

# Crime and Disorder Committee Meeting

**Online Meeting, Virtual Meeting Platform  
Tuesday, 15 September 2020 at 18:00**

**The Crime and Disorder Committee** review and scrutinise decisions made, or other actions taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions, and to make reports and recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet with respect to the discharge of those functions.

## Information for Members of the Public

### Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda (the list of items to be discussed at a meeting), which is usually published five working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available here:

<https://colchester.cmis.uk.com/colchester/MeetingCalendar.aspx>.

Occasionally certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual have to be considered in private. When this is the case an announcement will be made, the live broadcast will end and the meeting will be moved to consider the matter in private.

### Have Your Say!

The Council welcomes contributions in the form of written representations from members of the public at most public meetings. Each representation may be no longer than three minutes (or 500 words, if a written submission). Written submissions must be submitted via the form accessed by this link, before noon on the working day before the meeting date: [Crime and Disorder Have Your Say!](#) If you wish to speak in person to the Panel, you must register your wish by noon on the previous working day, by emailing [democratic.services@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@colchester.gov.uk), and include a written copy of what you wish to say, in case technical difficulties prevent you joining the meeting. The Chairman will invite members of the public to make their representations at the start of the meeting.

If you would like to submit representations to a meeting and need to find out more, please refer to the Have Your Say! arrangements here:

<https://colchester.cmis.uk.com/colchester/HaveYourSay.aspx>.

E-mail: [democratic.services@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@colchester.gov.uk)  
[www.colchester.gov.uk](http://www.colchester.gov.uk)

# **The role and work of the Crime and Disorder Committee**

## **The role**

The Committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions or other actions taken in connection with the functions conferred to the Committee, these being, a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the Borough and a strategy for combating the misuse of drugs in the borough.

## **The Committee has to meet at least once in every twelve-month period.**

The Committee may co-opt persons to serve on the Committee who are members of the public, employees, officers or members of responsible authorities, for example, the Council, Essex County Council, Essex Police Authority, Essex Fire and Rescue Authority and the Essex Probation Service.

Executive members of the Council may not be co-opted to the Committee. Co-opted persons shall not be entitled to vote on any matter, unless the Committee so determines.

## **The work**

The review of the Safer Colchester Partnership will be a year on year substantive report to be considered by the Committee.

Any Member of Colchester Borough Council may give written notice to the Scrutiny Officer that they wish an item to be included on the agenda of the Committee in relation to a local crime and disorder matter. If the matter is considered a local crime and disorder matter, the item will be included on the first available agenda of the Committee.

A crime and disorder matter is a matter involving anti-social behaviour or other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment, or the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances.

The Committee once it has considered a local crime and disorder matter shall consider whether or not to make a report to the Cabinet or Council, and if it decides not to, shall notify the Councillor concerned of its decision(s) and the reason(s) for it.

If the Committee decides to report to the Cabinet or Council, it will provide a copy of the report to the Councillor concerned and the responsible authorities and co-operating persons or bodies as appropriate.

**COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Crime and Disorder Committee**  
**Tuesday, 15 September 2020 at 18:00**

**Member:**

Councillor Kevin Bentley  
Councillor Lewis Barber  
Councillor Tina Bourne  
Councillor Paul Dundas  
Councillor Chris Hayter  
Councillor Mike Hogg  
Councillor Sam McCarthy  
Councillor Lorcan Whitehead

Chairman  
Deputy Chairman

**Substitutes:**

All members of the Council who are not Cabinet members or members of this Panel.

**AGENDA - Part A**  
(open to the public including the press)

**Please note that Agenda items 1 to 6 are normally dealt with briefly.**

**Live Broadcast**

Please follow this link to watch the meeting live on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ColchesterCBC>

**1 Welcome and Announcements (Virtual Meetings)**

The Chairman will welcome members of the public and Councillors to the meeting and remind those participating to mute their microphones when not talking. The Chairman will invite all Councillors and Officers participating in the meeting to introduce themselves. The Chairman will, at regular intervals, ask Councillors to indicate if they wish to speak or ask a question and Councillors will be invited to speak in turn by the Chairman. A vote on each item of business will be taken by roll call of each Councillor and the outcome of each vote will be confirmed by the Democratic Services Officer.

**2 Substitutions**

Councillors will be asked to say if they are attending on behalf of a Committee member who is absent.

**3 Urgent Items**

The Chairman will announce if there is any item not on the published agenda which will be considered because it is urgent and will explain the reason for the urgency.

**4      Declarations of Interest**

Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the agenda about which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the item or participating in any vote upon the item, or any other pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest.

**5      Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Councillors will be invited to confirm that the minutes of the meeting held on (insert date) are a correct record.

**Crime and Disorder Committee Minutes 10 September 2019**

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**6      Have Your Say! (Virtual Meetings)**

Members of the public may make representations to the meeting. Each representation may be no longer than three minutes (500 words). Members of the public may register their wish to address the meeting by registering online by 12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting date. In addition a written copy of the representation will need to be supplied for use in the event of unforeseen technical difficulties preventing participation at the meeting itself.

**7      Safer Colchester Partnership**

15 - 50

This report provides the Crime and Disorder Committee with the opportunity to review the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP) during the period March 2020 – September 2020. Included within the report is background information and an explanation of the role of the Safer Colchester Partnership, work undertaken by the Partnership during March 2020 – September 2020 and future priorities for '20/21.

**8      Exclusion of the Public (Scrutiny)**

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

## **Part B**

(not open to the public including the press)

# CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

## 10 September 2019

*Present:-* Councillor Bentley, Councillor Bourne, Councillor Dundas, Councillor Hogg, Councillor McCarthy, Councillor Whitehead

*Substitutes:-* Councillor Hazell (for Councillor Davies), Councillor Willetts (for Councillor Bentley)

*Also Present:-* Councillor Lilley

### 17. Welcome and Announcements

In the absence of the Chair and Deputy Chair, the Committee elected a member to chair this meeting. Councillor Dundas was nominated by Councillor Hazell, seconded by Councillor Willetts and approved by the Committee.

*RESOLVED* that Councillor Dundas be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee.

### 18. Minutes of previous meetings.

*RESOLVED* that the minutes of the meetings held on 26 February 2019 and 22 May 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

### 19. Safer Colchester Partnership

**Councillor Hogg (by reason of being the trustee and license holder for a local charity) declared a non-pecuniary interest in the following item pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 7 (5). Councillor Bourne (by reason of being the Deputy Head of a local school, employed by Essex County Council) declared a non-pecuniary interest in the following item pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 7 (5).**

Pamela Donnelly, Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership and the Council's Strategic Director of Customer and Relationships, introduced the partners attending and thanked them for the work that their organisations carried out, and the systematic joint approach they had taken to community safety. The theme of the presentation 'Changing Landscapes' was introduced and explained. This theme stemmed from the ongoing environment of systematic change for public and voluntary sector service provision. The quality and depth of partnership working was extolled, as was the effect of collaboration and codesign on improving community safety and general public health and wellbeing.

