

East Staffordshire Community Safety Plan 2021-2024

1. Introduction

This document sets out the approach of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for tackling crime and making communities safe in East Staffordshire over the next 3 years. Commencing in April 2021 this plan will not only set out a clear pathway for reducing crime and improving safety, but will also provide residents with a simple easy to read guide on the progress. The plan will be reviewed annually every March and updates will be published each April.

2. Who and what is the Local Strategic Partnership?

The LSP is a commissioning board of local government organisations and the voluntary sector that work together to improve outcomes for the residents of East Staffordshire. Delivering these outcomes is achieved through the commissioning of services specifically created to address one or more of the priority outcomes set out in this Partnership Plan. Sitting underneath the LSP is the operational arm of the partnership (entitled the Community Response Group- CRG) which incorporates a mixture of front-line officers and services. This delivery arm is chaired by Staffordshire Police. Members and organisations at both levels do not only consider community safety but also have a strategic and operational view on the health of residents and economic circumstances such as employment levels. Research suggests that increasing educational attainment and the subsequent improved economic circumstances of residents lead to safer communities. Therefore, partners will work holistically, in family settings where applicable, in their efforts to create a safer East Staffordshire.

Membership of the LSP includes Staffordshire Police, Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service, Staffordshire County Council, East Staffordshire Borough Council, Trent & Dove Housing and the Voluntary Sector.

Membership of the CRG includes:

East Staffordshire Borough Council- Environmental Health, Enforcement, Homelessness & Housing, Open Spaces, Licensing, Waste Management, and Communities.

Staffordshire County Council- Trading Standards, Public Health & Prevention

Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service and SCYVS

3. The Vision

“Partners will work collectively with the common purpose of reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, and the impact it has on victims and witnesses”

4. Strategy of the Partnership to address crime (Shared Principles)

Our strategy for reducing crime and making communities feel safe is based upon a set of shared principles across all the partners of the Local Strategic Partnership. These are;

- Being data led – we will utilise the annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment when agreeing the strategic priorities for the Borough
- Focussing on volume crime – thereby maximising the positive impact of our actions on victims and witnesses
- Developing preventative solutions – that will stop crimes happening in the first place rather than focusing on detection after the event
- Taking action at a local level – focusing on those areas where the highest volumes of crimes are taking place
- Involving the voluntary sector alongside communities in designing the right interventions in combination with implementing evidence based approaches
- Pooling resources, financial and human, to ensure impact is maximised at the same time as making best use of limited resources

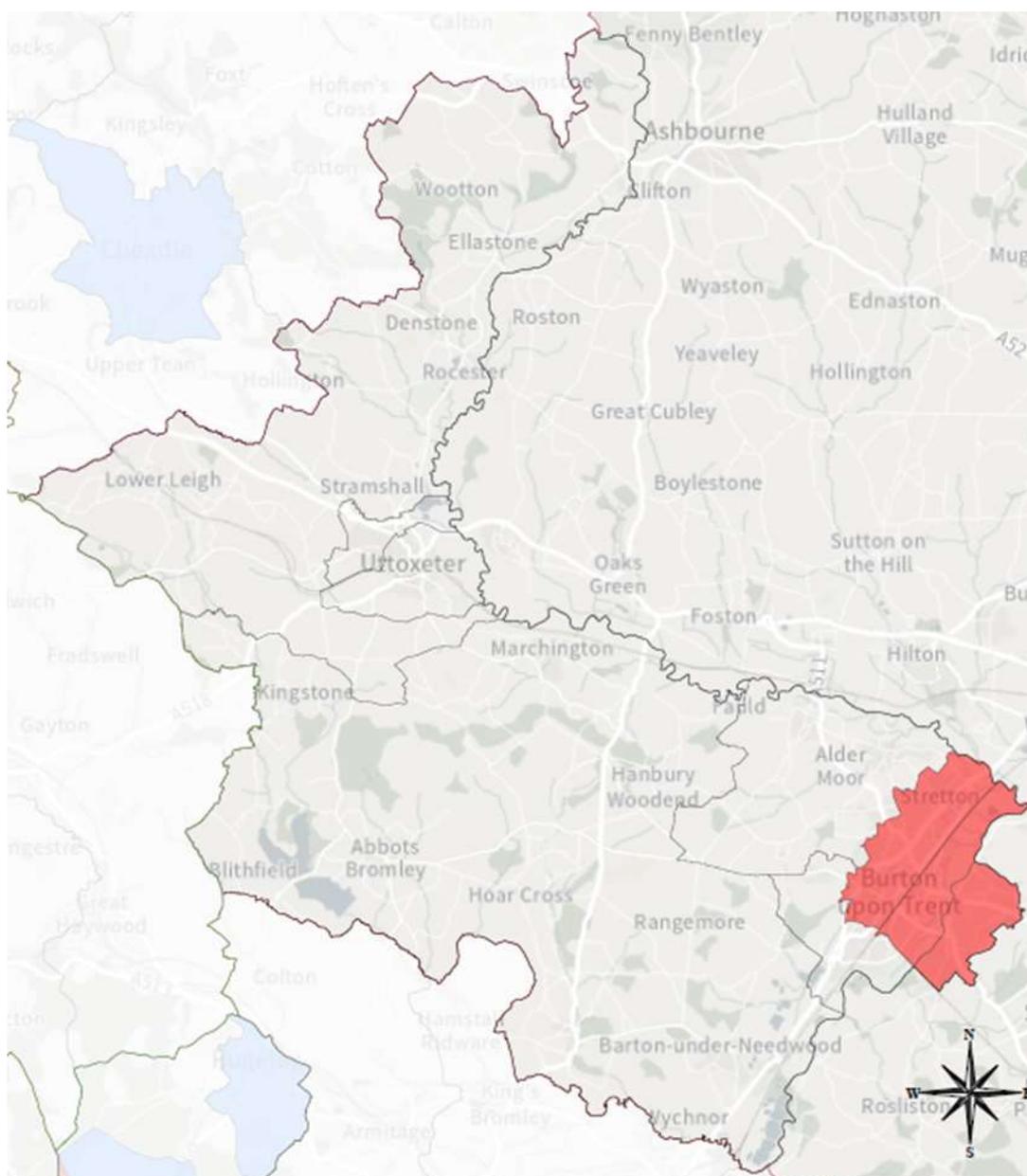
5. Priority Themes

The annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment has identified the following four priorities;

