation to six key areas: • Corporate plans, policies and performance; • Business and industry; • Natural capital; • Infrastructure; • Land use planning and the built environment; and • Public health social care and community resilience.	Preparing for a changing climate: Good Practice Guidance for Local Government, DEFRA, June 2019
The approaches set out in this guide have been designed to support the policy outlined in the NPPF and the NPPG and in relevant law including the 2008 Climate Change Act. It recommends that local authorities and local communities assess their area for opportunities to reduce the need to travel particularly by car, and to increase the share of trips made by sustainable travel, taking into account the need to maintain the sustainability of rural areas. This 2023 publication replaces the original 2018 publication.	The Climate Crisis- A Guide for Local Authorities on Planning for Climate Change (TCPA), 2023
This Strategy outlines the government's ambition to make cycling and walking a natural choice for shorter journeys, or as part of longer journeys by 2040. Strategy sets out objectives from 2021-2025. Key aim that by 2030, 50% of all urban journeys should be walking or cycled. Government has pledged £200 million for new active travel schemes across England. This is the second instalment of the strategy, since its inception in 2017.	The second cycling and walking investment strategy, Department for Transport, 2023
The key issues, which should be considered in developing a transport evidence base, include the need to: • Assess the existing situation and likely generation of trips over time by all modes and the impact on the locality in economic, social and environmental terms; • Assess the opportunities to support a pattern of development that, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport; • Highlight and promote opportunities to reduce the need for travel where appropriate;	Planning Practice Guidance: Transport Evidence Bases in Plan Making and Decision Taking, 2015

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Identify opportunities to prioritise the use of alternative modes in both existing and new development locations if appropriate; • Consider the cumulative impacts of existing and proposed development on transport networks; • Assess the quality and capacity of transport infrastructure and its ability to meet forecast demands; and • Identify the short, medium and long-term transport proposals across all modes. The outcome could include assessing where alternative allocations or mitigation measures would improve the sustainability, viability and deliverability of proposed land allocations (including individual sites) provided these are compliant with national policy as a whole.	
This local transport White Paper sets out the government's vision for a sustainable local transport system that supports the economy and reduces carbon emissions. It explains how the Government is placing localism at the heart of the transport agenda, taking measures to empower local authorities when it comes to tackling these issues in their areas. The White Paper also underlines central Government's direct support to local authorities, including through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.	Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen, Department for Transport, 2011
This plan sets out the government's commitments and the actions needed to decarbonise the entire transport system in the UK.	Decarbonising Transport, A Better, Greener Britain, Department for Transport, 2021
Local	
The vision of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) is to: 'Increase people's connectivity through cycling and walking to employment, education and leisure, leading to positive changes in modal shift, enabling people to lead safer, healthier and more independent lives'. If funding opportunities arise, LCWIP appraisals, audits and business cases intend to be completed, when appropriate, to justify investment in the following: • Local cycle networks and walking zones in Staffordshire's smaller towns; • Expansion and upgrade of the National Cycle Network; • Upgrade of greenways and well-used leisure routes; • Potential use of disused rail lines; • Accessible canal towpaths in the vicinity of local settlements and canal side attractions; • Maximising the opportunity to enhance walking and cycle provision at the interfaces with HS2; and	Staffordshire County Council Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan 2021-2031

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Maximising the opportunity to create new walking and cycling infrastructure associated with strategic development sites.	
The vision of the Strategy is: 'A well-connected, modern, safe, affordable, reliable, attractive and low carbon rail network that allows businesses, people and goods to connect efficiently and effectively with each other, whilst playing a central role in supporting the economic growth of Staffordshire.' The Strategy is categorised into four objectives: - Freight Objectives - Maximise the opportunities associated with HS2 & released capacity - Continue to provide reliable, efficient, and free access for freight operators - Provide appropriate facilities for the handling of freight - Collaborate with the freight & neighbouring authorities - Passenger Rail Services Objectives - Protect and enhance existing local rail services - Maintain or improve service frequencies - Maintain or improve service reliability - Provide appropriate service levels to meet future capacity needs - Provide good access to key locations such as town centres, education & employment sites - Provide a high-quality passenger experience with improved stations and rolling stock - Provide cost-effective services to key locations including Birmingham, Manchester, and London - Collaborate with partners & neighbouring authorities - HS2 Objectives - Protect and enhance local connectivity to HS2 - Realise the economic benefits of HS2 to Staffordshire - Ensure HS2 delivers benefits to the wider rail network - Seek improvements to services as a result of released capacity - Major Infrastructure Requirements Objectives - Improve accessibility and connectivity to and from rail stations - Develop appropriate parking at stations - Provide high quality cycle and walking access to stations - Improve station facilities to support economic growth	Staffordshire Rail Strategy, 2016

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Seek enhancements to the existing rail infrastructure - Collaborate with partners to deliver new rail infrastructure	
The aim of the Strategy is to minimise the adverse impacts of freight activity across Staffordshire while maximising its economic benefits. The Strategy has been developed for the following reasons: • Community and environmental management; • Freight routing controls; • Safety, parking and driver awareness; • Rail freight growth and modal shift; and • Strategic collaboration and regulation.	Staffordshire Freight Strategy Plan, 2019
The Public EV Charging Strategy outlines a methodology to help district and borough councils meet the anticipated growth in demand. This is based on current data, predictions, and the impact of upcoming policies. Through coordinating development of the charging infrastructure networks across the county; SCC can support the local authorities in the creation of a sustainable charging network for the benefit of residents and visitors to the county; all of which will produce positive steps towards reaching net zero.	Staffordshire County Council Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy, 2023
The vision of the Strategic Transport Plan is “We will make great progress for a Midlands economic ‘Engine for Growth’, clean air, improved health and quality of life for the people of the West Midlands. We will do this by creating a transport system befitting a sustainable, attractive and economically vibrant conurbation in the world’s sixth largest economy.”. Nine objectives have been set to support the achievement of this vision: • To support growth in wealth creation (GVA) and employment (jobs) in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area, as a prized national economic asset; • To support improved levels of economic well-being for people with low incomes in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area to help make it a successful, inclusive, European city region economy; • To help meet future housing needs, by supporting new housing development in locations deemed appropriate by local planning authorities, following their consideration of sustainable development criteria; • To significantly improve the quality of the local environment in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; • To help tackle climate change by ensuring large decreases in greenhouse gas emissions from the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; • To significantly increase the amount of active travel in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area;	Movement for Growth: The West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• To significantly reduce the number and severity of road traffic casualties in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; • To assist with the reduction of health inequalities in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; and • To improve the well-being of socially excluded people.	
The Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIPs) vision is that by 2050, Staffordshire will have: 'A sustainable bus network and more people choosing to travel by bus as their preferred form of transport'. This vision will be achieved by ensuring: • Buses take people where they want to go, at a time that is right for them; • Bus journeys are expeditious and run on-time; • Bus fares are simple to understand and cheaper than car travel; • Ticketing is seamless between bus services and integrated across transport modes; • Bus passengers have a strong voice and influence regarding how the bus network runs; • Bus infrastructure is accessible, safe and well-maintained; • Bus information is widely available, in various formats, and accessible to all users; and • Buses are accessible, zero emission, with high-quality on-board environments.	Staffordshire Bus Service Improvement Plan 2024-2050
The Strategy contains eight strategic objectives, underpinned by desired outcomes: • To support the recovery from Covid-19: - Recovery of passenger volumes to pre-pandemic levels as soon as possible. • To contribute to net zero: - Modal shift from road to rail and a rolling programme of electrification. • To deliver Midlands Rail Hub: - Our key transport project that delivers improved connectivity across the region. • To maximise the benefits of HS2 to the West Midlands: - Improving access to HS2 from across the region and improving HS2 service offer. • To develop high growth corridors whilst reducing social deprivation and levelling up: - A train service on each corridor that matches demand whilst also providing access to jobs and education. • To maximise access to the rail network:	West Midlands Rail Investment Strategy, 2022-2050

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- A network that is easy to use for all people, inclusively. • To support the movement of good by rail: - A network that has the capacity and flexibility to carry more freight. • To consider radical change in the long term: - A plan that can be developed with industry support for the network needed in the 2050s.	
The vision of the Cycling Charter is to “realise the full potential of cycling’s contribution to the health and wealth of the West Midlands – creating more sustainable suburbs, towns and cities that are healthier, safer and more desirable places to live, work and learn.”. The Charter contains three strategic priorities, underpinned by key actions: • Leadership and Profile- Effective and high profile leadership on cycling has acted as a catalyst for change in places such as London and Bristol, and will be the key to delivering an increase in cycling across the West Midlands: - A high-profile local cycling champion; - Committed leadership and political will; and - Leadership at all levels. • Cycling Network- We need significant changes in the planning, design and maintenance of the West Midlands transport network if we are to increase cycling levels: - A high quality and coherent cycle network across the West Midlands for commuting and local trips that meets the needs of all levels of cyclists; - The needs of all road users, including cyclists, are considered from the outset; - Through the Planning Process, we will ensure developers cater for the needs of cyclists; - Cycling will be better integrated with public transport; and - The promotion and encouragement of an extension of 20mph speed zones where appropriate in urban areas. • Promoting and encouraging cycling- The co-ordinated, effective and efficient delivery of cycle training, safety and marketing will play a significant role in increasing cycling across the West Midlands: - Affordable (and free where possible) cycle training available to all adults and children; - Safely sharing our roads; and - An integrated marketing approach to increasing cycling across the region.	West Midlands Cycling Charter, 2022

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The Strategy shall provides an evaluation of the state of the market in relation to existing chargepoint provision in Tamworth and with a more localised view of propensity for EV demand, points of interest and network capacity in the borough. Other areas included in the scope including Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) considerations, commercial models, the vision, accessibility, funding, and recommendations are also addressed. The EV Strategy for Tamworth is aligned to the Staffordshire EV Strategy, but the local context will help inform the key recommendations bespoke to Tamworth. This will allow for early mitigation of pain-points and satisfaction of current needs. As a result, this approach will guide the creation of a comprehensive EV Strategy for TBC.	Tamworth Borough Council Electric Vehicle Strategy, 2024