Councillor Lilley, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Wellbeing and Public Safety, highlighted the amount of work which the Partnership had conducted over the past few years, and drew attention to the reduction, over time, in complaints and concerns regarding public safety. The work of the Partnership was being expanded, to increase action against County Lines drug gangs and to protect young people from being drawn into gang activities.

Chief Inspector Rob Huddleston, Police District Commander, gave an overview of the pressures from the past year, which centred on stretched finances and fewer officers. More investment had now been received, with an additional 215 officers recruited so far this year, including an increase to Community Policing Teams across Essex of 68 new officers. It was explained that trainee officers underwent a further two-years of at-work training after Police college, before they were signed off as being ready to work independently.

Effective partnership with other agencies, including the Council, and the increase in resources available had meant that police operations could effectively cover both day- and night-time economies. The Town Team had grown, and the Rural Policing Team had also grown, going from three to ten officers, supported by Police Community Support Officers and conducting wider rural engagement activities. A business crime team was being drawn up to protect companies across Essex, and 20 new officers were to be recruited as Young-Person Officers to work with vulnerable children. 75 Special Officers had been working within the Police to assist with a diverse range of activities, from fraud prevention, to providing translation services. Stakeholders from across the Borough were being met with to ensure that all communities were being covered.

The District Commander described the work which had been carried out to tackle drug-related crime and knife crime. Operation Sceptre had targeted the use and carrying of knives and had proceeded alongside the work of Raptor Teams conducting operations targeting drug supply and crime, and alongside the Youth Offending Service.

Demand for Police responses had increased, and the Police were concentrating on maintaining a hostile environment for criminals in Colchester, prioritising issues and incidents by assessing threat, harm and risk in each case. In July 2019, the Police logged 33,841 calls via 999, an increase from 31,480 logged in July 2018. 28,205 non-emergency calls were received in July 2019 and the Police switchboard received around 58,000 telephone enquiries. An increase in recorded crime to 15.3% had been recorded, although it was noted that this was around 2% lower than the Force's average. One reason for this is that the Home Office had introduced new crime recording rules, which can see multiple crimes recorded for a single incident.

Demand has also increased for Police involvement in non-criminal incidents, such as suicide/self-harm cases and missing-person searches. This often involved working with the NHS and Social Care Services.

The District Commander explained the process for prioritising incidents and deciding responses, assessing threat, harm and risk for each incident and crime. The Police had worked with the Department for Work and Pensions, the Council's Neighbourhood Teams, Neighbourhood Watches, Military Police, town centre managers, businesses and others to target crime and criminals, and were also engaging with Essex University. Part of this work involved provision of victim support, and officers had worked with a range of partner groups and organisations to ensure training on this was of the best possible standard. Advice and communications had also been carried out to better-identify vulnerable individuals in need of support. One example was the provision of advice to taxi drivers as to identifying potentially vulnerable individuals who may need safeguarding. Victim Navigators had been employed to identify issues and help vulnerable people and victims of modern-day slavery and other long-term abuse to return to a more secure and positive place.

Police visibility continued to increase, with more officers and successful action by the Town Centre Policing Team and an increase in Rural area patrols. Providing an engaged and



positive presence at community and civic events also helped to improve the Force's visibility.

Greg Keys, Group Manager for Essex Fire and Rescue Service (EFRS), detailed the Fire Service's refocussing of fire prevention work, moving away from centralised operations and concentrating on local arrangements instead. Operational crews had been tasked to help provide safety and engagement work, alongside external partners and community hubs. Local station managers were supporting local community safety groups. A programme to conduct fire safety visits every three months (where appropriate) had been instituted, and the Firebreak Project had targeted interventions regarding fire safety for young people (ten years old and upwards) and also promoting tolerance, team work and equality. This could be tailored to the needs of partner organisations, such as organisations working to promote law and order. 69 Firebreak courses were held during 2018-19. Home and school visits continued to be made, but new ways of engagement were being explored and used.

A gradual increase in the volume of emergency calls had been experienced, often involving road traffic accidents and rubbish/waste fires. Ways were being sought to minimise such incidents. The Group Manager did however stress that the call volume experienced remained lower than the national average for the Fire Service.

David Messam, Head of Probation (North Essex) at the National Probation Service provided an update on the evolution of probation service provision over recent years, with the resulting split between local probation service providers, and the National Probation Service. The National Probation Service provided advice to courts and parole boards, managed approved premises, delivered statutory victim services and supervised high-risk and sex offenders on probation. In May 2019, probation services were split into 12 distinct regions, with Colchester Borough within the East of England region, which includes Essex, Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. Surrey, Sussex and Kent had now moved to the South-Eastern Region.

Offender management had been moved to fall within the remit of the National Probation Service, with voluntary or private sector innovation partners commissioned to deliver accredited programmes and oversee unpaid work. The National Probation Service would continue to work closely with the Essex Community Rehabilitation Company and rely upon partner agencies. It was explained that offender management in custody has been refocussed towards offender managers based in prisons, rather than communities, to increase rehabilitation efforts in prison and thus reduce recidivism.

Jenny Gibson, Service Delivery Manager for Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (ECRC), explained the role played by the Company in managing low- and medium-risk offenders in Essex. Their team of officers managed a range of cases and delivered a suite of different types of interventions, alongside partner agencies. Issues such as domestic abuse, anger management and group work for 18-25-year-olds were focussed upon, and interventions were delivered based upon specific issues identified for each individual case. Work going forward included dealing with mental health issues, providing counselling and building a Women's Strategy, in partnership with Open Road. It was confirmed that, even with future changes expected, the Company's workforce had continued to grow, and interventions increased.

Nicky O'Shaughnessy, Director of Local Delivery for Essex County Council's Children and Families Service, detailed her organisation's existing working links with others in Colchester and highlighted the 'Outstanding' assessments given to the Service by OFSTED and the

HMP Inspector of Youth Offending Services. This had only been possible due to the good working relationships between the Service and its partners, and Essex County Council had been the only local authority in the country to be awarded 'Outstanding' by both OFSTED and the Inspector.

Demand on early help and statutory services had increased, with pressure on families leading to an increase in poverty, homelessness, neglect, deprivation and exploitation. An increase in cases within traditional areas of concern included an increase in incidents of domestic abuse. Fewer critical cases had arisen, but there had been an increase in cases assessed as presenting a low- or mid-level of risk. Contextual safeguarding was being carried out by the unit dedicated to tackling violence and safeguarding of vulnerable individuals. A campaign to improve mental health and reduce self-harm or suicide had been carried out.