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism
- Domestic Abuse
- Serious Violence and Violence Against Women & Girls
- Drugs & County Lines
- Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding

6. Reasons for priority selection

The following gives a summary of the reasons why these crimes / themes were selected as strategic priorities for the CSP. Overall, recorded has declined from a 2018-19 level of 70.6 per 1000 to 53.4 in 2021-22. When contrasting the East Staffordshire 2021-22 figure with the county as a whole and England & Wales this reflects positively. With Staffordshire averaging 62.1 and England & Wales 93.9. However, this overall figure masks significant variations across the borough with communities experiencing differing levels of crime. Consequently, strategic and operational actions will seek to identify areas for targeted intervention and focus. Identified as “Precision Policing” the map below illustrates the areas in which these activities will take place.



East Staffordshire	Priority Type	Rationale for selection
Burton Town & Uxbridge	Force-wide	As one of the largest urban areas in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, these neighbourhoods have experienced a number of challenges relating to crime and vulnerability over a period of time.
Burton Urban	Force-wide	
Winshill & Stapenhill	Force-wide	

5.1 ASB

- 2,130 incidents in 21-22, down slightly on the 20-21 figure of 2,400.
- Rate per 1000 of 17.6
- 64% Rowdy & Inconsiderate Behaviour. 23% neighbour disputes.
- The harm it poses to communities and the recognition that the issue needs to be tackled collectively across a number of agencies.
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can lead to negative perceptions of the levels of crime and of the police. The impact can be devastating on quality of life and the environment.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Partnership approach to reducing ASB
- ❖ Partnership resources will be targeted to areas where the volumes of ASB are highest
- ❖ ASB will reduce as a consequence of partnership approach
- ❖ Residents feel increasingly safe within their community at all times of the day and night

5.2 Community Cohesion and tackling extremism

- 220 Hate Crimes recorded in 21-22. 1.8 per 1000 v Staffordshire 1.6
- Second highest area in Staffordshire for hate crime after Stoke City at 2.7.
- 63% of hate crime is race related. 26% LGBTQ+ (although data trends so this is steadily increasing). 10% disability.
- COVID-19, Brexit and the cost of living crisis have been just three factors that introduced major change to the communities of East Staffordshire.
- Protect factor can help divert or reduce vulnerability to radicalisation: Understanding and realising the negative connotations of being part of certain groups, good and effective networks of support, effective support and treatment for mental and physical health needs and good and effective support and interest from parents/guardians.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Raise awareness of all forms of extremism
- ❖ Encourage wider understanding between the varied communities of East Staffordshire

5.3 Domestic abuse

- 2021-22 1,920 reported domestic abuse incidents. East Staffs 15.9 per 1000 v Staffordshire rate of 17.4.
- 80% of domestic abuse incidents involve violence of which 1 in 4 is common assault.
- Highest proportion of honour based abuse (30 per year) in Staffordshire. Victims are predominantly younger, females of South Asian ethnicity. Increasingly visibility of younger males identifying as LGBTQ+ at increased risk.
- Domestic Abuse is recognised as an under-reported issue, with much abuse hidden. Estimated 65% is not reported.
- Victims of domestic abuse are primarily female aged 18-39. Conversely, offenders are primarily male aged 18-39.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Improved levels of understanding of what constitutes Domestic Abuse and the impact it has on victims and witnesses
- ❖ Victims and witnesses of Domestic Abuse feel confident to report incidents at the earliest possible stage
- ❖ Victims and witnesses feel supported after reporting incidents of Domestic Abuse
- ❖ Reduction in repeat offending by Domestic Abuse perpetrators
- ❖ Reduction in repeat victims of Domestic Abuse

5.4 Serious Violence and Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)

- 790 in incidents of VAWG recorded in 21-22. 1 in 8 non-domestic related. 7% increase since the pandemic.
- 250 incidents of public place violence. 16% of offences involves alcohol. East Staffs 2.1 per 1000 v Staffordshire 5.5.
- Serious violence incidents reported in 2021-22- 190. East Staffs 1.6 per 1000 v Staffordshire 1.7.
- 70 knife crime incidents. East Staffs 0.6 per 1000 v Staffordshire 0.7.
- Large variations in violent crime occur across the borough with Burton Urban & Uxbridge having a rate of 55.5 per 1000 in contrast to a Staffordshire wide figure of 28.5.
- Victims and offenders of serious violence predominantly males aged 18-29.
- High risk and impact it has on individuals and communities.
- East Staffordshire experiences high volumes of public place violence and youth violence.
- Public place violence has a detrimental impact on the community in which it occurs, including the business community and night-time economy.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Residents feel safe in public places
- ❖ Young people participate in positive activities
- ❖ Residents feel supported when reporting violent incidents

- ❖ Increased awareness by partners of root causes of VAWG and youth violence.

5.5 Drugs & County Lines

- 1.8 offences per 1000 v Staffordshire 1.2 and nationally 3.0.
- Drug related crime 2.5% contrasts against a county wide figure of 2.9%.
- Links to organised crime gangs, child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation and serious violence.
- Residents vulnerable to “cuckooing” if alcohol and drug dependences, learning difficulties and/or mental health needs
- Young males aged 10-19 at highest risk of criminal exploitation.
- Those involved in drug supply are disproportionately male: 9 out of every 10.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Raise awareness of drug and county lines and limit the impact of organised crime.
- ❖ Protect vulnerable residents.