Table 9: Air, Noise and Light Pollution

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
The revised protocol specifies emission reduction commitments in terms of percentage reductions from base 2005 to 2020. The EU member states aim to jointly cut their emissions of sulphur dioxide by 59%, nitrogen oxides by 42%, ammonia by 6%, volatile organic compounds by 28% and particles by 22%.	NECD and the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP Gothenburg Protocol), 2012
Action will be needed at international, EU, national, regional and local levels to make sure air quality and climate change policies are integrated to maximise the co-benefits of tackling both air pollution and climate change.	Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate, DEFRA, 2010
Defines the policy framework for 12 air pollutants known to have a harmful effect on human health and the environment. The limit values for the specific pollutants are set through a series of Daughter Directives. The 2008 Ambient Air Quality Directive sets legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major pollutants that affect public health.	EU Air Quality Framework Directive (96/62/EC) and Daughter Directives Air Quality Directive 2008 (2008/50/EC)
For average noise exposure, specific sound pressure levels are recommended in the day: • < 53 dB Lden for road traffic noise; • < 54 dB Lden for railway noise; and • 45 dB Lden for aircraft noise. At night, the following sound pressures are recommended: • < 45 dB Lnight for road traffic noise; • < 44 dB Lnight for railway noise; and • < 40 dB Lnight for aircraft noise. Mitigation interventions to potentially reduce noise level or exposure to population are also highlighted.	Compendium of WHO and other UN guidance on health and environment: Chapter 11 Environmental Noise, World Health Organisation, 2022

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Aims to avoid, prevent, or reduce the harmful effects of exposure to environmental noise. Each Member State should determine exposure to environmental noise through noise mapping and adopt action plans.	Directive on Environmental Noise, 2002
National	
The Clean Air Strategy shows how the UK aims to tackle all sources of air pollution, making the air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy. It sets out a wide range of actions on which the UK government has consulted on and shows how the devolved administrations intend to make their share of emissions reductions. The UK has set stringent targets to cut emissions by 2020 and 2030. Actions have also been set out to meet interim targets such as halving the number of people living in locations above the PM_{2.5} WHO guideline level of 10 µg/m³.	Clean Air Strategy, DEFRA, 2019
Clean growth means growing our national income while cutting greenhouse gas emissions. Action to deliver clean growth can have wider benefits for example, the co-benefit of cutting transport emissions is cleaner air which has an important effect on public health the economy and the environment. To reduce carbon emissions some proposed policy measures are supporting improvements to the energy efficiency of buildings, the shift to low carbon transport, and infrastructure for low carbon heating (e.g. district heating networks).	Clean Growth Strategy, Leading the way to a low carbon future, DEFRA 2017
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. The Plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on the delivery of clean air. <u>Clean air:</u> • Meeting legally binding targets to reduce emissions of five damaging air pollutants. This should halve the effects of air pollution on health by 2030; • Ending the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040; and • Maintaining the continuous improvement in industrial emissions by building on existing good practice and the successful regulatory framework.	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018
(Para 199) Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. By encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.	
This guidance outlines a range of actions that can be taken in relation to six key areas: • Corporate plans, policies and performance; • Business and industry; • Natural capital; • Infrastructure; • Land use planning and the built environment; and • Public health social care and community resilience.	Preparing for a changing climate: Good Practice Guidance for Local Government, DEFRA, June 2019
This guidance sets out that when making plans, or taking decisions about new development, there may be opportunities to make improvements to the acoustic environment. Plans may include specific standards to apply to various forms of proposed development and locations in their area.	Planning Practice Guidance: Noise, 2019
This guidance sets out how artificial lighting needs to be considered when a development may increase levels of lighting as well as other light pollution considerations planning needs to address.	Planning Practice Guidance: Light Pollution, 2019
Through the effective management and control of environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development: • Avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life; • Mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life; and • Where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life.	Noise Policy Statement for England; DEFRA, 2010
The report makes nine recommendations including: preserving dark skies by having a presumption against new lighting in existing dark areas; allocating lighting zones to help determine where streetlights should and should not go; and preventing inappropriate and badly designed lighting of development that masks views of the night sky. The report recommends that all local authorities should have a policy to control light pollution in their Local Plan, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework and the associated National Planning Practice Guidance on light pollution. This should include identifying existing dark areas that need protecting.	Shedding Light, A survey of local authority approaches to lighting in England; Campaign to Protect Rural England, 2014
The overarching 25 year goal is to 'achieve clean air'; this is to be achieved with the following targets: • A legal target to reduce population exposure to PM_{2.5} by 22% by 2028, and 35% in 2050 (compared to 2018); • Compliance with a 40µg/m³ limit for nitrogen dioxide; • A legal target to require a maximum annual mean concentration of 12 (µg/m³) by 2028 and 10 (µg/m³) of PM_{2.5} by 2040; and	Environmental Improvement Plan, HM Government, 2023

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Legal emission reduction targets of 73% nitrogen oxides, 88% sulphur dioxide, 46% PM_{2.5}, 16% ammonia, and 39% non-methane volatile organic compounds by 2030 (compared to 2005).	
A strategic framework for local authorities regarding the power and responsibility they have in regards to air quality mitigation. It sets out actions for local authorities including: - Assessing the monetised benefits of air quality interventions; - Exercising their functions in a way that conserves and enhances biodiversity; - Reporting on air quality status annually, and making this data publicly accessible; - Creating and implementing an air quality action plan; and - Supporting national targets to reduce PM_{2.5} levels - Annual mean concentration of 10 µg/m³ or below - A reduction in average population exposure by 35% by 2040 (compared to a 2018 baseline).	Air quality strategy: framework for local authority delivery, DEFRA, 2023
Local	
The Air Quality Framework, and subsequent Framework Implementation Plan, are applicable to the seven constituent local authorities and 11 non-constituent local authorities which make up the WMCA region. Priorities for the framework from 2024-26 include: - Monitoring and Digital Engagement; - Air Quality Communications; - Schools; - General Air Quality Engagement and Behaviour Change; - Dedicated Engagement and Behaviour Change Package for Domestic Combustion; - Net Zero and Retrofit; - Planning and Air Quality Assessment; - Natural Environment; and - Research.	West Midlands Combined Authority Air Quality Framework: Framework Implementation Plan, 2024-2026
The Review highlighted the following actions as being the most valuable to the WMCA in regards to improving air quality: - Bus Upgrade: - Bus upgrades to Euro VI and ultra-low emission buses; and - Refuelling infrastructure for zero emission buses. - Travel Choices: - Public transport MaaS; - Commercial MaaS;	West Midlands Combined Authority Regional Air Quality Review and Action Plan, 2019

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- On-demand buses; and - Travel plans. • Highway Planning and Coordination: - KRN upgrades; and - Changing travel behaviour. • Healthy Streets: - Place making; and - Green infrastructure. • Freight Co-ordination: - Freight technology.	
This Report provides an annual overview of Tamworth Borough's air quality status. There are currently no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in Tamworth. An AQMA was previously in place (between 1st May 2014 and 23rd March 2018) for exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean Air Quality Objective (AQO). Recorded monitoring data suggests shows no exceedance of the AQS objective in the last five years, which indicates an AQMA remains unneeded. The report also highlights the actions being taken forward by Tamworth Borough Council to improve local air quality.	Tamworth Borough Council Air Quality Annual Status Report, 2024

Table 10: Climatic Factors

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
Aims to limit the global warming change to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. However, countries aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C to reduce the impacts of global warming. The EU has committed to a binding target of a reduction of at least 40% in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990.	The Paris Agreement, 2015
This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the promotion of energy efficiency to ensure target of 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency is achieved. The directive repeals the Cogeneration Directive (2004) and Energy Services Directive (2006). The Directive was amended in 2018.	Energy Efficiency Directive 2012 (2012/27/EU)
Aims to improve the energy performance of buildings in the EU, taking into account various climatic and local conditions. It sets out minimum requirements and a common methodology. It covers energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting. The Directive was amended in 2018	Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2010/31/EU)
The UK should achieve 15% of its energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020. The Directive was revised in 2021, and new provisional agreements are being formulated. The latest provisional agreement states that the 2030 target for renewable energy utilisation in the EU should be 45%.	Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The IPPC is now in its sixth assessment cycle. This report was developed with the most up to date data to inform global and national trends. The document subsequently contains research which can be used to guide policymakers and decisions.	Sixth Assessment: Climate Change Synthesis Report. International Panel on Climate Change (2023)
Developed countries commit themselves to reducing their collective emissions of six key greenhouse gases by at least 5%. Each country's emissions target must be achieved by the period 2008-2012. Doha Amendment saw parties commit to reduce GHG emissions by at least 18 percent below 1990 levels in the eight-year period from 2013 to 2020.	Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1998 Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, 2012
National	
The Climate Change Act 2008 established a legally binding target to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% in 2050 from 1990 levels. To drive progress and set the UK on a pathway towards this target, the Act introduced a system of carbon budgets including a target that the annual equivalent of the carbon budget for the period including 2020 is at least 34% lower than 1990. The 2019 Amendment to the Act now specifies the requirement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 100% (net zero) by 2050.	Climate Change Act, 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019
The Clean Air Strategy shows how the UK aims to tackle all sources of air pollution, making the air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy. It sets out a wide range of actions on which the UK government has consulted on and shows how the devolved administrations intend to make their share of emissions reductions. The UK has set stringent targets to cut emissions by 2020 and 2030.	Clean Air Strategy, DEFRA 2019
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. The Plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on climate change. Mitigating and adapting to climate change: We will take all possible action to mitigate climate change, while adapting to reduce its impact. We will do this by: - Continuing to cut greenhouse gas emissions including from land use, land use change, the agriculture and waste sectors and the use of fluorinated gases. The UK Climate Change Act 2008 commits us to reducing total greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050 when compared to 1990 levels; - Making sure that all policies, programmes and investment decisions take into account the possible extent of climate change this century; and	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Implementing a sustainable and effective second National Adaptation Programme.	
The Act requires better management of flood risk, it creates safeguards against rises in surface water drainage and protects water supplies for consumers. It gives a new responsibility to local authorities as Lead Local Flood Authorities to co-ordinate flood risk management in their area.	Flood and Water Management Act, 2010
(Para 161) The planning system should support the transition to net zero by 2050 and take full account of all climate impacts including overheating, water scarcity, storm and flood risks and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024
This plan sets out how the UK will achieve decarbonisation within the framework of our energy policy.	The Carbon Plan, Delivering our Low Carbon Future, HM Government, 2011
The Tyndall Carbon Budget Tool developed as part of the (SCATTER) project presents climate change targets and trajectories for UK Local Authority areas that are based on the commitments in the United Nations Paris Agreement, informed by the latest science on climate change and defined in terms of science based upon carbon setting. The tool produces LA area reports which set out specific recommendations which should be adopted for a LA area.	The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change and Research, Carbon Budget Tool, 2020
A carbon impact tool created to calculate net carbon emissions and economic benefits in relation to flood, coastal erosion, and river maintenance risk projects.	FCERM carbon impact tool
The Local Plan will need to help communities adapt successfully to future weather conditions. Objectives include: - To provide a clear local planning framework to enable all participants in the planning system to deliver sustainable new development including infrastructure that minimises vulnerability and provides resilience to the impacts of climate change; - To increase the resilience of homes and buildings by helping people and communities to understand what a changing climate could mean for them and to take action to become resilient to climate risks; and - To ensure infrastructure is located, planned, designed and maintained to be resilient to climate change including increasingly extreme weather events.	The National Adaptation Programme and Third Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting– Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate, DEFRA, 2018
The guidance advises how to take account of and address the risks associated with flooding and coastal change in the planning process.	National Planning Practice Guidance, Flood Risk and Coastal Change, 2022