Cases of missing children were being addressed, with resources being allocated to help reduce the number of cases, in partnership with the Police and others. A range of useful forums were in place to help address serious problems such as child exploitation and domestic abuse. This joined-up approach meant that more funding could be gained.

Pam Green, Director of Transformation and Strategy for North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, presented the Group's update. The NHS had undertaken to move away from silo working in health-related matters, with significant changes being made since 2017. The lack of recent statutory changes had given an opportunity for more time to be spent developing partnership working in order to become one of the top-performing systems of integrated health provision. Examples of partnership working were given.

Wider issues affecting wellbeing were now being addressed, such as isolation, work patterns and lifestyle. Local financial stability had been used to improve the number of posts working in this area and included work in partnership with Sport England. The provision of advice and help to those with unhealthy lifestyles and pressures had been seen to have a positive effect.

Commencing the discussion, a member of the Committee questioned whether the Committee would prefer to receive opportunities to scrutinise the work of each statutory partner separately and whether this would allow for a more in-depth examination to be carried out of each partner organisation, better addressing the Committee's statutory duty to scrutinise. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership explained that separate scrutiny had been carried out in previous years, but that the combined approach had been agreed with the Committee's Chair in order to take a more thematic approach. The Council's Monitoring Officer had confirmed that this approach fulfilled the statutory duties of the Committee. It was confirmed that the Scrutiny Panel had the right to request a separate Crime and Disorder Committee briefing from any partner organisation in the Safer Colchester Partnership. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership committed to discuss this with the Assistant Director (Environment) and with the Chair of the Committee prior to the next Scrutiny Panel meeting.

Greater detail was requested regarding the four priorities for protection from hidden harms and how interventions were evaluated for success. Members of the Partnership explained that hidden harms included grooming, domestic abuse, harm to the vulnerable, honour-based crimes, child trafficking, sexual abuse and female genital mutilation.

The work of the 'Virtual Crew' programme was covered, providing online learning and guidance to school pupils regarding avoidance of hidden harms and a range of risks. It was explained that this was the successor to the 'Crucial Crew' programme and provided

guidance in the same areas in which 'Crucial Crew' had been involved. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership assured the Committee that statistics regarding the 'Virtual Crew' would be provided to Committee members as soon as these were ready.

The Committee remarked upon the evidence shown of an increase in positive partnership working, and a reduction in silo working. More integration had seemed to result in greater success for each partner. Cross-agency working had led to stronger bonds between partners, and benefits to communities across the Borough. The Partnership's representatives were asked to explain what happened regarding cooperative working when key individuals leave the organisations. Succession planning arrangements were detailed, with new officers brought in to continue local partnership working. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership described the succession-planning and contingency provisions in place at the Council which would ensure continuity of operations.

The use of organisational terms of reference and co-defined principles at the strategic level to guide partnership work at the operational level was given as a key part of ensuring ongoing partnership working. Resilience in the system was therefore built-in, with colleagues briefed and ready to step in and continue when officers left their roles. The District Commander described the issue of frequent rotations within the Police and the resulting need for senior officers to keep their colleagues fully briefed in order to guarantee organisational resilience. Tracy Rudling of Community 360 briefed the Committee on succession planning and resilience measures at her organisation, extending to the provision of information to partner organisations, allowing them to represent the whole partnership in different forums, should this prove necessary or expedient.

A member of the Committee requested an update on what could be done to re-establish relations with the probation and community payback team and on funding options for community work within the Partnership. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership explained that the Community Safety Partnership fund can be used for projects to improve the Partnership's work and that applications for this funding can be submitted. Members of the Committee were informed that Lisa Hobson, Community Safety and Safeguarding Officer, would be able to provide them with more information on this. The Service Delivery Manager for ECRC informed the Committee that a new manager of unpaid work was due to be appointed in order to oversee payback work. Councillor Hogg requested her contact details, and those of the team manager for the County Council's restorative justice programme, to discuss this further.

Concern over some experiences relating to waiting times for ambulances were raised by one member of the Committee. Assurance was given that ensuring an effective ambulance service was a key priority to all in the NHS. The priority scale used by the Ambulance Service to order the importance of calls was detailed. It was agreed that instances of over-target waiting times were unacceptable and that any instance of lengthy waiting time would need to be accurately reflected in the patient's notes.

The Partnership members were asked what measures were in place to tackle drug dealing, protect young people from involvement in the trade, and whether the Police were operating single-officer patrols. The District Commander gave an overview of the work of dedicated Raptor Teams targeting the drugs trade and liaising with the Metropolitan Police to tackle county lines drugs gangs. Covert assets were in place around Colchester and updates on public successes were given in the Police's social media presence. Single-officer crews were in operation, but back-up units were kept on-hand, and full personal protective equipment and training was issued to all officers.

Responses to petty crime were described, including the threat, harm and risk assessment which determined the incident priority, and the assessment of the chance of solving the crime. If no evidence were available, trained officers would commence desk-based investigation. Victim support measures were likewise detailed. The importance of people officially reporting incidents to the Police was stressed, rather than just raising them on social media. This led to questions regarding the geography of where incidents occurred and the incidents and policing of rural crime. It was stated that rural areas generally experienced relatively low crime levels, with the Council addressing antisocial behaviour and triaging more-serious matters to the Police. The main challenge for the emergency services was the size of the rural areas, and perception was often that minimal policing was carried out. The District Commander assured the Committee that this was not the case and that visibility of rural policing had been increased through daily activities and special events such as Rural Crime Week and by working with organisations such as Farm Watch. Across the Borough, the District Commander highlighted the need for good flows of information, such as from Neighbourhood Watches. Councillors in suburban areas were asked to identify areas of concern to which the Public Spaces Protection Order could potentially be rolled out. A member of the Committee requested that the Committee be provided with emergency services' response time statistics relating to rural and urban call-outs.

The Committee debated the difficulties surrounding how to deal with cases where perpetrators were also victims. The multi-agency support approach was explained, as used when perpetrators of crimes had been coerced into criminality. This approach covered victims of modern-day slavery, who had added protections from prosecution under law for crimes they were forced to commit. There was a duty to protect children from neglect and abuse and from criminalisation and a restorative justice approach was preferred over punitive action.

The correlation between the level of criminal incidents reported and the level of public interest in, and fear of, crime was probed. The Portfolio Holder for Communities, Wellbeing and Public Safety addressed this point, detailing work between the Borough Council, COLBAC (Colchester Business Against Crime) and the Police to tackle shoplifting and other town centre crime. Shops were being pressed to improve their safety and security measures. Reports of incidents from the Dutch Quarter had diminished, following work with resident groups. The District Commander informed the Committee that the increase in crime in Colchester was lower than the average national increase, and that August saw a drop in antisocial behaviour incidents reported by 322, compared to August 2018. In Colchester, it had been found that only 27% of residents thought that crime was a problem and it had been seen as a good sign that more minor crime was being reported, in place of more serious and harmful incidents. It was acknowledged that an increase in people reporting incidents would be positive, but that this would increase the statistics of crime and antisocial behaviour. The Committee were informed that, as an example of improvement in the Colchester area, that during a recent 'Night of Action' by the Police and partners, zero emergency calls were received for the Police on that Saturday.