5.7 Vulnerable Persons & Contextual Safeguarding

- 2% of crimes in East Staffs had mental health as a factor. 9.4 per 1000 children have an identified mental health disorder. Rising to 16.6 for Adults and falling to 10.0 for older adults. These figures are broadly in line with those for the whole of Staffordshire.
- East Staffordshire’s suicide rates (13.9) exceed the England average (10.4)
- From 2018-2020 77% of suicide victims in East Staffordshire were male.
- Missing person episodes have increased 55% over the last 12 months. In under 18 cohort this figure rises to 60%.
- The Shobnall Ward has a Looked-After Children rate that is three times higher than that of the England average.
- Mental health cutting theme when considering vulnerability.
- Persons at higher risk if presence of drugs and/or alcohol challenges, social isolation and poor-quality housing.
- Recessional factors likely to impact mental health such as unemployment, declining disposal income and unmanageable debts.
- Families and homes at higher risk of safeguarding need if exposed to the “toxic trio” – drug and alcohol misuse, parental mental ill-health and domestic abuse.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ The most vulnerable are protected
- ❖ Support services are available for those affected by substance misuse, mental health and the impact of recessional factors.

6. Cross cutting themes

Set out below are themes that cross-cut the priorities identified above.

6.1 Substance misuse

- Alcohol and drugs challenges.
- Mental ill health and the misuse of alcohol and drugs impacts upon police and their partners, not just health services but across a wide spectrum of partners.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Residents make healthy lifestyle choices
- ❖ Young people receive IAG on substance misuse
- ❖ Holistic approach taken in family settings where substance misuse is known to occur
- ❖ Reduction in unplanned hospital admissions due to substance misuse

6.2 Vulnerability

Vulnerability encompasses a wide range of issues including:

- Modern Slavery
- Honour Based Abuse
- Child Criminal Exploitation
- Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Abuse,
- Victims of Radicalisation,
- Organised Immigration Crime,
- Hate crime
- Those suffering from Mental Health issues.

Partnership aims and ambitions

- ❖ Improved partnership understanding of vulnerability
- ❖ Improved data sharing to prevent vulnerable people becoming victims
- ❖ Improved understanding of the earliest help offer available from community organisations

7. Priority Wards

Previous highlighted the role of precision Policing. Based on the information provided in the annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment the Local Strategic Partnership has identified the following priority wards;

- Anglesey, Burton Town, Shobnall
- The CSP also focusses on the other inner Burton wards: Eton Park, Horninglow, Stapenhill and Winshill.

8. What you can expect from individual organisations in the Partnership

Each partner makes a unique and specific contribution to reducing crime and improving the lives of residents.

East Staffordshire Borough Council

Within the partnership East Staffordshire Borough Council have the greatest influence over the environment and street scene. Litter, Fly tipping and dog fouling are all issues that blight neighbourhoods and reduce quality of life. ESBC through the Enforcement teams can educate or prosecute offenders. CCTV is also managed Enforcement. Waste Management and Open Spaces teams will keep streets and parks free from litter and dog fouling and ensure all streets and parks are attractive and welcoming to visitors.

Housing and Licensing can protect the most vulnerable of residents through providing people with support and challenging those that seek to exploit individuals. Premises and properties can be regulated to ensure standards are met.

Planners make sure that new developments are safe and utilise policy to ensure that land is not misused or utilised without consent. Officers from within the Enterprise team work on detailed projects that aim to bring in further investment and create jobs across the whole of East Staffordshire.

Staffordshire County Council

Staffordshire County Council supports those in society who are the most vulnerable. The nature of these vulnerabilities can lead to them becoming a target for those who seek to take advantage of them. The Council's in-house children's social work teams work to protect and safeguard children from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Adult social work teams and commissioned providers work to protect the interests of residents with learning disabilities (SCC), mental health or long term conditions (MPUFT).

Trading Standards teams across the County work to combat individuals and organised crime teams who seek to exploit the most vulnerable with scams.

The County Council provides a comprehensive library service across the County, with local offerings in Burton, Uttoxeter and Barton which provide safe spaces for residents to meet, participate and learn, whatever their age or ability.

Ensuring children, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, get the best start in life is a key role for the network of Children's Centres across the County. Commissioned providers operate a venue in the heart of Burton but also provide outreach activities from the centre to support early development in a child's life in the homes of disadvantaged families. This work is complemented by the work of District Nurses and School Nurses who monitor every child's development through childhood.

The County Council provides commissioned support to victims and witnesses of Domestic Abuse, and also commissions intervention work with perpetrators who want to change their behaviour.

Public Health interventions play an important role in reducing health inequalities at a local level. Large health inequalities exist across East Staffordshire for a range of historic reasons. Substance misuse is a significant issue in East Staffordshire, particularly public place offences. Substance misuse is a known coping mechanism for deeper underlying issues that troubled individuals are struggling to manage.

Staffordshire Police

As the Police, we will be visible in the community and engage with the public both in traditional ways through PCSOs, officers and the press and through new technology in the form of social media.

We will strive to identify vulnerability and prevent crime at its earliest point so that we can help to assist the most vulnerable to receive help as early as possible to prevent them from becoming victims and repeat victims.

We will investigate crime that we cannot prevent with the clear objective of bringing offenders to justice in line with the wishes of the victims.

We will problem solve antisocial behaviour so that it stops and remains stopped and we will utilise legislation to robustly deal with those who make cause a negative impact on the quality of life of others.

Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service

As an effective Fire and Rescue Service, we provide our communities with a wide range of opportunities which improve their safety and wellbeing. We look to engage with and educate all who have contact with us. This includes our partner agencies, other emergency services and members of our local communities. We do this in a range of different ways.

We offer Safe and Well visits that look not only at fire safety in the home but also help address numerous other risk factors which can negatively impact upon an individual and their wellbeing. Following on from our Safe and Well visits, we regularly make referrals to other agencies to get support for the people we have engaged with.

We have Prince's Trust Programmes which help to build confidence and resilience in the young adults who participate.

We have a range of initiatives and presentations which we can deliver to key groups within our community. These reduce the likelihood of incidents occurring, from deliberate fires to road traffic collisions.

Through our Safe and Sound work, we co-ordinate and deliver multi agency events which both support and help to prioritise the services we deliver.

We have Protect Teams who can support local business with reference to fire safety, legislative requirements and business continuity.

These are just some examples of how your Fire and Rescue Service can support, through the Local Strategic Partnership, a progressive Community Safety Plan for East Staffordshire.

Trent & Dove Housing

We are a community focused landlord with over 6,200 properties the majority of which are within East Staffordshire. We are driven by our social purpose and supporting the communities in which we have properties. Our customers are vital to this and supporting them to live safely critical to this. Partnership working is essential to this and drives our core 2022-2027 Strategic Plan themes of People, Purpose and Performance. We want the experiences of everyone who connects with us to be constructive. Whether this is living in a home we provide, benefitting from our services or working and volunteering for us, we aim to offer choice and opportunities and be a consistent, positive presence.

Since we were formed in 2001, we have aimed to transform homes, live and communities. We are proud to be a PlaceShaper housing association investing in the health, wellbeing and community and social fabric that enables customers, colleagues and communities to thrive. Most of what we do happens through and because of collaboration and joint working with others. Positive and effective partnerships enable us to do more together than we can on our own. We are committed to make this an even bigger part of how we do business, taking a lead where we can and always seeking to boost the impact and capacity of our partners

Voluntary Sector

The local Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) contributes widely to the prevention of crime and the promotion of community safety, and tackles some of the most complex subject matters directly such as Domestic Abuse. Support Staffordshire and SCVYS offer a conduit for the LSP to the local VCSE sector, for support, development and engagement with a broad and independent overview of what is available locally.

9. How we will know what is important to residents and communities

- Consultation events hosted by members of the partnership

10. How will everyone know that progress is being made?

Performance against crime targets can be viewed through the website of the Staffordshire Commissioner – Police, Fire and Rescue, Crime - www.staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk.

Furthermore the partnership, through Staffordshire Police's BRAIN performance system will regularly track performance and control crime levels.

11. Other documents of interest

Tackling crime and increasing feelings of safety is not a simple case of arresting offenders and locking them in prison. Solutions can often be complex, time consuming and require intervention from organisations that many would not normally associate with helping to tackle crime. Each of these organisations have their own policies and strategies that will, either directly or indirectly, help to drive down crime and make East Staffordshire a safer place to live. These policies and strategies can be found on the partner websites set out below

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/>

<https://eaststaffscg.nhs.uk/>

<http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk/>

<http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/>

<http://www.staffscvys.org.uk/>

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/>

www.staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk.

Appendix 1

Challenges and obstacles

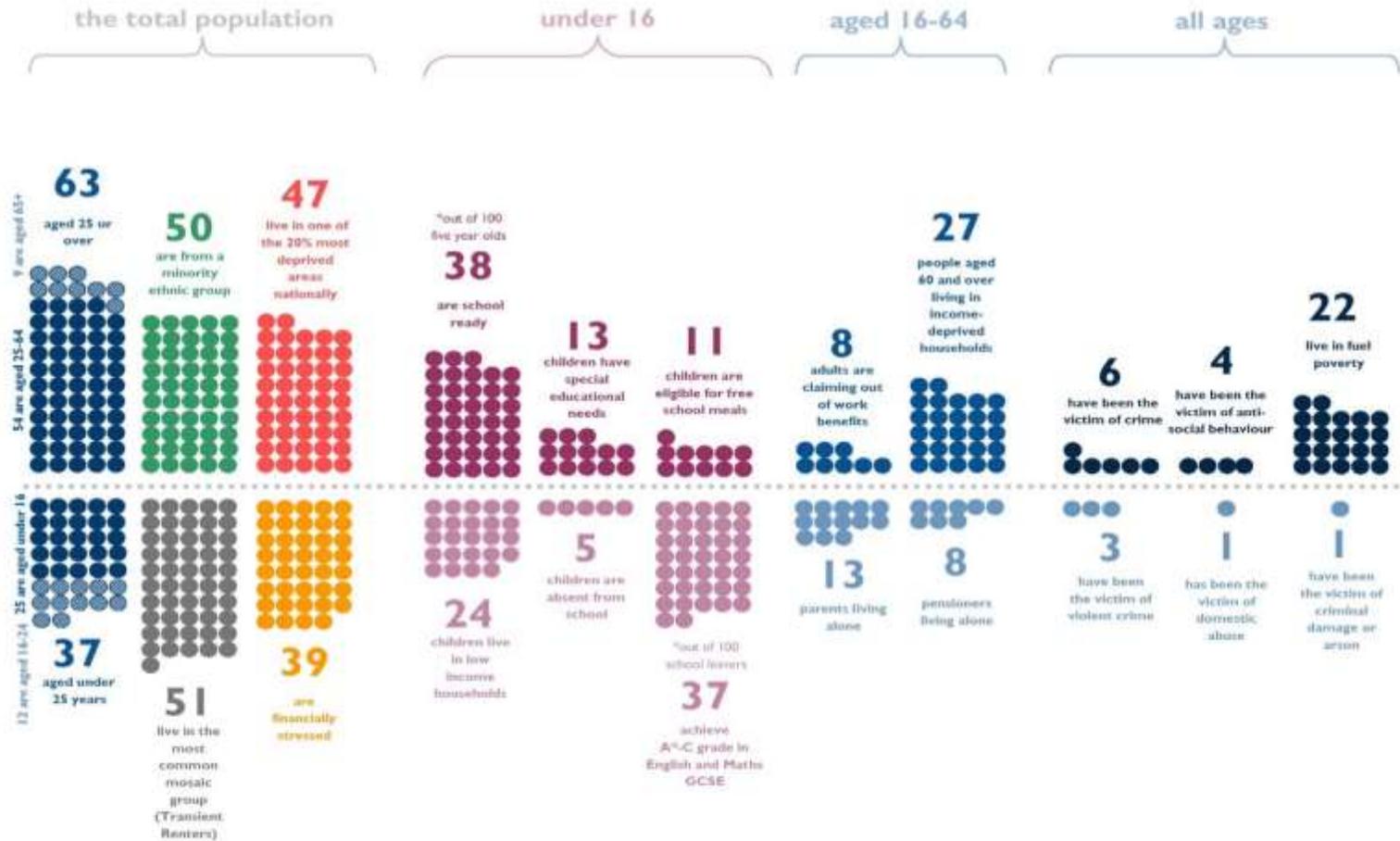
Reducing down crime whilst increasing feelings of safety over a three period will lead to the partnership experiencing a range of challenges and obstacles. Set out below are some of the risks the partnership is likely to face and how these will be dealt with should the situation arise.