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Flood risk assessments must incorporate climate change allowances to ensure developments are resilient to future flood and coastal change risks. This includes using projections for peak river flow, rainfall intensity, and sea level rise to inform planning decisions, local plans, and strategic flood risk assessments.	National Planning Practice Guidance, Flood Risk Assessments: Climate Change Allowances, 2022
The guidance advises how to identify suitable mitigation and adaptation measures in the planning process to address the impacts of climate change.	National Planning Practice Guidance, Climate Change, 2019
The Environment Agency published an updated national assessment of flood and coastal erosion risk in England in 2024. This assessment provides a clearer picture of current and future risks from rivers, the sea, surface water, and coastal erosion. It incorporates UK climate projections and reflects the potential impacts of climate change on flood frequency, depth, and extent. The report introduces updated versions of the National Flood Risk Assessment (NaFRA) and the National Coastal Erosion Risk Map (NCERM). Key aims of the strategy include: • Provide a single, consistent national picture of flood and coastal erosion risk using improved data and modelling; • Incorporate climate change projections into assessments of future risk; • Identify areas at risk from multiple sources of flooding (rivers, sea, surface water); • Support planning and investment decisions for infrastructure, housing, and land use; and • Inform long-term investment scenarios and prioritise areas with the greatest current and future risk.	National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, 2024
Aims to improve the energy performance of buildings in the EU, taking into account various climatic and local conditions. It sets out minimum requirements and a common methodology. It covers energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting. The Directive was revised in 2021 to include the vision for achieving net zero by 2050. This revision highlighted the ability to create net-zero carbon buildings and refined existing definitions.	Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, 2021 (Revision)
Section 19 (1A) of the Act requires local planning authorities to include in their Local Plans “policies designed to secure that the development and use of land in the local authority’s area contribute to the mitigation or, and adaptation to climate change”.	Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004
The Building Regulations 2000 (England & Wales) set out standards and requirements that individual aspects of building design and construction must achieve. The latest ‘Approved document’ (Part L1B, 2010) sets out the main changes to the legal requirements for energy efficiency provision in buildings. A 2021 edition of the document was published, with slight amendments also being made in 2023.	Building Regulations 2010 Part L1B (Conservation of Fuel and Power), 2021

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The Strategy sets out the justification for improving energy efficiency including through: • Saving households and businesses money; • Promoting economic growth and employment creation; • Revitalising our infrastructure; and • Decarbonising in the most cost-effective way.	The Energy Efficiency Strategy, DECC, 2013
The Clean Power 2030 Action Plan outlines the UK government's approach to decarbonising the electricity system by 2030. It sets a target for clean energy sources to meet the country's total annual electricity demand, supported by a mix of renewables, nuclear, storage, and limited use of unabated gas. The plan includes measures to accelerate infrastructure development, reform planning and grid connection processes, and adjust market frameworks to support investment. It also addresses workforce and supply chain requirements, with a focus on skills development and industrial capacity.	Clean Power 2030 Action Plan, 2024
The Strategy sets out policy and guidance concerning four strands of energy activity: generating, reducing, managing and purchasing energy	Community Energy Strategy: Full Report, Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2014
Overall climate related 25 year target is to 'take all possible action to mitigate climate change, while adapting to reduce its impact'. Further aims include 'reducing the risk of harm to people, the environment, and the economy from natural hazards including flooding, drought, and coastal erosion'. Improvement plan has outlined a number of legal reduction targets for the five main air pollutants. The government plans to achieve this by reducing emissions in the home, driving effective local action through local authorities, maintaining and improving the regulatory framework for industrial emissions, supporting farmers to cut the impact of agriculture on air quality, and reducing emissions from transport. The plan also aims to invest in farmers and land managers to mitigate flood risk, invest in improving flood forecasting capability for surface water flood risk, provide grants to fund nature-based solutions to flood risk and invest in flood and coastal defences.	Environmental Improvement Plan, HM Government, 2023
This guidance supports the sensitive adaptation of historic buildings to improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions, while conserving their heritage value. It promotes a whole building approach that balances energy performance with the protection of historic character. The guidance: • Encourages proportionate, low-impact interventions such as insulation, draught-proofing and smart heating controls;	Historic England Adapting Historic Buildings for Energy and Carbon Efficiency

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Advises on when planning permission or listed building consent is required; • Emphasises the importance of understanding building performance and significance before making changes; and • Warns against maladaptation, such as poor ventilation or inappropriate materials, which can harm both the building and its occupants.	
This Strategy sets out Historic England's response to the climate, energy and biodiversity crisis. It emphasises the role of heritage in climate action, highlighting that reusing and adapting historic buildings can significantly reduce carbon emissions and waste. The strategy focuses on three key areas: • Mitigation (reducing emissions); • Managing climate risks to heritage; and • Adaptation (helping heritage respond to climate impacts). The strategy promotes collaboration, practical solutions, and empowers communities to protect and use heritage sustainably.	Historic England Climate Change Strategy, 2022
Local	
The Plan sets out how the WMCA area can start to deliver net zero carbon emissions by 2041. In order to achieve this ambition, 11 key priorities for delivery have been identified: • Set up a regional approach to work with stakeholders to unlock investment to deliver energy efficient homes for up to 294,000 dwellings, with low carbon heating in 292,000, at a total cost of £3.6bn, reducing energy bills, fuel poverty and creating jobs; • Unlock investment of up to £70m in land based renewables and £483m on rooftop PV by 2026; • Energy Capital will support local authorities, LEPs and stakeholders to undertake and implement local area energy planning, enable net zero energy systems and renewables delivery; • Be a pathfinder for energy devolution and regulatory change to drive competitiveness of the region's industrial and commercial sectors, positioned as a global leader in the net zero transition as part of the WM Industrial Strategy; • Support changes in the way we travel through reduction in car usage and a much higher modal share of public transport and cycling. TfWM will continue to work with local authorities to deliver improvements to active travel and public transport as set out in the existing Local Transport Plan (LTP), Movement for Growth, as well as producing a new LTP aligned to WM2041; • Implement the Zero Carbon Homes Routemap which provides clear actions and targets for reducing operational, embodied and whole life emissions for new residential development;	West Midlands Combined Authority Five Year Plan 2021-2026

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Work with stakeholders to secure inward investment that supports green growth, including a battery Gigafactory and electric vehicle charging facilities, powered by clean energy infrastructure; • Launch a Net Zero Business Pledge to enable businesses in the region to become champions and understand how they can play their part; • Establish a regional natural capital board to produce a natural capital plan for the West Midlands to increase forestry cover from 1.5 to 13% at a cost of £60m up to 2026; • Work with stakeholders to develop and drive behaviour change initiatives across the region; and • Work with colleges, universities and employers to develop the skills and training programmes required to provide the work force for the net zero transition.	
The vision of the Strategic Transport Plan is “We will make great progress for a Midlands economic ‘Engine for Growth’, clean air, improved health and quality of life for the people of the West Midlands. We will do this by creating a transport system befitting a sustainable, attractive and economically vibrant conurbation in the world’s sixth largest economy.”. Relevant objectives to support the achievement of this vision include: • To significantly improve the quality of the local environment in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; • To help tackle climate change by ensuring large decreases in greenhouse gas emissions from the West Midlands Metropolitan Area; and • To significantly increase the amount of active travel in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area.	Movement for Growth: The West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan
The Humber River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) 2021–2027 sets out a strategic approach to managing flood risk across the region. Developed by the Environment Agency in partnership with over 30 Risk Management Authorities, the plan aims to reduce the risk of flooding to people, property, infrastructure, and the environment. It builds on lessons from past events, including the severe flooding of winter 2015, and outlines measures such as maintaining and improving flood defences, promoting nature-based solutions, enhancing forecasting and warning systems, and supporting community resilience. The FRMP aligns with national environmental goals and encourages integrated, catchment-based planning to deliver long-term flood risk reduction and climate adaptation	Humber River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan 2021-2027
The vision for managing local flood risk across Staffordshire is rooted in 3 fundamental principles: • To meet the statutory duties outlined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010;	Staffordshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• To work with others to ensure flood risk is not increased through future planning and to maximise opportunities to reduce and better manage flood risk; and • To align our functions with national priorities and the Staffordshire County Council Strategic Plan. The objectives of the Strategy are: • Improve our understanding of flood risk and be prepared for flood events; • Manage flood risk and new development in a sustainable manner; • Seek and secure funding for flood alleviation schemes and work with partners; • Work with others to ensure communities are more aware, informed, and resilient to flooding; and • Promote effective management of drainage and flood defence assets.	
The key objectives of the Level 1 SFRA are: • To collate and analyse the latest available information and data for current and future (i.e., climate change) flood risk from all sources, and how these risks may be mitigated against; • To inform decisions in the emerging LPU, including informing the sustainability appraisal, the selection of development sites, and planning policies; • To provide evidence to support the application of the sequential test for the allocation of new development sites, to support the Council in the preparation of the LPU; • To provide a comprehensive set of maps presenting flood risk from all sources that can be used as evidence base for use in the LPU; • To help decide when a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) will be required for individual planning applications; • To provide advice for applicants carrying out site-specific Flood Risk Assessments (FRAs), including those at risk from sources other than river flooding, or at risk of flooding in the future due to climate change, and outline specific measures or objectives that are required to manage flood risk; • To provide the basis for applying the sequential test on planning applications, including by identifying sources of flooding other than those in 'Flood Zones' and those at risk of flooding in the future; and • To identify opportunities to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding and gather information on the land that is likely to be required for flood risk management structures.	Tamworth Borough Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, 2025