The recent slight rise in incidents reported to the Fire Service was discussed. A 40% reduction in incidents had been recorded over the past decade, with some Fire Services no longer attending low-risk events, such as the triggering of automatic fire alarms. In Essex, a spike in incidents had been encountered in 2016, but the rise in incidents following that had been only of a few hundred per year. There had been a few thousand incidents where the Fire Service had provided ingress to other emergency services, and closer cooperative working had been achieved. Rural Fire Service provision was partly based on the use of on-call fire stations, and it was confirmed that these took time to assemble their crews, which did have an adverse effect on response times.

The Committee queried the differences between the set priorities for each member of the Safer Colchester Partnership, and specifically differences between the priorities of the Borough Council and the Police. The District Commander gave assurances that the Police's priorities were in accord with those of the Borough Council, and that these were not ranked in any order, but carried equal weight with each other.

The District Commander was asked about crime related to the University and explained that the University did not experience critical levels of crime, but did encounter spikes in incidents, such as when new students arrived. A key cause of incidents was that new undergraduates encountered a combination of new freedom and independence with a lack of experience. The Police had continued to work with the Student Union to ensure the safety of the student body.

The Committee requested that statistics be provided by the different parts of the Probation Services, such as data relating to recidivism and successful completions of probation. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership committed to supply these to the Committee.

The Partnership Members were asked to confirm whether the 'Street Weeks' events would continue. The Police District Commander informed the Committee that there had been no evidence of long-term improvements from these events, with short-term improvements dissipating within less than a week. The Police had switched their approach away from Street Weeks and more towards sustainable engagements and more-visible events, such as the Stadium Fun Day, MAD Days organised by Colchester Borough Homes, and community and civic events, which allowed officers to be approachable and visible but required a lower level of resourcing. 'Coffee with Cops' events were also highlighted by the Committee as being very worthwhile.

Garrison Sergeant Major William Biggar summarised the relationship between the military community and the emergency services in Colchester. The military relied upon the emergency services' support, just as the emergency services gained information and support from their partnership with the Garrison. The partnerships in place allowed the military garrison to quickly and effectively disseminate vital security information to the emergency services, avoiding response problems and delays.

When the Committee requested views as to where extra investment would be most useful, a number of responses were given. The Police view was that additional funding would assist the holistic approach to tackling violent/knife crime and the drug trade and drug-related offences, including those linked to deprivation. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership highlighted the improvements which could be made to data sharing and use. The Chief Executive of Community 360 called for more investment in voluntary-sector activities, including additional training capacity to quickly allow volunteers to gain vital skills. A number of other options were raised, such as a second knife detector gate or more canine police units.

The Chair of the meeting thanked the Safer Colchester Partnership for presenting, and thanked members of the Committee for their questions and scrutiny.



15 September 2020

<b>Report of</b>	<b>Strategic Director for Customer &amp; Relationships</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Sonia Carr</b> ☎ 282978
<b>Title</b>	<b>Safer Colchester Partnership</b>		
<b>Wards affected</b>	All		

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report provides the Crime and Disorder Committee with the opportunity to review the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP) during the period March 2020 – September 2020. Included within the report is background information and an explanation of the role of the Safer Colchester Partnership, work undertaken by the Partnership during March 2020 – September 2020 and future priorities for '20/21.
- 1.2. Appendices are provided from the Statutory members of the SCP (including Health, National Probation Service (NPS), Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), Essex County Council (ECC), Essex Fire and Rescue (ECFRS) and Essex Police) to deliver more detailed partner information on performance/activities linked to the SCP and their own priorities.
- 1.3. At the Crime and Disorder Committee meeting, key stakeholders, including the Colchester Borough Council Portfolio Holder and Executive Director, Colchester District Commander (North Local Policing Area) Essex Police and Senior representatives from other statutory and non-statutory partner agencies will be in attendance to provide further details to Committee members and to answer any questions that they may have.

## 2. Action Required

- 2.1. To invite the Crime and Disorder Committee to scrutinise the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP).

## 3. Reason for Scrutiny

- 3.1. Under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 the Committee is required to meet at least once a year to review the work and progress of the Safer Colchester Partnership in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their statutory crime and disorder reduction functions.

- 3.2. However, during the 'annual' Crime and Disorder Committee Panel meeting on 10 September 2019; the Committee requested that there be two Panel meetings per year (taking place in March and September) so that they could receive and discuss performance data and statistics from the statutory partners of the Safer Colchester Partnership. This motion was agreed by the Chair of the SCP.

#### **4. Background Information**

- 4.1. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out statutory requirements for local agencies to work together to tackle crime in their local area. Partners involved in this work are known as 'Responsible Authorities'.
- 4.2. The SCP was set up in order to deliver this statutory duty and includes the following partners: (statutory) Colchester Borough Council (CBC), Essex Police, Health/Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), National Probation Service (NPS), Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), Essex County Council (ECC), Essex Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) and non-statutory partners include Colchester Borough Homes (CBH), University of Essex, Community 360 and Colchester Garrison.
- 4.3. In addition, North Essex Children's and Families Service and North Essex Adult Social Care, Essex Ambulance, Essex Youth Service, Colchester BID and Colchester Institute became members of the Partnership during 2019.
- 4.4. There are many areas where the work of agencies overlaps, and it is more effective to work in partnership to address issues. Also, more effective data sharing between agencies enables partners to target resources to where they are needed most.
- 4.5. The SCP has a statutory duty to carry out an annual 'Strategic Assessment of Crime'. This involves analysing data on the frequency, location and types of crime (over the period 1st October – 30th September) in order to identify patterns and trends. The CBC Community Safety Team, alongside Essex Police's Intelligence Analyst, lead on the delivery of this Assessment and, once completed, it is shared amongst SCP partners and used to develop the SCP Annual Partnership Plan (for the period 1 April - 31 March) which prioritises the key local issues and outlines actions to address them. The SCP then monitors this Annual Plan throughout the financial year, reviewing and refocusing activity as necessary to effectively tackle the issues.

#### **5. The Partnership's work during 2020-2021 (to September 2020)**

- 5.1. Following completion of the Strategic Assessment of Crime 2019-20, the SCP identified the following Key Priorities for the period April 2020 - March 2021:
- Tackling Organised Crime, Gangs and County lines with an emphasis on Drug Trafficking



The Safer Colchester Partnership will continue to develop the intelligence and awareness picture of this escalating criminality, especially focusing on Drug Trafficking. To best tackle this issue the Safer Colchester Partnership will strive to provide appropriate safeguarding and support to those vulnerable to this type of drug-related exploitation with a further aim to assist in the disruption of drug-related activities within the community.