Risks	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating action
External funding is cut or removed	High	Medium	Partners will continue to work together to ensure crime levels are addressed. Partnership funded projects will cease in line with the end of funding
A partnership commissioned project folds	Medium	Medium	The partnership will seek to find alternative suppliers or commission another project
Project sustainability	High	Medium	The partnership will contract to delivery organisations for the 3 year life cycle of the community safety plan
Project performance	High	Medium	Contracted organisations will be contractually obliged to deliver quarterly performance updates. Those organisations not meeting partnership targets will have funding removed.
A partner withdraws from the partnership	Medium	High	The chair will write to the respective organisation reminding them of their obligations under the Crime & Disorder Act.
Crime increases	Medium	High	Comparisons will be made with crime levels in England. If the increase in crime is lower than the England average interventions could be said to be working. Conversely, if higher the Partnership will instigate a detailed review of all interventions and consider revising objectives

Risks	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating action
Priorities change	Low	High	Crime trends and patterns fluctuate. The Partnership will use the annual strategic assessment to guide priorities. This will be augmented by front line intelligence from officers and communities.
Major national or international incidents	Medium	Medium	Events outside of East Staffordshire can erode public confidence. The Partnership will liaise with the Countywide CSP to ensure a joined pan-Staffordshire approach that provides reassurance to communities.
Cuts to mainstream services	Low	High	Where mainstream services are reduced the partnership will evaluate the cost/benefit to the partnership of funding being utilised to close any funding gaps. Decisions will be based on evidence and local need and also the rationale for the mainstream removal of provision.

Appendix 2

Figure 2: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people Anglesey (Hotspot area priority ward)