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
This Study was produced in order to: • Understand water cycle processes within the area; • Inform water resource management; • Support climate change monitoring; and • Improve flood and drought prediction.	Southern Staffordshire Outline Water Cycle Study, 2010
Four cross-cutting key areas of action have been identified that will benefit from cross-council implementation to maximise efficiency, take advantage of synergies and avoid siloed working: • Overall emergency response co-ordination: Although individual council service areas have emergency plans in place to ensure business continuity, and plans such as the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol to protect vulnerable people during severe weather, there is not a single point of contact responsible for co-ordinating emergency response. Creating a centralised information hub to disseminate information and offer training on emergency response to wider staff would enable the council to respond efficiently and effectively in the event of an emergency climate or weather event, but also in the event of other emergencies; • Communications plan: There is a need to build awareness in the wider public, businesses and organisations in Tamworth about the climate risks they are likely to face and how they can manage them, as well as helping them understand and accept measures the council is taking. Opportunities to deliver the communications plan in partnership with other organisations such as the fire services or health services will be explored; • Embedding adaptation and consideration of climate risk across relevant policies and strategies: If long-term policies and strategies are implemented without due consideration of climate risk, they may fail due to climate change impacts or require costly retrofit to improve their climate resilience in the future. Hence, the council will aim to develop processes to include consideration of climate risk in the development of new policies and strategies, including how it could impact the objectives of the new local plan and proposed corporate plan and where adaptation measures may be needed. Similarly, consideration of climate risks will be included as part of the corporate risk register and business continuity processes; and • Building awareness and understanding of climate adaptation within the council: To support implementation of the actions in this strategy and support the embedding of adaptation to make wider policies climate resilient, Tamworth will aim to introduce training for staff to improve their understanding of climate risk and adaptation.	Tamworth Net Zero Climate Adaptation Strategy, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Tamworth Borough Council has developed a climate change mitigation action plan. The actions within the plan will enable the council to prioritise emissions reduction from its operations and set a good example of emission reduction approaches for the wider area to follow. The plan focuses on actions which can be implemented out to 2050 to achieve the net zero target. Three cross-cutting actions have been identified that would benefit from cross-council implementation to maximise efficiency, take advantage of synergies and avoid siloed working: • Building awareness and understanding of climate mitigation action within the council: To support implementation of the actions in this plan and support the embedding of climate mitigation in organisation processes and decision-making, Tamworth could introduce training for staff to improve their understanding of net zero targets and decarbonisation opportunities; • Embedding climate change mitigation action across relevant council policies and strategies: If long-term policies and strategies are implemented without due consideration of net zero targets, they may prevent the council from reaching these targets. Hence, the Council should aim to develop processes to include net zero in the development of new policies and strategies, including how it could impact the objectives of the new local plan and proposed corporate plan; and • Avoiding risks to the net zero target from climate change: TBC's adaptation strategy complements this action plan by introducing a plan to enable Tamworth to reduce the negative impacts of climate change. Synergies across the mitigation action plan and the adaptation plan can be identified during implementation to ensure net zero targets are not put at risk by climate change and adaptation actions do not increase emissions.	Tamworth Borough Council Mitigation Action Plan, 2024
The vision of the Plan is to 'Build a Better Tamworth'. Five priorities, under pinned by key actions, have been identified to help achieve this vision. • Prosperity and place- Growth in the local economy by creating jobs and a Tamworth we are all proud of, ensuring financial stability for all: - Work with businesses to help them grow and create jobs; - Identify and address skills shortages; - Make the town centre more vibrant and accessible; - Regenerate and create spaces for people to use and enjoy; and - Promote tourism and nightlife by using our culture and heritage sites.	Tamworth Borough Council Corporate Plan 2025-2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Environment- Achieve net-zero carbon emissions, protect the environment and enhance local biodiversity: - Keep Tamworth's local areas clean; - Tackle fly tipping, littering and environmental offences; - Cut down on using carbon in our operations; - Collaborate with partners to protect the environment; and - Provide eco-friendly housing options. • Community wellbeing- Residents live safe, healthy and happy lives in communities that are cohesive, where diversity is celebrated: - Work with our partners to support children and vulnerable individuals' wellbeing; - Ensure our active health and wellbeing offer supports the improvement in residents physical and mental health; - Improve our offer to provide suitable homes and make good quality, eco-friendly and affordable housing available; - Work with our partners to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping; and - Work with our partners to reduce crime and help our residents feel safe. • Council- Being a caring, accessible and effective council that is financially resilient: - Being visible, accessible, approachable and accountable to the community; - Learn and work with communities to provide broader social benefits; and - Maintain balanced budgets in our financial strategies.	
The plan seeks to engage with and inform staff and members at Tamworth Borough Council, local people and businesses about the issues surrounding climate change and the changes they can make to help tackle the climate crisis. The objectives of the plan are: • Encourage behaviour change and inform and engage staff, members, and the community with climate change issues and carbon reduction; • Share timely and effective communication that is transparent about the Council's aims and decision making around climate action; • Celebrate our successes and progress towards net zero emissions; • Communicate the aim of each campaign and awareness day in a way that is easy to digest and provides signposting;	Tamworth Borough Council Climate Change Communications Plan, 2025

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Create optimism for the future our planet; and • Provide a clear ask and benefit for the audience which will support behaviour change and positively impact attitudes towards climate change and its impact e.g. protecting nature can improve mental health and wellbeing.	
The vision of the policy is: “We envisage a Tamworth rich in trees and woodland that is diverse in age range and species, managed sustainably to provide a safe, attractive and high quality, easily accessible environment for the people and wildlife of the borough.”. This vision will be achieved by: • Implementing a structured and achievable maintenance program that is led by a detailed surveying and assessment schedule; • Working in accordance with all legislation and industry guidelines at all times. • Working in cooperation with our partners and community with inclusivity and openness at every opportunity.	Draft Tamworth Borough Council Tree Policy and Framework (2025-2030)

Table 11: Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
The convention has three main aims which are stated in Article 1: • To conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats; • To promote cooperation between states; and • To give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species.	Bern Convention on Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 1979
This strategy aims to put Europe’s biodiversity on the path to recovery by 2030. Aims to build resilience to threats such as: • Impacts of climate change; • Forest fires; • Food insecurity; and • Disease outbreaks. Actions to be delivered by 2030 include: • Establishing a larger EU-wide network or protected areas on land and at sea; • Launching an EU nature restoration plan; • Introducing measures to enable the necessary transformative change; and	European Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Introducing measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge. An online actions tracker and target dashboard have been implemented in order to improve accountability.	
International commitment to biodiversity conservation through national strategies and action plans.	Convention on Climate Change and Biological Diversity-Earth Summit, 1992
The 2009 Birds Directive replaces the 1979 Council Directive on the conservation of wild birds. It aims to protect all European wild birds and the habitats of listed species, particularly through the designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs). SA needs to report on any potential effects on birds covered by this directive and all development plans should aim to avoid adverse effects on them.	The Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) (formally known as Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds), amended 2009
The Habitats Directive led to the setting up of a network of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) which together with SPAs form a network of protected sites across the EU known as Natura 2000 sites to protect species and habitats.	The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) (formally known as the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna & Flora), 1992
Aimed at halting the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, the strategy provides a framework for action over the next decade and covers the following key areas: - Conserving and restoring nature; - Maintaining and enhancing ecosystems and their services; - Ensuring the sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries; - Combating invasive alien species; and - Addressing the global biodiversity crisis.	EU (2011) EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation
This plan provides an overarching framework on biodiversity, for all biodiversity-related conventions, the entire United Nations system and all other partners engaged in biodiversity management and policy development. The plan consists of five strategic goals of which 20 further Aichi goals sit underneath: - Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society; - Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use; - Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity;	The Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD's) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services; and - Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.	
The 7th EAP should help to achieve the environment and climate change targets on which the Union has already agreed and to identify policy gaps where additional targets may be required. It includes objectives to: - Protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital; - To turn the Union into a resource efficient, green, and competitive low carbon economy; and - To safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures.	General Union Environment Action Plan to 2020: Living well, within the limits of our planet (EU Seventh Environment Action Programme)
National	
The Environment Act is the mechanism to set long-term, legally binding environmental targets which relate to the natural environment or people's enjoyment of it. It will see the 25 Year Environment Plan become the first Environmental Improvement Plan. Environment Improvement Plans are the government's plans for significantly improving the natural environment over a period of at least 15 years. The Environment Act will require government to review the Environment Improvement Plan at least every five years. The Act requires an Environmental Improvement Plan to be produced, as well as a species abundance target to be set (by 2030). Additionally, from November 2023, developments are required to deliver an onsite biodiversity net gain of 10%. This will be required on small sites from April 2024.	Environment Act 2021
Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land and gives additional protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).	Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000
The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain (NB Council Directive 79/409/EEC has now been replaced by Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (codified version)). The Act provides for the notification and confirmation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and the protection of wildlife.	Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
Halt overall loss of England's biodiversity by 2020; support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks.	Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services, DEFRA, 2011

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Natural England's general purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development. Natural England's general purpose includes: • Promoting nature conservation and protecting biodiversity; • Conserving and enhancing the landscape; • Securing the provision and improvement of facilities for the study, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment; • Promoting access to the countryside and open spaces and encouraging open-air recreation; and • Contributing in other ways to social and economic well-being through management of the natural environment.	National Environmental & Rural Communities Act, 2006
(Para 187) Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); and • Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs. (Para 192) To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should: • Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and • Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024
• Local planning authorities and neighbourhood planning bodies should work collaboratively with the Local Nature Recovery Strategies responsible authority and other partners to prepare and agree the Local Nature Recovery Strategies for their area. This will help ensure alignment between Local Nature Recovery Strategies and relevant development plans and identify actionable opportunities for biodiversity enhancement;	National Planning Practice Guidance 2025 – Natural Environment

