


**CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>Community Committee</b>		
<b>MEETING DATE AND TIME</b>	<b>17 April 2025</b> <b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>Congleton Town Hall</b>
<b>REPORT FROM</b>	<b>David McGifford Chief Officer</b>		
<b>AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>9.1</b> <b>Update on the Anti-Spiking Campaign</b>		
	<p>The Town Council, in collaboration with Congleton Police and funding from the Cheshire Police &amp; Crime Commissioner's Safety, Working Together, Action and Prevention (SWAP) fund, has introduced drug testing kits in local venues to <b>support potential spiking victims</b>. The recently launched initiative was developed with input from the town council's White Ribbon group and the Community Safety group.</p> <p>Hospitality venues across Congleton now have drug testing kits behind the bar for individuals who suspect they or someone they know has been spiked. Costa Coffee locations across the town, also offer these kits, as they open earlier than most venues.</p> <p>Unlike hospitals, which typically test for only two substances, these kits detect 13 common drugs. Victims can provide a urine sample, check the results within 60 minutes, and report incidents to the police. <b>Spiking is a serious offence</b>, carrying up to 10 years imprisonment, and victims are encouraged to seek support and report crimes</p>		
<b>Financial Implications</b>	This project has not required finance from the Town Council, it is hoped that future external funding will be available to continue this initiative.		
<b>Environmental Implications</b>	It is hoped that this initiative will contribute to a safer environment within the hospitality venues within the town.		
<b>Inclusivity Diversity Impact</b>	Spiking of drinks can impact any member of our community, this scheme is there to protect all.		
<b>Decision Required</b>	That Councillors note this report.		