**Figure 3: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people
Burton (Hotspot area priority ward)**

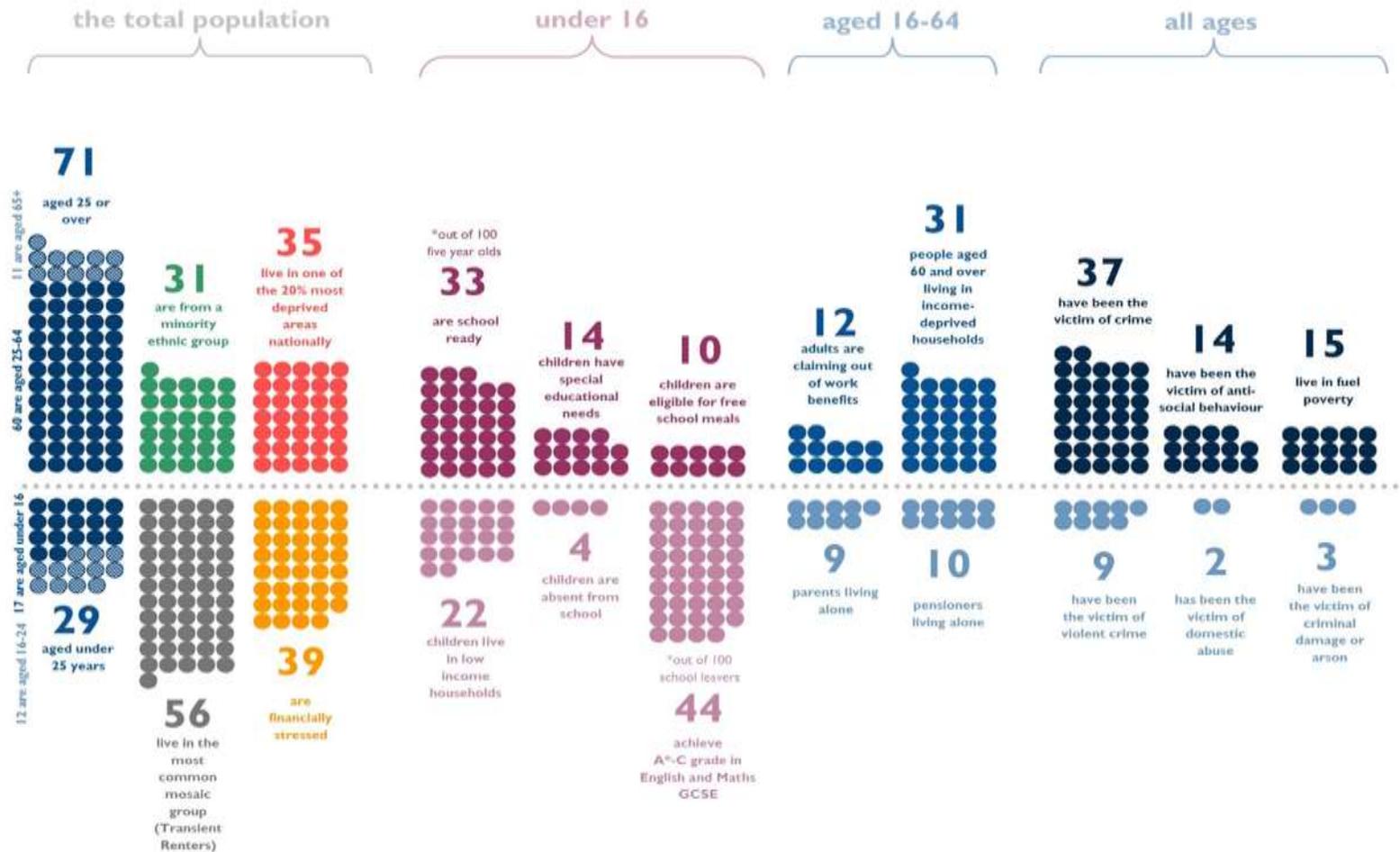


Figure 4: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people
 Eton Park (Hotspot area priority ward)

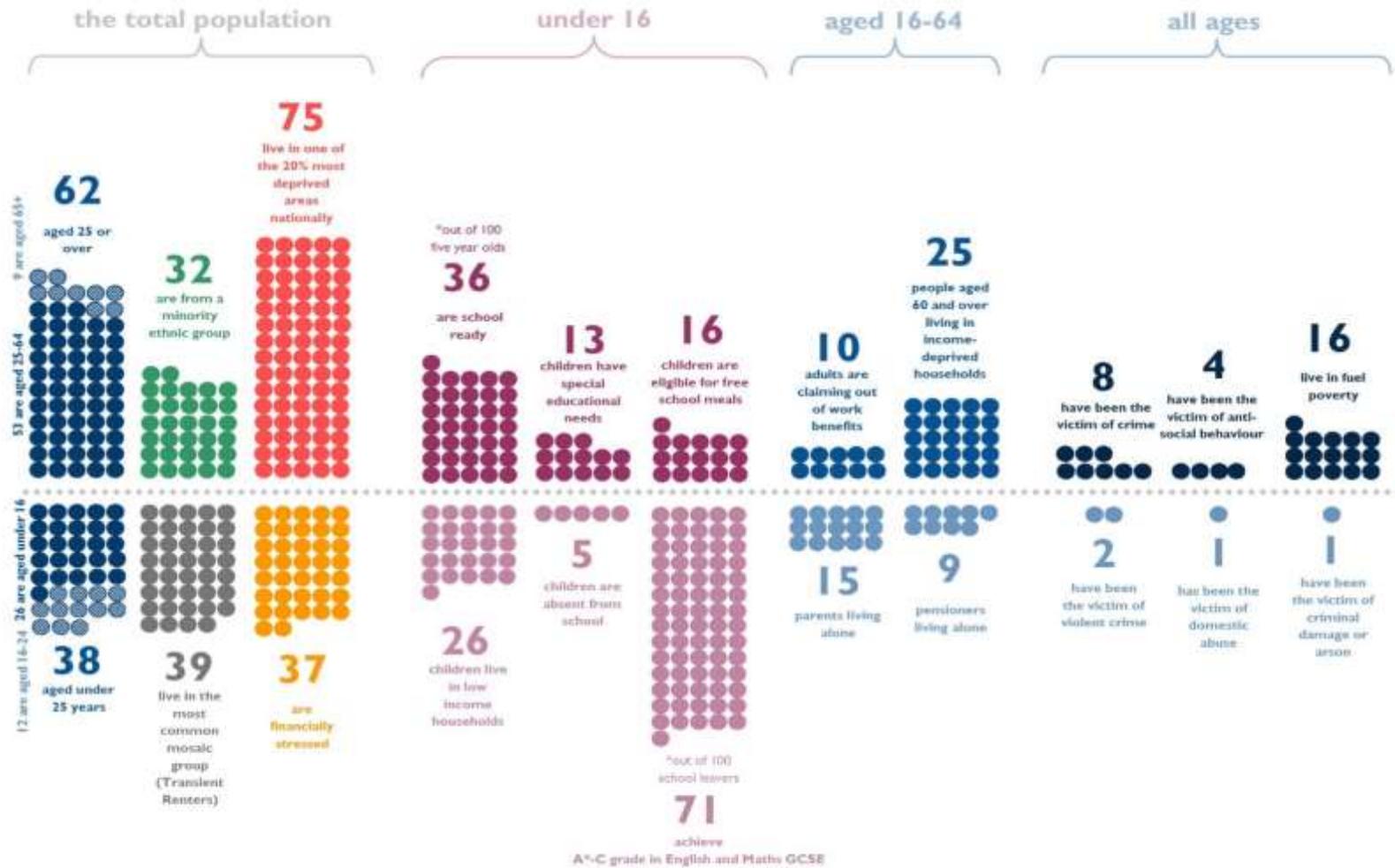


Figure 5: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people
 Horninglow (Hotspot area priority ward)