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Plans and particularly those containing strategic policies, can set out a suitable approach to both biodiversity and wider environmental net gain, how it will be achieved, and which areas present the best opportunities to deliver gains; and - Local planning authorities should consider the priorities set out in the relevant Local Nature Recovery Strategy when determining how their local plan should contribute to and enhance the local and natural environment. Local planning authorities should be aware of those areas mapped and identified in the relevant Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the measures proposed in them and consider how these should be reflected in their local plan.	
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. The Plan includes ten key targets of which two focus on biodiversity. Thriving plants and wildlife: - Restoring 75% of our one million hectares of terrestrial and freshwater protected sites to favourable condition, securing their wildlife value for the long term; - Creating or restoring 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside the protected site network, focusing on priority habitats as part of a wider set of land management changes providing extensive benefits; - Taking action to recover threatened, iconic or economically important species of animals, plants and fungi and where possible to prevent human-induced extinction or loss of known threatened species in England and the Overseas Territories; and - Increasing woodland in England in line with our aspiration of 12% cover by 2060: this would involve planting 180,000 hectares by end of 2042. Enhancing biosecurity: - Managing and reducing the impact of existing plant and animal diseases; lowering the risk of new ones and tackling invasive non-native species; - Reaching the detailed goals to be set out in the Tree Health Resilience Plan of 2018; - Ensuring strong biosecurity protection at our borders, drawing on the opportunities leaving the EU provides; and - Working with industry to reduce the impact of endemic disease. It should also be noted that the 25YEP refers to the need to protect and enhance blue spaces – both for biodiversity and human health reasons. These spaces include canals, rivers, streams, ponds and lakes.	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The <i>framework</i> demonstrates how the UK (and its 4 nations) are working to achieve the 'Aichi Biodiversity Targets' and the aims of the EU Biodiversity Strategy. The framework identifies the activities required to complement the UK's biodiversity strategies, and where work in the UK strategies contributes to international obligations. In total, 23 areas of work have been identified where all the UK countries have agreed that they want to contribute to, and benefit from, a continued UK focus, and a revised Implementation Plan was published in June 2018.	The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework Revised Implementation Plan (2018-2020), JNCC, June 2018
There is a need to act now with greater vigour to: • Conserve existing biodiversity; • Conserve protected areas and all other high quality habitats; • Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate; • Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species; • Maintain existing ecological networks; • Create buffer zones around high quality habitats; • Take prompt action to control spread of invasive species; • Establish ecological networks through habitat restoration and creation; and • Respond to changing conservation priorities.	England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation principles conserving biodiversity in a changing climate; DEFRA, 2008
Access to Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) is a powerful tool in assessing current levels of accessible natural greenspace and planning for better provision. ANGSt recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have an accessible natural greenspace • Of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home; • At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home; • One accessible 100 hectare site within 5 kilometres of home; • One accessible 500 hectare site within 10 kilometres of home; and • A minimum of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.	'Nature Nearby': Accessible Green Space Guidance, Natural England, 2010
Regulation 61 requires Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects likely to have a significant effect on a Habitat Site.	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2017
Includes a number of broad principles and goals as follows: • Conserve existing biodiversity; • Conserve protected areas and all other high quality habitats; • Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate;	England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate, DEFRA, 2008

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Maintain existing ecological networks; • Create buffer zones around high quality habitats; • Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts; • Establish ecological networks through habitat restoration and creation; and • Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures.	
This is the third state of natural capital report published by the Natural Capital Committee in January 2015 and is the last of three which summarises the work of the NCC over the three years. It establishes a clear plan to enhance natural capital focussing on the areas with the highest economic benefit.	The State of Natural Capital: protecting and improving natural capital for prosperity and wellbeing, Natural Capital Committee, 2015
This strategy aims to address Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) issues in Great Britain (GB), maintaining the approach of the previous policy reviews. The strategy covers the terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments and also species native to one part of a country that become invasive in areas outside their natural range. The scope of the Strategy covers all non-native species of flora and fauna with the exception of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), bacteria and viruses. Its full effect, however, is aimed at those non-native species that are known to be or are potentially invasive. The Strategy does not aim to address issues related to human health or formerly native species, nor does it cover animal or plant diseases although it aims to ensure close working with these areas where appropriate.	The Great Britain Invasive Non-native Species Strategy, 2023-2030
The Statement makes clear how there is now a convincing body of evidence that we are facing a climate emergency. Planting and managing trees, forests and woodlands so that they are fit for the future must be part of our nation's response. Growing trees removes carbon dioxide from the air, and stores the carbon in wood products throughout their life. Trees can also help to manage the risk of flooding, and provide shade and cooling benefits. They are a renewable source of energy today, and a sustainable raw material for the future bio-economy. The Forestry Commission has a key role to play, and will continue to work closely with our Climate Change Action Plan partners and all parts of the tree, woods and forestry sector to protect our woodlands for future generations.	Climate Change and Forestry: Position Statement, Forestry Commission, 2019
A newly implemented framework to expand the green and blue networks we have across the UK. The publication highlights the principles of green infrastructure, standards required based on quantity and quality, and a planning and design guide to help users understand the best way to design green infrastructure.	Green Infrastructure Framework- Principles and Standards for England, 2023
This Plan is the first such review of the 25 Year Environment Plan (25YEP) and its 10 goals. It reinforces the intent of the 25YEP and sets out the plan to deliver it.	Environmental Improvement Plan, HM Government 2023

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act covers several topics including the need to plan for biodiversity and protect areas of importance or with potential for recovery and/or enhancement. Spatial development strategies are also required to take account of any local nature recovery strategy for development in the Greater London area.	Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023
This document builds on the 2011 NEWP 'The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature' by summarising the progress which has been taking place since 2011 including how many of the original 92 commitments are completed or underway.	Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP), Implementation Update Report, DEFRA, Oct 2014
Biodiversity net gain is a strategy to develop land and contribute to the recovery of nature. It requires an increase of ecological assets by a minimum of 10% following the completion of a development project. Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) will apply from November 2023 for development in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and to small sites from April 2024.	Biodiversity Net Gain, 2023
The UK NBSAP for 2030 demonstrates the consensus across all four countries of the UK that achieving full implementation of the GBF requires both individual and collaborative efforts, and sets out 23 ambitious UK targets which align with the 23 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) targets. All four countries share the following priorities: • Protecting and restoring nature; • Sustainable use and resource management; and • Mainstreaming and finance.	Blueprint for Halting and Reversing Biodiversity Loss: the UK's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for 2030
The Nature Recovery Network (NRN) is a major commitment in the government's 25 Year Environment Plan. It is a growing national network of wildlife-rich places, stretching from our cities to countryside, mountains to coast. It is supported by green and blue spaces that buffer and connect these wildlife-rich sites.	The Nature Recovery Network, 2020
Species and habitats should be restored and enhanced in comparison with 2000 levels. Improve the long term sustainability of ecological and physical processes that underpin the functioning of ecosystems, thereby enhancing the capacity of ecosystem services. Provide accessible natural environments rich in wildlife for people to enjoy and experience.	Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network, Chaired by Professor Sir John Lawton CBE FRS, 2010
Protect and enhance biodiversity through Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs), biodiversity offsetting, Local Nature Partnerships and phasing out peat.	The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature; HM Government, 2011
Seeks to maximise the environmental, economic and social benefits of trees and woodlands forests by: • Ensuring that trees, woods and forests are resilient to and mitigate the impacts of climate change; • Protecting and enhancing the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes;	Government Forestry and Woodlands Statement, 2013

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Protecting and enhancing the cultural and amenity values of trees and woodland; • Increasing the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life; and • Improving the competitiveness of woodland businesses and promote the development of new or improved markets for sustainable woodland products.	
The UKGAP sets out a framework for geodiversity action across the UK. It has been developed and agreed through wide consultation and dialogue across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland between organisations, groups and individuals currently involved in geodiversity. The UKGAP is a mechanism for encouraging partnership, influencing decision and policy makers, funders and promoting good practice. This Plan contains 11 Key Objectives: • To foster UK-based pure and applied geoscience research in order to better understand our geodiversity and its role in understanding and managing our natural environment; • To increase recognition of our geodiversity in international, national, regional and local environmental and planning development policies and legislation; • To demonstrate the relevance and benefit of including geodiversity across our work in relation to the natural and built environment and the role that geodiversity plays in sustainable development; • To advocate and support development design and restoration that incorporates and enhances our geodiversity; • To audit and document our geodiversity including sites, archives and collections; • To conserve and manage our geodiversity through appropriate recognition at international, national and local levels; • To maintain and enhance our geodiversity through the management of sites, areas and wider landscapes; • To share experience of conserving our geodiversity through the provision of good practice guidance; • To interpret our geodiversity for a range of audiences and communities, making geodiversity relevant to where we live and the places we visit; • To use the arts to explore and make links between geodiversity and our cultures, involving people in geodiversity in new and innovative ways; and • To develop and provide educational resources that interpret, utilise and widen understanding of our geodiversity as part of formal and informal learning.	UK Geodiversity Action Plan
Local	

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The Humber River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) sets legally binding objectives for surface water bodies across Tamworth—predominantly rivers and tributaries—to reach ‘Good Ecological Status’ (including chemical and biological quality) by 2027 or as soon as possible. Specific actions tied to individual water body objectives are defined within the RBMP’s Catchment Data Explorer, allowing tracking of ecological performance and restoration progress. The Humber RBMP outlines several priority measures that impact Tamworth’s water environment: • Surface Water Flood Risk Management & Reduction Plans: The plan includes a measure for Staffordshire County Council to map, model, and develop surface water reduction strategies to reduce local flood risk across the Humber RBD, which covers Tamworth. This includes targeting urban runoff and surface water flooding in Tamworth’s catchment; • Catchment-scale water quality interventions: Local implementation is supported via Catchment-Based Approach (CaBA) groups, such as the Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership, which deliver river restoration, biodiversity enhancement, and pollution mitigation initiatives in and around Tamworth.	Humber River Basin District River Management Plan: updated 2022
The vision of the Strategy ‘is of a thriving natural world, with our wildlife and natural habitats playing a valued role in addressing the climate and ecological emergencies, and everyone inspired to get involved in nature’s recovery.’. The mission of the strategy ‘is to bring wildlife back, to empower people to take meaningful action for nature, and to create an inclusive society where nature matters.’. Two strategic goals have been identified within the Strategy: • Nature is in recovery in Staffordshire with abundant, diverse wildlife and healthy natural processes playing a valuable role in helping to address local, national and global problems; and • Connecting people in Staffordshire to nature; empowering our communities to take positive action for wildlife and the climate. Two enabling goals have been identified within the Strategy: • Delivering a step change in funding for nature’s recovery; and • Running a successful organisation.	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust: Our Strategy for 2022-2030
Local nature recovery strategies (LNRS) are a system of spatial strategies for nature and environmental improvement required by law under the Act. Each strategy must: • Agree priorities for nature’s recovery; • Map the most valuable existing areas for nature; and	Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Local Nature Recovery Strategy, 2025