- Driving down Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime in public, focussing on Hate Crime

The Safer Colchester Partnership will use all available resources and legislation, including utilising the four standing Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs), to tackling ASB and violent crime within the District. Reductions in these areas will bring reassurance to residents regarding their personal safety and will assist in driving down crime rates for the area. With a further emphasis on Hate Crime as identified by the risk matrix, addressing this type of behaviour and conduct can help improve the community quality of life.

- Identifying and supporting the reporting of Hidden Harms with a proactive approach to those at risk of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences

The Safer Colchester Partnership will aim to increase the understanding and awareness, to both the general public and front-line practitioners, of the Hidden Harms our communities face. Encouraging those who are affected by these harms to engage with the Partnership or relevant agencies/charities to seek help and support, with an emphasis on Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences as identified by the risk matrix.

5.2. The SCP Annual Partnership Plan 2020-21 details the specific work and projects undertaken to address these themes (to date) - attached as Appendix A.

5.3 Updates from statutory members of the SCP, specifically relating to their response during the COVID-19 pandemic, including Health (CCG), National Probation Service (NPS), Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), Essex County Council (Children's Services), Essex Fire and Rescue (ECFRS) and Essex Police are included as Appendix B.

## **6. Plans for the Partnership's work during October 2020- March 2021**

6.1. As detailed in 5.1, the Key Priorities for the period including October 2020 – March 2021 are:

- Tackling Organised Crime, Gangs and County lines with an emphasis on Drug Trafficking
- Driving down Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime in public, focussing on Hate Crime
- Identifying and supporting the reporting of Hidden harms with a proactive approach to those at risk of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences

6.2. The Annual Partnership Plan for 20-21 will continue until March 2021.

## **7. Changes during the year to date**

- 7.1. Essex Police has expanded its Community Policing Team to include a Community Safety and Engagement Officer.
- 7.2. Successful partnership working between all agencies in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, including increased contact with Public Health.
- 7.3. Mobilisation of CBC Community Response Team to provide support and assistance to residents across the Borough during the pandemic, along with a Communities Support Pack containing useful information and contacts.
- 7.4. Sharing of internal resources to respond to the significant increase in anti-social behaviour reports (such as noise nuisance, residential bonfires) through the initial 'lockdown' period.
- 7.5. The Licensing Food and Safety Team have been responding to all complaints and enquiries in relation to COVID 19 regulations and subsequent guidance. Visits have taken place obeying risk assessments and PPE requirements. Providing advice, and enforcement when required, working closely Police and Public Health England in regard to Outbreak Control Planning.
- 7.6. Successful bid to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government for the Together we Can project. To support Recovery Refuge, Community based support and Resettlement programme, specialist support for CYP affected by domestic abuse, and implement new housing interventions.
- 7.7. Colchester Borough Homes has aligned its recovery plan to meet the objectives of the Councils Housing strategy: Providing advice and support to Landlords and tenants to prevent homelessness / Identifying accommodation and support for those who are rough sleeping / Working with local charities and voluntary organisations to target support for those who are homeless.
- 7.8. Further recovery planning undertaken including how the Council will assess and respond to, should it be necessary, to the need for local lockdown due to increased coronavirus cases in the community.

## **8. The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)**

- 8.1. Cllr Michael Lilley continues to be a member of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel throughout the year, which is the body set up to scrutinise the work of the PFCC. He will be at the meeting to provide an update on the work of the panel and to answer any questions.

8.2. The PFCC funded free training for businesses, through Alpha Vesta, to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse.

8.3. Essex County Fire & Rescue Service worked in partnership with East of England Ambulance Service Trust during the pandemic. On call firefighters have driven ambulances to support the increased demand.

## **9. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications**

9.1. No specific Equality and Diversity implications.

## **10. Strategic Plan References**

10.1 This work contributes to the Council's Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021 by working in partnership to tackle crime issues and tackling anti-social behaviour. Specific links to:

- Responsibility (*Educate residents who behave antisocially about the impact of their behaviour*)
- Wellbeing (*Work with Essex Police and partners in the SCP to make Colchester an even safer place*)

## **11. Consultation**

11.1. The Strategic Assessment of Crime 2019-20 was completed in January 2020 and has been used to identify the Key Priorities for the SCP for 2020-2021.

## **12. Publicity Considerations**

12.1. All publicity aims to achieve a positive reflection of the work of the SCP. There is a dedicated website, providing information and advice for residents and members of the public – [www.safercolchester.co.uk](http://www.safercolchester.co.uk)

## **13. Financial implications**

13.1. It is expected that funding for the partnership's work will continue to be reduced. Therefore, the partnership will consider the financial sustainability of any project work it undertakes.

## **14. Community Safety Implications**

14.1. The Community Safety implications are the subject of this report.

## **15. Health and Safety Implications**

15.1. There are no specific Health and Safety Implications.

## **16. Risk Management Implications**

16.1. There are no specific risk implications.

**ACRONYMS:**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Description</b>
APP	Annual Partnership Plan
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CBH	Colchester Borough Homes
CBO	Criminal Behavioural Order
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CPN	Community Protection Notice
CPW	Community Protection Warning
CS	Community Safety
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
ECFRS	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice
KPs	Key Priorities
PFCC	Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
SCP	Safer Colchester Partnership

**Appendices:**

- Appendix A SCP Annual Partnership Plan 2020-2021
- Appendix B Statutory Partner Updates relating to COVID-19 response

## **APPENDIX A**

### **ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2020-21**

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Community Safety Partnerships to complete an annual partnership plan. The legislation also places a joint responsibility upon specific agencies to work together to protect the local community from crime, and to help people feel safer.

The Safer Colchester Partnership consists of representatives from the following statutory authorities:

- \* Colchester Borough Council (CBC)
- \* Essex Police
- \* Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
- \* Essex Community Rehabilitation Company
- \* Essex County Council
- \* National Probation Service
- \* Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS)

Safer Colchester Partnership also consists of non-statutory representatives from:

- \* Colchester Garrison
- \* University of Essex
- \* Community 360
- \* Colchester Borough Homes
- \* Crimestoppers
- \* Neighbourhood Watch
- \* Open Road
- \* Business Improvement District (BID)
- \* Next Chapter
- \* Beacon House
- \* Youth Enquiry Service (YES)
- \* Firstsite

### **Key Priorities for 2020-21**

The Partnership identified three specific priorities for 2020/2021 following an assessment of crime and disorder, and consultation with various agencies.

#### **Priority One - Tackling organized crime, gangs & county lines with an emphasis on Drug Trafficking**

The Safer Colchester Partnership will continue to develop the intelligence and awareness picture of this escalating criminality, especially focusing on Drug Trafficking. To best tackle this issue the Safer Colchester Partnership will strive to provide appropriate safeguarding and support to those vulnerable to this type of drug-related exploitation with a further aim to assist in the disruption of drug-related activities within the community.