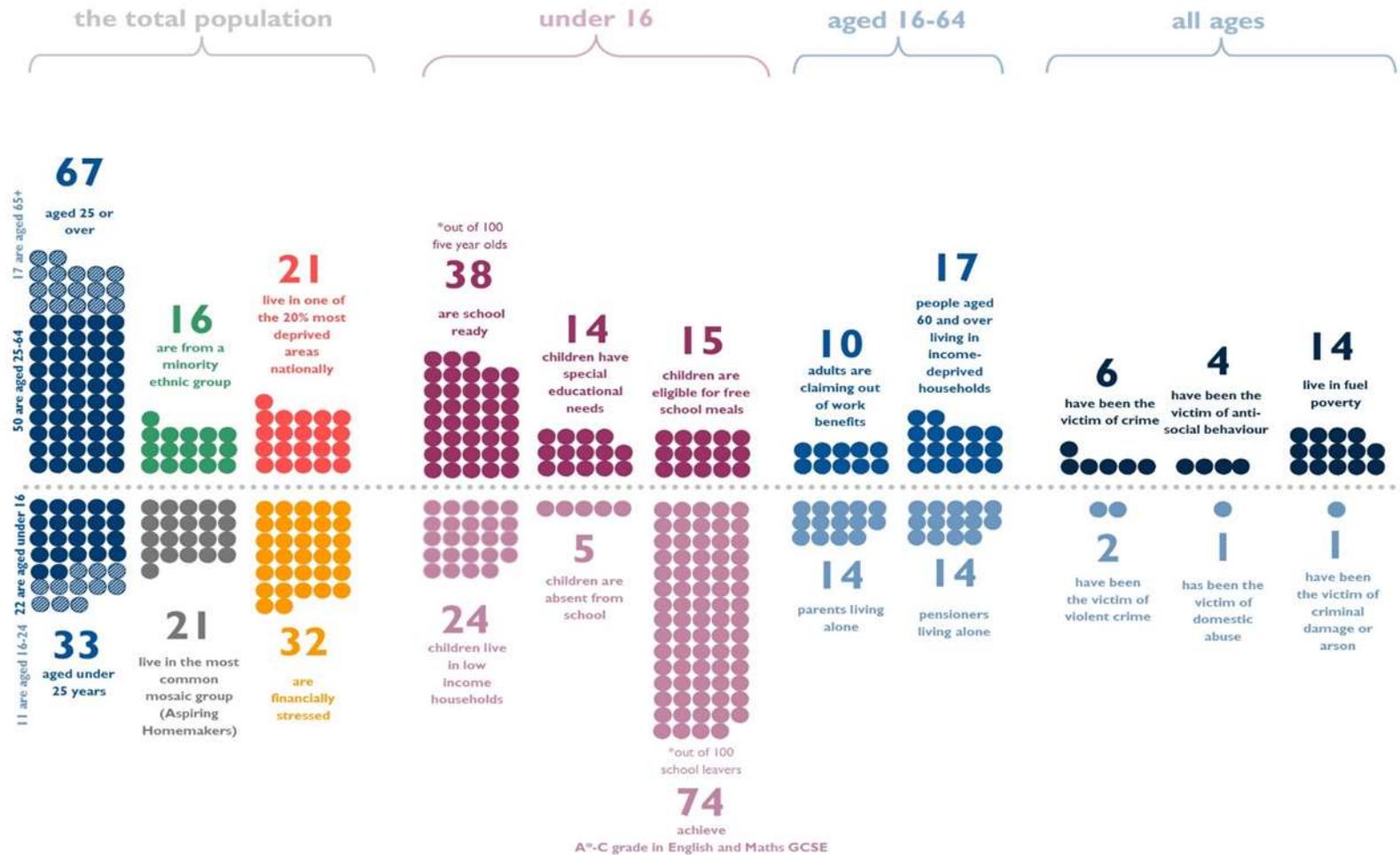
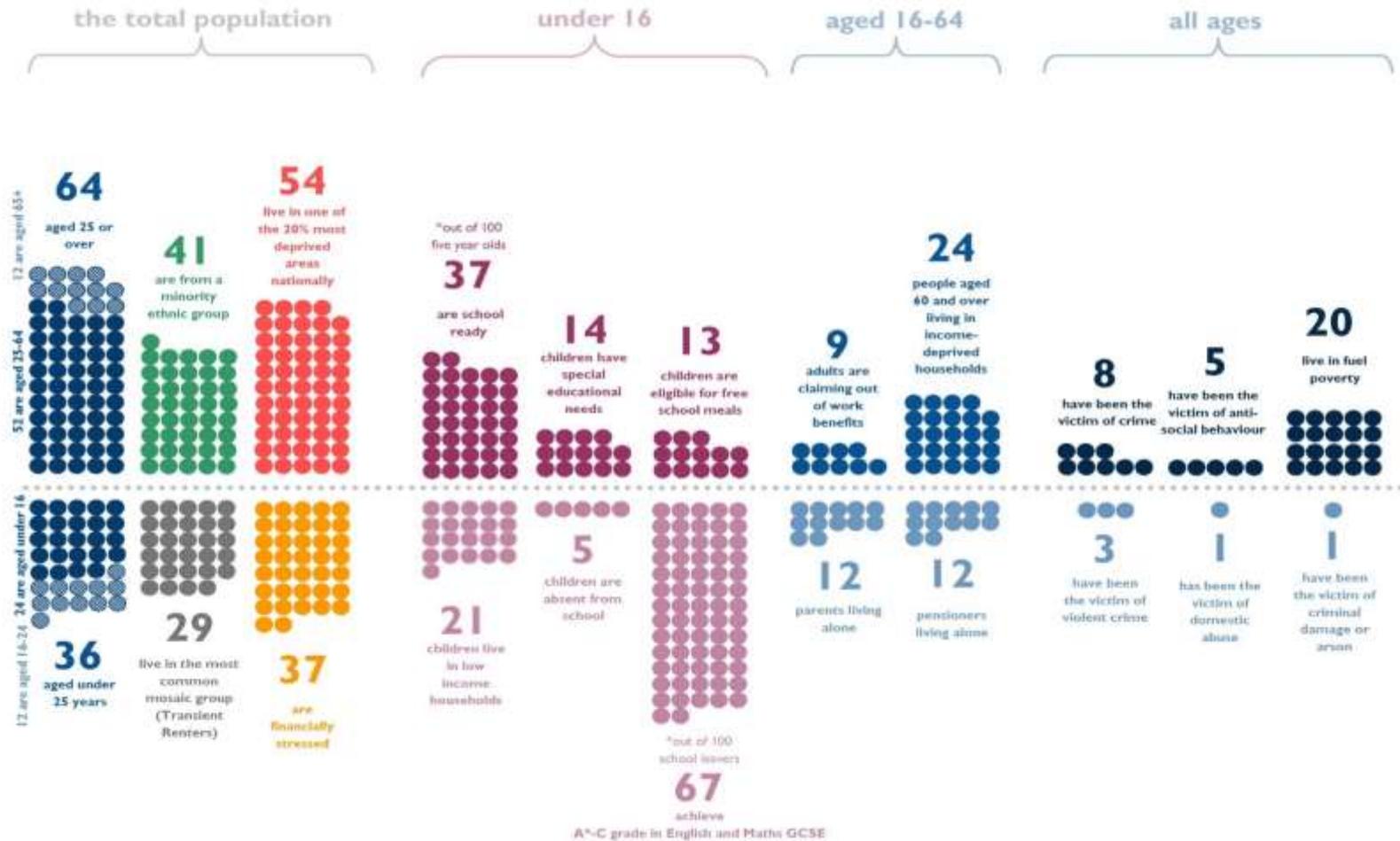