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals (adopting Nature Based Solutions). The LNRS is currently being developed by Staffordshire County Council along with all the district and borough councils in the area including Stoke-on-Trent City Council. A partnership approach is being taken to involve environmental charities, landowners, communities, local businesses, National Park authorities and Natural England.	
The Strategy sets out the actions Staffordshire County Council will take to contribute to nature recovery through their own activities. This will form part of wider efforts across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, which will be identified through the local nature recovery strategy. The objectives of the Strategy are: - Develop and deliver a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent; - Ensure coordinated delivery of biodiversity net gain; - Ensure our policies, strategies and operations consider biodiversity enhancement and reduce risks to the environment; - Ensure all designated sites in our ownership have management measures in place to achieve favourable condition by 2042; - Manage and protect 30% of our land (excluding highways) for biodiversity by 2030; - Develop a wildlife-friendly management approach to roadside verges by April 2026; - Develop a suite of species recovery measures for our land by April 2025; - Use nature-based solutions for mitigating and adapting to climate change wherever possible, to maximise benefits to both wildlife and climate; - Enhance and restore landscape character and quality and support landscape-scale nature recovery; and - Champion biodiversity, raise awareness and support the active involvement of communities in caring for our natural environment.	Staffordshire County Council's Nature Environment Strategy, 2024-2026
The SBAP was established in 1998 to coordinate local delivery of UK Biodiversity Action Plan targets through strategic, county-level action. Its overarching aim has been to set direction for conservation projects, guiding the protection, enhancement, and creation of threatened habitats and species across Staffordshire. The objectives of the Action Plan are: - Habitat conservation and management: - Maintain and restore priority habitats such as lowland wood-pasture & parkland, heathlands,	Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan, 1998

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
wetlands, woodlands, rivers, and species-rich farmland; - Expand degraded habitats and create new areas where ecologically appropriate; and - Use site designation (e.g. SBI, SSSI) and policy tools to protect high-quality habitats. • Monitoring, research and advisory work: - Conduct surveys and ecological monitoring across priority sites; - Develop management plans with landowners, public bodies, and conservation partners; - Advise on best practice in land management and habitat restoration; and - Provide public education on biodiversity and the value of local habitats. • Partnership and coordination: - Work in partnership with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, county and district councils, Natural England, developers, farmers, and community groups; and - Embed biodiversity targets within local planning decisions and development through partnership working, planning obligations, and shared frameworks.	
The vision of the Natural Environment Plan is “a West Midlands where everybody can enjoy the benefits of the natural environment and that, through careful planning and collaboration, we protect, restore and enhance the region’s natural capital to address both the climate and ecological emergencies.”. The Natural Environment Plan sets out to deliver the following outcomes: • Everybody can access high quality green space within a 300m walk of their home; • Forestry cover should be increased from approximately 1.5% today to 13%, aligning as much as possible with the long-term aims for England (this equates to planting an additional 5.7m trees by 2026 and 19m by 2041); • Creation /restoration of 6 wildlife corridors along the Rivers Cole, Rea, Sherbourne, Stour and Blythe and HS2 development in line with our key stakeholder’s priorities. We will also support work on the region’s canals as important wildlife corridors; • All rivers to be restored to good condition by 2030, targeting 5 by 2025; and • Support the creation of 200 jobs in natural capital by 2026 (and 700 by 2041), in line with the evidence in the Five Year Plan.	West Midlands Natural Environment Plan 2021-2026
The WMCA has been selected as one of four areas in the UK to deliver a Local Investment in Natural Capital (LINC) programme. The LINC programme sits alongside Local Net	West Midlands Local Investment in Natural Capital, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Zero Hubs, and Investment Zones in the government's Green Finance Strategy (2023) to support a green industrial revolution and transition to a climate resilient, nature-positive, net zero economy. The ambitions of the Defra-funded LINC programme align with the WMCA's delivery of its Natural Environment Plan. The West Midlands LINC objectives include: • Explore and demonstrate the potential for natural capital investment; • Build the capacity, effective governance arrangements and capability of local leaders and partner organisations; and • Develop local ecosystem markets and investment/delivery mechanisms that support the green transition.	
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust was commissioned by Tamworth Borough Council to carry out a strategic assessment of the District's biodiversity and habitat networks. This document outlines the existing picture of the District's nature network and describes key locations where habitats may be created or enhanced to contribute to nature's recovery (the Nature Recovery Network), as well as delivering against objectives set out in national planning policy legislation.	Tamworth Borough Nature Recovery Network Mapping, 2021

Table 12: Cultural Heritage

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
The treaty aims to protect the European archaeological heritage "as a source of European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study". All remains and objects and any other traces of humankind from past times are considered to be elements of the archaeological heritage. The archaeological heritage includes structures, constructions, groups of buildings, developed sites, monuments, moveable objects and other kinds. It also affects both terrestrial and marine assets. The main objectives of the Convention are: • To integrate the conservation and archaeological investigation of archaeological heritage in urban and regional planning policies; • To establish co-operation and consultation processes between archaeologists, and project developers; • To set standards for funding and archaeological and conservational methods used in studying the "knowledge of the history of mankind";	Valletta Treaty (1992) formerly the European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- To promote educational actions and public awareness of the necessity of the protection and investigation of archaeological heritage in Europe; and - To foster international co-operation and joint action among all European countries in the field of archaeological resource management by means of developing and exchanging relevant scientific information, technologies and expertise.	
The Granada Convention was adopted on 3 October 1985 in Granada (Spain) and came into force on 1 December 1987. The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1985)
National	
Section 61(12) defines sites that warrant protection due to their being of national importance as 'ancient monuments'. These can be either Scheduled Ancient Monuments or "any other monument which in the opinion of the Secretary of State is of public interest by reason of the historic, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching to it". The Act was updated in 2023.	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979
Places a general duty on local authorities for the preservation and enhancement of listed buildings and features of special architectural or historic interest, including the designation of Conservation Areas.	Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Chapter 16 of the NPPF relates to 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment' and makes clear that heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites. (Para 203) Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account: - The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; - The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; - The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and - Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024
In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, local authorities should set out their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. In developing their strategy, local planning authorities should	National Planning Practice Guidance: Historic Environment, 2019

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
identify specific opportunities within their area for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets. This could include, where appropriate, the delivery of development within their settings that will make a positive contribution to, or better reveal the significance of, the heritage asset or reflect and enhance local character and distinctiveness with particular regard given to the prevailing styles of design and use of materials in a local area.	
The objective of the Protection Plan Framework is to make the best use of our resources so that England's vulnerable historic environment is safeguarded in the most cost-effective way at a time of massive social, environmental, economic and technological change.	National Heritage Protection Plan Framework, Historic England, 2013
Advice Note 1, The Historic Environment in Local Plans: This document sets out information to help local planning authorities make well informed and effective local plans. Advice Note 2, Managing Significance in Decision-Taking: This document contains useful information on assessing the significance of heritage assets, using appropriate expertise, historic environment records, recording and furthering understanding, neglect and unauthorised works, marketing and design and distinctiveness. Advice Note 3, The Setting of Heritage Assets: This document sets out guidance on managing change within the settings of heritage assets including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes.	Historic England Good Practice Advice Notes 1-3, 2015
Conservation Principles: • The historic environment is a shared resource; • Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment; • Understanding the significance of places is vital; • Significant places should be managed to sustain their values; • Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent; and • Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.	Conservation Principles – Policies and Guidance: For the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment, Historic England, 2015
Advice Note 8, Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment: The purpose of this Historic England advice note is to support all those involved in assessing the effects of certain plans on the historic environment. It offers advice on heritage considerations during the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment process, and on implementing historic environment legislation and the relevant policy.	Historic England Good Practice Advice Note 8: Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment, 2016
Relevant objectives are: • The historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; and • The historic environment is an economic asset that is well harnessed.	Championing Heritage, Improving Lives, Historic England Future Strategy 2021

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The strategy has three areas of focus: thriving places, connected communities and active participation.	
The heritage statement sets out how the Government will support the heritage sector and help it to protect and care for heritage and the historic environment in the coming years, in order to maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.	The Heritage Statement, 2017 (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport)
This guidance supports local authorities and plan-makers in integrating the historic environment into the site allocation process for Local Plans. It outlines how to ensure that heritage assets are considered from the earliest stages of plan-making, helping to avoid harm and identify opportunities for enhancement. The Advice Note: • Encourages early evidence gathering on designated and non-designated heritage assets, including use of Historic Environment Records and specialist advice; • Provides a methodology for assessing the impact of site allocations on heritage significance, including setting, character and potential for enhancement; • Recommends that site allocation policies include clear references to heritage considerations, design principles and mitigation measures; and Supports compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework and statutory duties related to heritage conservation.	Historic England Advice Note 3 – The Historic Environment and Site Allocations in Local Plans, 2015
Local	
This strategy has been designed to ensure that creativity and culture are embedded in the decision-making and actions that impact Staffordshire's social and economic landscape, both short term and long term. Six strategic pillars, and associated actions, have been identified as part of the Strategy: • Community Engagement: - We will ensure all communities across Staffordshire have access to culture on their doorsteps; - Communities will inform and engage with vibrant cultural programming in their neighbourhoods facilitated through a process of co-production and co-creation; and - We will continue to provide opportunities for communities across the county to share their views and inform cultural decision making. • Accessibility and Inclusion: - We will champion socially engaged and inclusive practice throughout the county, including support of flagship programmes such as the New Vic's Borderlines and Dementia and Creativity programme	Staffordshire: Our Collective Culture, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
and Staffordshire Archives and Heritage's Pride in our Past project; - In partnership with Together Active, we will tackle systemic inequalities in physical activity and sport participation across Staffordshire; and - We will encourage lifelong learning, skills and capacity development through an inclusive cultural volunteering offer for everyone [with partners Support Staffordshire and Staffordshire County Council] • Cultural Advocacy: - We will identify and map our cultural assets to develop our understanding and connect opportunities for social and economic development; and - We will continue to develop our relationships with government bodies, funders and professional networks such as Arts Council England, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Sport England, National Archives, Historic England, Visit England, Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), National Trust, Natural England, Canals and River Trust. • Collaboration: - Through local networks and the new culture forum, we will look to develop the sector through knowledge sharing, skills development and capacity building; - Through effective partnerships, we will deliver a shared vision for engaging with existing and new audiences through our cultural programmes and activities; and - We will identify resources to support the delivery and embedding of the Cultural Strategy across the county. • Archives, Heritage, Libraries and Arts: - Staffordshire History Centre will bring to life the county's rich history in a new visitor attraction and through a community focussed heritage programme. The new home of Staffordshire Archives and Heritage will continue to locate, collect and preserve irreplaceable archive and museum collections of Staffordshire and to preserve the archives of the Diocese of Lichfield; - The Staffordshire History Network will support and enable museums, historical groups and societies, civic societies, research groups and heritage sites to protect, conserve and share the county's unique heritage assets; - Through investment in our library service and supporting our community managed libraries, we will enrich the lives of local people; and	

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Through investment in Staffordshire's country parks at Cannock Chase and Chasewater and the 92-mile Staffordshire Way we will help people rediscover and experience the natural beauty and open spaces in the county. • Investment and Funding: - The newly launched Staffordshire Film Office will raise Staffordshire's profile including its rich assets and accessible infrastructure nationally and internationally; - We will work with our partners and key national funders to explore opportunities for sustained collaborative investment in the county. We will advocate that Staffordshire has a representative share of funding allocated towards cultural projects and initiatives; and - Through investment in our library service and supporting our community managed libraries, we will enrich the lives of local people.	