#### **Priority Two - Driving down Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime in public, focusing on Hate Crime**

The Safer Colchester Partnership will use all available resources and legislation, including utilising the four standing Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs), to tackling ASB and violent crime within the District. Reductions in these areas will bring reassurance to residents regarding their personal safety and will assist in driving down crime rates for the area. With a further emphasis on Hate Crime as identified by the risk matrix, addressing this type of behaviour and conduct can help improve the community quality of life.

#### **Priority Three - Identifying & supporting the reporting of Hidden Harms with a proactive approach to those at risk of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences.**

The Safer Colchester Partnership will aim to increase the understanding and awareness, to both the general public and front-line practitioners, of the Hidden Harms our communities face. Encouraging those who are affected by these harms to engage with the Partnership or relevant agencies/charities to seek help and support, with an emphasis on Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences as identified by the risk matrix.

These priorities form the basis of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP) action plan and other activities during the year. This report provides an overview of projects and initiatives that have contributed towards achieving the Annual Partnership Plan targets and meeting the objectives of the Crime and Fire plan.

## Priority One - Tackling organized crime, gangs & county lines with an emphasis on Drug Trafficking

The Safer Colchester Partnership will continue to develop the intelligence and awareness picture of this escalating criminality, especially focusing on Drug Trafficking. To best tackle this issue the Safer Colchester Partnership will strive to provide appropriate safeguarding and support to those vulnerable to this type of drug-related exploitation with a further aim to assist in the disruption of drug-related activities within the community.

Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	SCP Priorities	PFCC Priorities
<b>MAC Panel</b> Essex Police October 2019 - Ongoing	Working together through the Multi Agency Coordination Panel partners have targeted individual criminals and used their combined powers to disrupt the criminal in addition to the criminality. This approach has seen one Organised Crime Group archived. Emerging groups are under review on a bi-monthly basis.	1 & 2	4, 5 & 6
<b>Closure Orders</b> Colchester Borough Homes BAU Ongoing	Closures/partial closures have been conducted to tackle drugs and ASB. A closure notice prohibits access to the premises for the period specified in the notice. The process to close premises which are causing antisocial behaviour, if they reasonably believe that there is, or is likely to be a nuisance to members of the public, or disorder relating to the premises and in its vicinity.	1 & 2	4, 5 & 6
<b>Offender Management Pilot</b> Essex Police/ SCP/Probation Service TBA	Information to follow -currently under review.	1 & 2	
<b>Virtual Crew</b> CBC Community Safety Team	For 2020 in light of COVID pandemic and home-schooling, Virtual Crew was replaced by an online support page for CYP. This included information and support relating to Gangs & Knife Crime, Internet Safety, Bullying / Online Grooming & Anti-Social Behaviour.  There is an ongoing review of Virtual Crew in order to launch revised scheme for 2021.	1 & 2	2 & 5
<b>Essex Youth Services</b> EYS June 2020	£46,000 funding available for project to support young people in tackling ASB and anxiety issues.	1, 2 & 3	
<b>Essex Youth Services</b> EYS	Delivery of online activities for young people during the COVID restrictions. Schedule distributed to partners on a weekly basis.	1, 2 & 3	

April 2020 – ongoing			
<b>Op Metaphor</b> Essex Police May 2020	Op Metaphor is an intelligence collection plan around the Riverside Hotel which is being used by our rough sleepers. Information has been received that users of the premises may be leaving in the early morning to get drugs in the direction of North Station Road, were still in the intel gathering face but this has involved shift changes and regular liaison with security.	1 & 2	
<b>Op Sceptre</b> Essex Police Various Dates	Op Sceptre a National operation to tackle knife crime. The campaign comprises a mix of targeted operational and educational activities to remove unwanted knives off the streets of Colchester, and to reassure young people they are safer not carrying knives and walking away from harm.	1, 2 & 3	1, 4, 5 & 6
<b>Project Servator</b> Essex Police Various Dates	Project Servator aims to deter, detect and disrupt a range of criminal activity, including terrorism, while providing a reassuring presence for the public. Officers will arrive unannounced at various locations. These patrols could last for different lengths of time and involve varying numbers of officers. As a minimum, uniform and plain-clothes officers, but might also include officers from other departments such as dog or horse units or armed officers, depending on our specific requirements.	1 & 2	1, 4, 5 & 6
<b>Op Enlightenment</b> Essex Police Various Dates and Ongoing	Partnership with schools across the District. Working together to identify vulnerable students who may be at risk of exploitation support can be provided through a variety of means from one to one with Children's and Young Person officers, sessions with NGO who provide expert youth workers, or through statutory partners.	1	1, 4, 5 & 6
<b>Box Smart</b> Colchester Borough Homes	'Box Smart,' aims to provide young people with a positive outlook, increasing their confidence through being active and using qualified coaches as positive, local role models. Weekly boxing sessions will be held to encourage 12-16-year olds, who might be vulnerable to the dangers of County Lines and knife crime, to try something new. Dates under review due to COVID-19 outbreak.	1 & 2	3, 4, 5 & 6



## Priority Two - Driving down Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime in public, focusing on Hate Crime

The Safer Colchester Partnership will use all available resources and legislation, including utilising the four standing Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs), to tackling ASB and violent crime within the District. Reductions in these areas will bring reassurance to residents regarding their personal safety and will assist in driving down crime rates for the area. With a further emphasis on Hate Crime as identified by the risk matrix, addressing this type of behaviour and conduct can help improve the community quality of life.

Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	SCP Priorities	PFCC Priorities
<b>PSPO Car Parks</b> CBC Community Safety Team & Neighbourhood Team May 2020-May 2023	A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) aims to prevent things that are harming the quality of life of people in the local community. Renewal of the PSPO including prohibiting human habitation, across the following car parks: Butt Road, Napier Road, St Marys, St Johns, Vineyard Street, Britannia, Middleborough, Priory Street, Sheepen Road.	2	2
<b>PSPO East Bay &amp; The Moors</b> CBC Community Safety Team & Neighbourhood Team June 2020- June 2023	A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) aims to prevent things that are harming the quality of life of people in the local community. Renewal of the PSPO completed.	2	2
<b>PSPO Town Centre</b> CBC Community Safety Team and Neighbourhood Team September 2020-October 2023	A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) aims to prevent things that are harming the quality of life of people in the local community. PSPO due for renewal in October. Reviewing detail and considering extension of conditions.		
<b>PCSO Funding</b> CBC Dec 2017 – Dec 2020	CBC funding for PCSO roles to cover the town centre and rural communities.	1 & 2	
<b>Op Halfback</b> Essex Police	Policing and Safeguarding the Night Time Economy, and Planning for the re-opening of Night Time Economy	1 & 2	