Figure 6: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people
 Shobnall (Hotspot area priority ward)



**Figure 7: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people
Stapenhill**

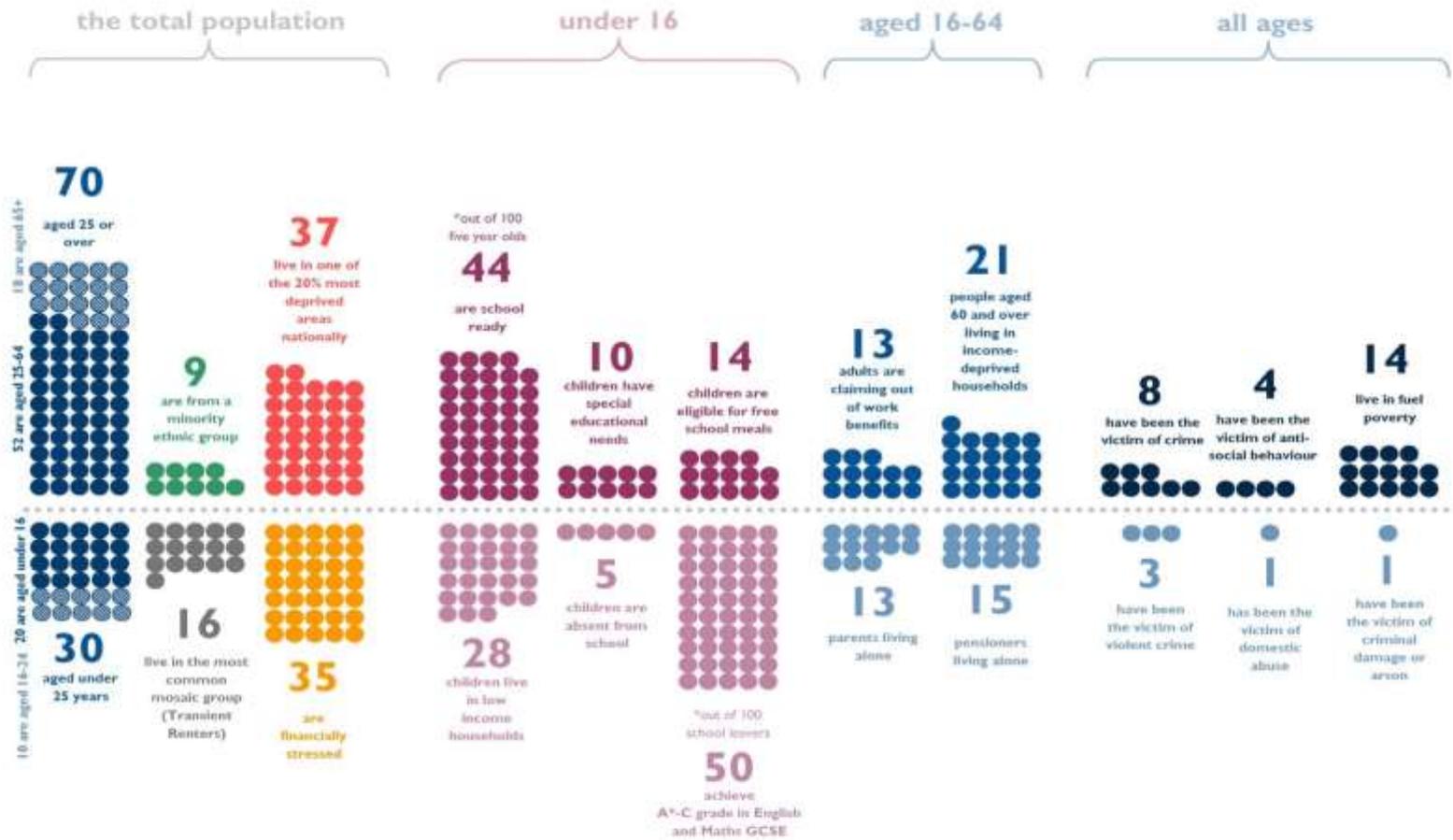


Figure 8: If the most vulnerable wards in East Staffordshire were a 100 people Winshill