Table 13: Landscape

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
The Convention outlined the need to recognise landscape in law to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and creation of landscapes, and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies. It also encourages the integration of landscape into all relevant areas of policy including cultural, economic and social policies. Specific measures include: • Raising awareness of the value of landscapes among all sectors of society and of society's role in shaping them; • Promoting landscape training and education among landscape specialists, other related professions and in school and university courses; • The identification and assessment of landscapes, • Analysis of landscape change, with the active participation of stakeholders; • Setting objectives for landscape quality, with the involvement of the public; and • The implementation of landscape policies through the establishment of plans and practical programmes.	European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007)
National	
(Para 187) Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); - Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and - Preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans.	
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. Chapter 2 of the Plan is titled 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes' and sets out key actions as follows: - Develop a Nature Recovery Network to protect and restore wildlife and provide opportunities to reintroduce species that we have lost from our countryside; and - Conserve and enhance the natural beauty of our landscapes by reviewing National Parks and AONBs including assessing whether more are needed.	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, DEFRA 2018
Local	
The purpose of this report is to provide detail of Regional Character Areas, and the landscape character types within these.	Planning for Landscape Change: Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Structure Plan, 1996 – 2011 Volume 3: Landscape Descriptions

Table 14: Soils, Water and Minerals

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
The WFD divides the water environment into water bodies. These can include rivers, lakes, reservoirs, canals, groundwater etc. The WFD requires that there is no deterioration in the ecological health of water bodies and that water bodies should achieve the ecological objectives set out in a River Basin Management Plan.	Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Each country has to: • Prevent deterioration in the ecological status and/or potential of designated water bodies and of their supporting elements, protect them and improve the ecological condition of waters; • Aim to achieve at least good status for all water bodies and their associated elements by 2015. Where this is not possible and subject to the criteria set out in the Directive, aim to achieve good status by 2021 or 2027; • Meet the requirements of Water Framework Directive Protected Areas; • Promote sustainable use of water as a natural resource; • Conserve habitats and species that depend directly on water; • Progressively reduce or phase out the release of individual pollutants or groups of pollutants that present a significant threat to the aquatic environment; • Progressively reduce the pollution of groundwater and prevent or limit the entry of pollutants; and • Contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts. In 2022 it was proposed that the directive should be revised to include additional pollutants and update the frequency by which pollutants should be monitored.	
National	
The 2020 Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management strategy sets out three long-term ambitions underpinned by evidence about future risk and investment requirements. These are: • Climate resilient places – working alongside partners to bolster resilience to flooding and coastal change at present, and in the face of climate change; • Today's growth and infrastructure resilient in tomorrow's climate – ensuring the right investment and planning decisions are made to secure sustainable growth and environmental improvements, alongside infrastructure resilient to flooding and coastal change; and • A nation ready to respond and adapt to flooding and coastal change – ensuring that local people understand their risk to flooding and coastal change, and also their responsibilities and how to take action when challenges are presented.	National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, Environment Agency, 2020
(Para 187) The planning system should contribute to, and enhance the natural and local environment by: • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); • Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and - Preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans (Para 196) In addition, planning policies should ensure that: - A site is suitable for its proposed use taking account of ground conditions and any risks arising from land instability and contamination. This includes risks arising from natural hazards or former activities such as mining, and any proposals for mitigation including land remediation (as well as potential impacts on the natural environment arising from that remediation); - After remediation, as a minimum, land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990; and - Adequate site investigation information, prepared by a competent person, is available to inform these assessments.	
Authorities and developers must comply with the requirements of the Regulations.	The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations, 2018
The Act gives the Environment Agency a strategic overview of flood risk management in England and upper tier authorities responsibility for preparing and putting in place strategies to manage flood risk from groundwater, surface water and ordinary watercourses in their areas.	Flood and Water Management Act, 2010
By 2030 at the latest, there is improved quality of the water environment and the ecology which it supports; sustainably managed risks from flooding; more effective management of surface water and sustainable use of water resources.	Future Water - The Government's water strategy for England, 2011
The amended regulations relate to the duties in relation to the collection of waste.	Waste (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations, 2014
This document updates Groundwater Protection: Principles and Practice (GP3). It contains position statements which provide information about the Environment Agency's approach to managing and protecting groundwater. They detail how the Environment Agency delivers government policy for groundwater and adopts a risk-based approach where legislation allows. The primary aim of all of the position statements is the prevention of pollution of groundwater and protection of it as a	The Environment Agency's Approach to Groundwater Protection, 2018

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
resource. Groundwater protection is long term, so these principles and position statements aim to protect and enhance this valuable resource for future generations.	
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. The plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on minimising water. The 'Clean and Plentiful Water' target aims to improve at least three quarters of our waters to be close to their natural state as soon as is practicable by: • Reducing the damaging abstraction of water from rivers and groundwater, ensuring that by 2021 the proportion of water bodies with enough water to support environmental standards increases from 82% to 90% for surface water bodies and from 72% to 77% for groundwater bodies; • Reaching or exceeding objectives for rivers, lakes, coastal and ground waters that are specially protected, whether for biodiversity or drinking water as per our River Basin Management Plans; • Supporting OFWAT's ambitions on leakage, minimising the amount of water lost through leakage year on year, with water companies expected to reduce leakage by at least an average of 15% by 2025; and • Minimising by 2030 the harmful bacteria in our designated bathing waters and continuing to improve the cleanliness of our waters. We will make sure that potential bathers are warned of any short-term pollution risks.	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018
This PPG advises on how planning can ensure water quality and the delivery of adequate water and wastewater infrastructure.	National Planning Practice Guidance, Water Supply, Wastewater and Water Quality, 2019
The Strategy's vision: By 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. It highlights those areas which Defra will prioritise and focus attention in tackling degradation threats, including: better protection for agricultural soils; protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon; building the resilience of soils to a changing climate; preventing soil pollution; effective soil protection during construction and; dealing with contaminated land.	Safeguarding our soils: A Strategy for England, DEFRA, 2009
The Environment Agency have published a number of groundwater protection guides covering: requirements, permissions, risk assessments and controls (previously covered in GP3).	Groundwater Protection Technical Guidance, Environment Agency, 2017

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Section 83 requires all local authorities to consider the need to conserve water. Any local plan needs to ensure that it is in compliance with this legal requirement.	Water Resource Act 1991 (as amended by the Water Act 2003)
This document defines water stress, and what is considered 'serious' water stress. The document identifies Affinity Water Ltd as a company operating under serious water stress.	Water Stressed Areas-Final Classification 2021
This framework presents the national and regional picture on water needs up to 2050. It takes into account factors such as the rising population and climate change. It explains how any and all regional plans, such as the combined South East water resources management plan, will be assessed by the Environment Agency.	Meeting our Future Water Needs: a National Framework for Water Resources, 2020
Local	
The objectives of the strategy document are: • To meet the statutory requirement to produce a written strategy which outlines how the Council proposes to implement its inspection duties under Part II A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 within the context of its local conditions and its own aims, objectives and priorities. • To demonstrate how the approach the Council will adopt meets the criteria in the statutory guidance • To demonstrate how the Council plans to identify and mitigate health and environmental risks that are unacceptable; • To outline the arrangements for liaising with adjacent authorities; • To outline how the Council will provide information to the Environment Agency and other stakeholders who request information; • To provide a document as the basis for consultation with members of the public, government organisations and non-government organisations and to demonstrate the Council's commitment to encourage Community participation; • To demonstrate the Council's commitment to transparent, defensible and consistent decision making by outlining how the Council intends to inspect its area for contaminated land and how the council will act on discovery of potentially contaminated sites; • To demonstrate how the Council's resources will be used cost-effectively; • To form the basis for the mechanism of reviewing and updating the strategy and information on the state of land; • To demonstrate the Council's commitment to look for a better way of doing things;	Tamworth Borough Council Statutory Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy, 2016

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• To show that the Council will address technical and management uncertainties in a transparent manner; and • To outline the Council's procedures for: - Identifying land which it may have interest in itself; - Obtaining and evaluating actual harm or pollution; - Identifying receptors and the possibility of whether they are exposed to a contaminant; - Collating existing information of possible sources of contamination and effects; - Liaison with other statutory bodies, land owners, occupiers and interested parties; - Responding to information/ complaints from member of the public, business and other organisations; and - Managing information collected.	
The vision of the Action Management Plan is "To protect and improve the quality, diversity, and resilience of the water environment within the Tame Anker and Mease catchment for the benefit of people and wildlife." The Action Management Plan includes the following objectives and measures: • Improve WFD elements to help achieve specific catchment WFD objectives: - At least 10 waterbodies will have improved WFD elements • Deliver the Cole Valley Catchment Landscape Vision and Love your River Cole to improve this urban catchment. Use this approach as a blueprint for other urban catchments: - Kilometres/ hectares of improved natural environment; and - Number of people engaged with, including volunteers. • Deliver the River Blythe SSSI Restoration Plan to improve this protected catchment: - Kilometres / hectares of improved natural environment; and - Number of farm interventions, including STEP applications. • Deliver the River Mease Restoration Plan: - 20km river enhanced by 2023. • Improved management of the wider environment including: 1. Wildlife and habitat 2. Flooding 3. Greening the Grey: - Area of land under agri-schemes or Countryside Stewardship; - Habitat – Maintaining or enhancing the condition of significant sites of importance;	Tame, Anker and Mease Catchment Action Management Plan 2020-2025