April 2020			
<b>Op Luscombe</b> Essex Police in partnership Launched November 2019 - Ongoing	A multi-agency approach, Police, NHS, Open Road, Colchester Borough Homes, Community 360 providing a drop-in centre once a week where members of the homeless community can access a range of services to provide safeguarding and support. Combining this support offer with prosecution of offenders who do not engage has seen further progress reducing instances of crime and ASB.	2 & 3	2 & 6
<b>ASB Service Delivery</b> CBC Community Safety/CBH Ongoing	ASB service delivered in conjunction with Colchester Borough Homes.	2	
<b>ASB – Environmental Team Response</b> CBC Ongoing	Sharing of internal resources to respond to the significant increase in anti-social behaviour reports (such as noise nuisance, residential bonfires) through the initial 'lockdown' period and provide guidance to communities on how to deal with this.	2	
<b>ASB Awareness Week</b> Essex Police & CBC 30 March – 5 April 2020	Preparation was in place for promotional activity and a focus on enforcement for the week. Included joint patrols with the Police, CBC Neighbourhoods and ASB Team (CBH) in Greenstead and Stanway. Social media campaign to raise awareness within the community of what ASB is and how to report. This was cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak.	2	
<b>Rural Tool Kit</b> CBC Community Safety Team August 2020	The partnership re-launched the Rural Crime Toolkit in conjunction to provide communities with ideas, information and support to make their neighbourhood a better place to live.	2	2
<b>Rural Communities Fund</b> CBC Community Safety Team August 2020	Alongside the Rural Tool kit, money was made available by CBC for communities to apply for funds for initiatives to tackle safety issues within their rural area. This includes a successful bid by West Bergholt Parish Council to upgrade their CCTV system at Orpen Memorial Hall as a means to tackle ASB incidents.	2	2
<b>NHW New Website Launch</b> Neighbourhood Watch April 2020	Neighbourhood Watch was started in the UK in 1982 and is now one of the large and successful crime prevention organisations. The aim is to bring neighbours together to create strong, friendly, active communities where crime and anti-social behaviour are less likely to happen. The vision is that of a caring society that is focused on trust and respect in which people are safe from crime and enjoy a good quality of life. The NHW website has been revamped providing more online accessibility, more localised and ongoing crime prevention advice.	2	

<b>Town Centre Action Plan</b> CBC Community Safety Team Launched August 2018 - Ongoing	Meetings held fortnightly (and weekly through the initial stages of the COVID pandemic). Action Plan produced May 2020 to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of activity. Refer to TCAP action plan for further information.	2 & 3	1, 2 & 6
<b>Make a Difference Days</b> Colchester Borough Homes	MAD Days involve CBH staff, volunteers, residents and councillors visiting specific areas of the community to help make improvements and encourage pride in community spaces. On these days, a whole host of clean-up activities take place: general community clear-ups, tree and hedge trimming, bulb planting and gardening, fence repair and painting and rubbish clearance. Due to COVID-19 this has not been possible to date. Under review.	2	2
<b>Project Soteria</b> Colchester Borough Homes Launched November 2019 - Ongoing	Project Soteria raises awareness of the positive actions taken by both Police and Colchester Borough Homes when house closures are undertaken. The reason for these closures is often related to drug activity and the associated ASB that this act brings. This same behaviour that can put fear in the community and that has huge detrimental effects on those that live nearby.	1, 2 & 3	2, 5 & 6
<b>Op Vocal</b> Essex Police October 2019 - Ongoing	Essex Police supported the Rural Toolkit with Op Vocal providing flexible deployment of the Community Policing Team into rural areas based on intelligence and demand. This has seen numerous deployments across our rural communities addressing issues from speeding, to drug use.	1, 2 & 3	1 & 2
<b>BikeWise Campaign</b> Colchester Borough Council March 2020	Part of the Bike Wise campaign both Council and Police will be carrying out work and activity to provide advice to cyclists in order to increase awareness of locking cycles securely. Additionally, campaign stickers will also be put on the town Centre cycle racks reminding users to lock their bikes and Police will be carrying out extra patrols to deter potential thieves.	2	1 & 2
<b>Nights of Action (Op Emblazen)</b> Essex Police and Partners Various	Night of action – 7/8/20 – 45 venues visited by Essex Police/CBC Licencing Team - to check premises were operating safely and taking note of Government Guidance.	2	1, 2, 4, 6 & 7
<b>BID – Security Patrol</b> BID April 2020-June 2020	Patrols of Town Centre areas overnight to protect local businesses from crime through Covid lockdown period.	2	

<b>Town Centre Re-opening</b> CBC/Essex Police / BID April 2020 - Ongoing	Joint working with the Police and the Town Centre Business Improvement District to help businesses safely re-open within Covid-19 guidelines.	2	
<b>BID – NTE Patrol</b> BID 24 July 2020 onwards	BID funded night-time patrol (between 2200hrs and 0215hrs) to cover the taxi marshalling on the High Street alongside foot patrols to monitor ASB and crime around the main areas for the night time economy (NTE). These patrols compliment the work of Essex Police and with the purpose of deter/de-escalate matters, not enforcement. To operate alongside CCTV and other agencies through TownLink radios.	2	
<b>Community Safety and Engagement Officer</b> Essex Police August 2020	Recruitment of Community Safety Engagement Officer to join the Community Policing Team in Colchester. Role to reduce crime and ASB, protect vulnerable people.	2	
<b>Community Response Team</b> CBC April 2020 - ongoing	Mobilisation of CBC Community Response Team to provide support and assistance to residents across the Borough during the pandemic, along with a Communities Support Pack containing useful information and contacts.	2	

### **Priority Three - Identifying & supporting the reporting of Hidden Harms with a proactive approach to those at risk of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences.**

The Safer Colchester Partnership will aim to increase the understanding and awareness, to both the general public and front-line practitioners, of the Hidden Harms our communities face. Encouraging those who are affected by these harms to engage with the Partnership or relevant agencies/charities to seek help and support, with an emphasis on Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences as identified by the risk matrix.