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
- Hectares of land or km of river improved under NFM; and - Hectares of land or km or river improved in urban environments Secure sufficient funding to deliver priority projects across catchment. • Secure sufficient funding to deliver priority projects across catchment: - Amount of funding secured by catchment partners; and - Number of projects successfully delivered.	
The plan outlines a range of challenges that will impact both on supply of and demand for water: • Climate change – although some uncertainty about the long-term impact remains, our models forecast longer, drier summers and more extreme rainfall events in winter; • Population - the population of our region is likely to grow by a further 1.1 million people over the next 25 years, and by 2.6 million people over the next 60 years. We have forecast growth in non-household consumption linked to population growth, and to economic development in the region as part of the 'levelling up' ambitions of Government; • Leakage – currently around 21% of the water we put into supply is lost through leakage. Our leakage reduction activities reduced leakage by 62MI/d (12.5%) over the ten years between 2010 and 2020, and we are on track to reduce by a further 15% by 2025. With likely increased demand from a growing population, we need to continue this work to make sure more of our water reaches customers; • Value for customers - any change that needs investment could mean higher bills for our customers. This needs to be prioritised and scheduled to manage the impact and represent best value in the long term; and • Environmental Improvement – reductions in the amount of water we are allowed to abstract from the environment to ensure we meet Water Framework Directive needs and future environmental destination ambition.	Severn Trent Water Resources Management Plan, 2024
Responses to a drought include: • Restricting customers' use of water, on average, no more than three times every 100 years. This applies to both temporary use bans and non-essential use bans. A temporary use ban applies to household customers and is similar to what we used to call a hosepipe ban. A non-essential use ban applies to non-household customers, for example commercial car washing or window cleaning businesses • We consider that rota cuts / standpipes for our customers are unacceptable. As we would only need to	Severn Trent Drought Plan 2022-2027

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
consider using emergency measures in an extremely severe drought we do not have a planned frequency for them.	
The South Staffs drought plan covers the South Staffs Water area of operation and describes how the company will 'continue, during a period of drought, to discharge our duties to supply adequate quantities of wholesome water, with as little recourse as possible to drought orders or drought permits'. The plan describes the actions South Staffs Water will take before, during, and after a drought to manage water supplies and reduce environmental impact. It introduces earlier triggers for demand-saving measures, clearer communication for customers, and prioritises reducing demand over increasing abstraction. Lessons from the 2018 drought have been incorporated, along with new sections on environmental monitoring and mitigation. The plan has been tested against a range of drought scenarios to ensure resilience and includes a communication strategy to keep customers informed.	South Staffs Water Drought Plan 2022
The South Staffs Water Final Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) 2024 sets out how the company will ensure a sustainable and resilient water supply from 2025 to 2050. It addresses key challenges including climate change, population growth, and the region's classification as an area of serious water stress. The plan prioritises demand management over new supply infrastructure. Key targets include a 50% reduction in leakage, reducing household water use to 110 litres per person per day, and achieving universal smart metering by 2035. It also supports government-led water labelling and aims to reduce non-household consumption by 9% by 2038. Customer engagement has shaped the plan, with strong support for leakage reduction, environmental protection, and fair billing. The plan aligns with national environmental goals and includes adaptive pathways to respond to future uncertainties. It has been tested against a range of scenarios and is designed to deliver best value for customers and the environment.	South Staffs Water Water Resources Management Plan 2024
The Humber River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) sets legally binding objectives for surface water bodies across Tamworth—predominantly rivers and tributaries—to reach 'Good Ecological Status' (including chemical and biological quality) by 2027 or as soon as possible. Specific actions tied to individual water body objectives are defined within the RBMP's Catchment Data Explorer, allowing tracking of ecological performance and restoration progress. The Humber RBMP outlines several priority measures that impact Tamworth's water environment: • Surface Water Flood Risk Management & Reduction Plans: The plan includes a measure for Staffordshire County Council to map, model, and develop surface water reduction strategies to reduce local flood risk across the Humber RBD, which covers Tamworth. This	Humber River Basin District River Management Plan: updated 2022

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
includes targeting urban runoff and surface water flooding in Tamworth's catchment; Catchment-scale water quality interventions: Local implementation is supported via Catchment-Based Approach (CaBA) groups, such as the Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership, which deliver river restoration, biodiversity enhancement, and pollution mitigation initiatives in and around Tamworth.	
The Tame, Anker and Mease Abstraction Licencing Strategy outlines how the Environment Agency manages water abstraction in these catchments to ensure sustainable use of water resources whilst protecting the environment. The strategy: - Identifies where water is available for new licences, where restrictions apply, and where abstraction is not permitted due to environmental sensitivity; - Supports the objectives of the Water Framework Directive and aims to prevent ecological deterioration by maintaining river flows and groundwater levels; and - Provides guidance for licence holders and applicants, encourages water trading where appropriate, and ensures that abstraction activities do not negatively impact designated habitats or protected sites.	Tame, Anker and Mease Abstraction Licensing Strategy, 2022
The new Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire identifies suitable land and provides the planning policies that will be used to determine planning applications to develop Staffordshire's minerals resources during the period 2015 to 2030.	Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire 2015-2030
A Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA) is an annual assessment of the demand for and supply of aggregates in a mineral planning authority's area.	Staffordshire Local Aggregate Assessment, 2024

Table 15: Waste

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
International	
Waste must be managed without: - Endangering human health; - Harming the environment in particular; - Water - Air - Soil - Plants - Animals - Causing a nuisance through noise or odours; - Adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest. Waste should be managed in line with the waste hierarchy:	European Directive 2008/98/EC on waste (Waste Framework Directive) (Amended 2019)

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
• Prevent or reduce waste; • Reuse; • Recycle; • Other recovery methods; and • Dispose. The Waste Framework Directive was amended in 2019.	
National	
Defines what constitute waste and sets out how it is to be controlled and disposed of.	The Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations, 2012
The Waste Management Plan for England is a high-level document which is non-site specific. It provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England and evaluates how it will support implementation of the objectives and provisions of the Waste Regulations 2011. To ensure that by 2035: • The preparing for re-use and the recycling of municipal waste is increased to a minimum of 65% by weight; and • The amount of municipal waste landfilled is reduced to 10% or less of the total amount of municipal waste generated (by weight).	Waste Management Plan for England, DEFRA, 2021
To improve the environment and protect human health by supporting a resource efficient economy, reducing the quantity and impact of waste produced whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.	Prevention is better than cure: The role of waste prevention in moving to a more resource efficient economy, HM Government, 2013
The NPPF states that achieving sustainable development includes minimising waste. It also states that strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of place, and make sufficient provision for infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat)	National Planning Policy Framework, 2024
Identifies key planning objectives, requiring planning authorities to: • Help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy. • Ensure waste management is considered alongside other spatial planning concerns. • Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste. • Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment.	National Planning Policy for Waste, DCLG, 2014

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management.	
The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition. The plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on minimising waste. This target includes aims to: - Working towards our ambition of zero avoidable waste by 2050; - Working to a target of eliminating avoidable plastic waste by end of 2042; - Meeting all existing waste targets – including those on landfill, reuse and recycling – and developing ambitious new future targets and milestones; - Seeking to eliminate waste crime and illegal waste sites over the lifetime of this Plan, prioritising those of highest risk. Delivering a substantial reduction in litter and littering behaviour; and - Significantly reducing and where possible preventing all kinds of marine plastic pollution – in particular material that came originally from land.	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018
The Environment Act 2021 introduces important changes to waste and resource efficiency, including: - Measures to reduce packaging waste - Encouragement of re-use and recycling - Changes to the way waste will be collected (e.g.: recycling must be collected separately from other household waste) - Extending producer responsibility - Setting a long term target for reducing residual waste	The Environment Act, 2021
Local	
The vision identified in the Circular Economy Routemap is: The West Midlands circular economy will support the green industrial revolution. It will contribute to sustainable, inclusive growth, to the social economy and to a green recovery. The region's circular economy will make better use of resources, generating more value and creating more jobs. Three priority areas have been identified as part of the Routemap: - Circular manufacturing: The West Midlands has a unique opportunity to drive the growth of a competitive clean tech sector, support the decarbonisation of the transport sector and optimise the use and re-use of precious materials and metals through manufacturing; - Circular construction: Distinctive opportunities exist in unlocking brownfield sites, embedding circular design, capitalising on new material innovations and leveraging	West Midlands Combined Authority Circular Economy Routemap, 2022

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
new delivery models, whilst building on the region's existing initiatives; and • Circular food: The West Midlands is a major food and drink manufacturing hub and is home to diverse community groups working on food issues. The region can leverage this landscape to engage the entire food supply chain to re-design its food system.	
Staffordshire Waste Partnership (SWP) is made up of all ten councils operating in Staffordshire; 8 Borough or District Councils, Staffordshire County Council, and Stoke-on-Trent City Council. The aim of Staffordshire Waste Partnership is to work together to reduce waste, and maximise reuse, recovery, and recycling. SWP aims to reduce the environmental impact of disposal by recovering energy from any residual waste. SWP is striving towards a zero waste economy, where all materials have a purpose and avoid disposal of any kind. Six key principles of the strategy have been identified: • Waste prevention; • Efficiency savings; • Resource recovery; • Carbon reduction; • Infrastructure and contracts; and • Municipal waste.	Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, 2007-2020
The Joint Waste Service (JWS) for Lichfield District Council and Tamworth Borough Council contains four strategic objectives: • Simplify recycling for residents: - Make recycling easier and more accessible for households; and - Address common barriers to participation and confusion. • Drive up recycling rates: - Aim to achieve a recycling rate of 50% by 2026/27 and 65% by 2035; - Reduce tonnage of black bin waste in line with Staffordshire wide targets; - Introduce food waste and plastic film recycling; and - Reduce contamination rates in recyclable materials. • Enhance efficiency and reduce costs: - Optimise collection routes costs and fuel usage; - Maximise the use of technology and data-driven decision-making; and - Ensure the service is financially efficient. • Support environmental sustainability: - Align with government waste reduction targets and carbon neutrality goals; and - Encourage waste prevention and reuse initiatives across the partnership area.	Lichfield District & Tamworth Borough Joint Waste Service Business Plan 2025-2026

Message/Issue	Source Document(s)
The long-term vision of the Plan to 2035 is: • Achieve 65% recycling rate: - Roll out new waste services and increase the range of recyclable materials collected; and - Regularly review and update educational materials to reflect changes in recycling streams and regulations. • Work with partners to deliver efficient waste infrastructure across Staffordshire: - Work with Staffordshire authorities to ensure the partnership and local communities can benefit from an efficient waste infrastructure. • Develop a greener fleet and service: - Introduce greener fuels and technologies into the waste fleet and service by 2035 to align with local and national carbon neutrality targets. • Demonstrate circular economy leadership: - Position the joint waste service as a leader in waste management innovation by sharing good practice and hosting pilot programs for emerging approaches.	