<b>Project / Initiative</b>	<b>About the Project / Initiative</b>	<b>SCP Priorities</b>	<b>PFCC Priorities</b>
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<b>Every Contact Counts</b> CBC, PFCC, CYP First	Delivery of 3 sessions were scheduled for April 2020 to raise awareness of the signs of exploitation, how to respond safely and know how to report them. This was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.	3	
<b>Domestic Abuse Awareness</b> CBC Community Safety May 2020	In light of COVID pandemic, efforts to raise awareness of domestic abuse were prioritised. SCP / CBC Website information updated Leadership/Councillors updated by Briefing Paper Internal front line staff and DSO's encouraged to complete SETDAB Domestic Abuse E-learning Course This was also shared with some partner organisations including church and faith groups. Alpha Vesta online workshops (funded by the PFCC) promoted internally, and attended by members of Community Safety Team. Promoted to members of CSDB.  Full cascade of internal training planned for September 2020.	2 & 3	
<b>Together we Can Project</b> CBC Community Safety/Next Chapter/LA Partners April 2020-March 2021	£500K funding secured from MHCLG to support Recovery Refuge, Community based support and Resettlement programme, specialist support for CYP affected by domestic abuse, and review/implement new housing interventions. SLA agreed and Partnership board meetings scheduled to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of the project.	2 & 3	
<b>Suicide Awareness Training</b> CBC Community Safety April/May 2020	Internal front-line staff, DSO's and Councillors encouraged to complete the e-learning package produced by Zero Suicide Alliance. This was also shared with partners/local organisations including church and faith groups. Full details of suicide awareness training options to be launched following full review of Safeguarding training – summer 2020.	3	
<b>Suicide prevention Training OPtions Campaign</b> CBC / Livewell August 2020	Campaign to raise awareness of suicide prevention including information on the Livewell website and production of an information leaflet. This will be distributed electronically and in printed format, for community and businesses – to let them know about all the help that is available to support their friends/customers/clients with the increase of people experiencing issues around suicide.	3	

<b>PREVENT training</b> CBC Community Safety May 2020 onwards	All staff to complete the Home Office PREVENT E-learning course as an introduction to the risks of radicalisation and the role that professionals and practitioners can play in supporting those at risk. New PREVENT Strategy and Action Plan to be shared with Community Safety Delivery Board members. PREVENT to be included as a standing agenda item at Community Safety Delivery Board meetings, as an opportunity to review local intelligence, and update progress on the Action Plan.	2 & 3	
<b>Modern Slavery Statement and Action Plan</b> CBC September 2020	Modern Slavery Statement 2019-20 is due to be published in September, along with an Action Plan to improve staff training, raise awareness within the Council and its' partners/suppliers.	2 & 3	
<b>Safeguarding Training Full Review and Launch</b> CBC Community Safety July 2020 onwards	L1 e-learning training updated May 2020 – due to increased safeguarding concerns during the initial stages of the COVID pandemic, all staff were encouraged to refresh their safeguarding L1 training. The Council's Safeguarding training programme is under review with a launch planned for all training options from L1-L3.	1,2 & 3	
<b>Taxi Driver CCTV Consultation</b> CBC Licencing April 2020	Consultation extended to June 2020 due to COVID situation.	1 & 3	4, 5 & 6
<b>Hate Crime Awareness Sessions</b> Essex Police	Sessions delivered providing an overview of what is a hate crime, what a hate incident is and how prevalent they are. Learning who the victims and perpetrators of hate crimes generally are, what effect hate crimes have on an individual as well as what the current challenges are for professionals working in this area. Introducing the law around hate crime reporting and explain how to report a hate crime effectively. Further training planned for 2020-21.	2 & 3	2 & 6
<b>Hate Crime Ambassadors Session</b> Essex Police	Hate Crime Ambassadors are trained to be able to speak confidently to others about what a Hate Crime is and where to report Hate Crime. This is done by holding conversations with friends/family/colleagues etc.,	2 & 3	2 & 6

	organising events to raise awareness of Hate Crime, helping out at events to raise awareness of Hate Crime, distributing Hate Crime leaflets, providing information to a victim that you might come across, reporting Hate Crime yourself if you witness it or a victim wants you to report it on their behalf. Representatives from DWP, C360 and the University have received Hate Crime Ambassadors training and able to speak confidently to others about what a Hate Crime is and where to report Hate Crime. We have trained 80 Hate Crime Ambassadors, members of the public and professionals who raise awareness and support victims to report hate crime. This will increase during 2020/21.		
<b>Hate Incident Reporting Centres</b> Essex Police	Colchester has 7 Hate Incident Reporting Centres HIRC: Colchester Library, Essex University, Community 360, Job Centre, Colchester Refuge Action and First Site. We have seen an increase in Hate crime reporting across Colchester.	2 & 3	2 & 6
<b>Hate Crime Awareness – Website Information</b>	The SCP website has been updated with information on Hate Crime, what it is, and how to report it.	2 & 3	
<b>Observers</b> CBC Community Safety Team Planned September 2020	Launch of Level 2 Safeguarding e-learning package for CBC staff is in development. Includes topics: Modern Slavery, Gangs & County lines, Sexual Offence, Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation.	1 & 3	3, 4, 5 & 6
<b>Keep Safe</b> CBC Community Safety June 2020	Re-launch of Keep Safe for Colchester. Keep Safe is a free scheme helping vulnerable residents in Essex to feel safer and more confident out in the town. Review of venues signed up to the scheme, promotion to residents who may benefit from the scheme. SCP Website information updated.	2 & 3	
<b>Hidden Harms Conference</b> CBC Community Safety	To be scheduled for late 2020/early 2021.	1, 2 & 3	
<b>National Stalking Awareness Week</b> April 2020	Stalking is a pattern of unwanted, fixated and obsessive behaviour which is intrusive and causes fear of violence or serious alarm or distress. Stalking is a criminal offence, and anyone can be a victim. On average 1 in 5 women and 1 in 10 men will experience stalking in their adult life. It causes victims to make changes to their lives such as stopping or	2 & 3	3, 4 & 6

	<p>changing the way they socialise, changing their routes to work or isolating themselves.</p> <p>SCP Website updated with support information on Stalking.</p> <p>Next Chapter working with Essex Police obtained Essex's first full Stalking Order.</p>		
<p><b>Sanctuary Scheme</b> Colchester Borough Homes Ongoing</p>	<p>A Sanctuary Scheme is a multi-agency victim centered initiative which aims to enable households at risk of violence to remain safely in their own homes by installing a 'Sanctuary' in the home and through the provision of support to the household.</p>	2 & 3	3, 4 & 6
<p><b>J9 Domestic Abuse Awareness Training</b> Safer Places/CGH April 2020</p>	<p>Colchester General Hospital (50 safeguarding champions) received J9 training, in conjunction with Safer Places.</p>	2 & 3	
<p><b>J9 Domestic Abuse Awareness</b> CBC Community Safety Team &amp; CBC Enabling Team</p>	<p>J9 training sessions are intended to raise awareness and increase knowledge and understanding of domestic abuse for staff in public and voluntary sector organisations. In the course of their work, these staff may meet someone they suspect is a victim of domestic abuse, or a client may reveal that they are suffering abuse. The training aims to ensure that staff are equipped to respond appropriately and effectively.</p> <p>Training course was planned for March for BAME/Faith groups and internal CBC staff. This was cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak. J9 online workshops were offered as an alternative, along with other domestic abuse training options.</p>	2 & 3	3, 4 & 6
<p><b>The Urhuru Project</b> Stop the Traffik</p>	<p>The Urhuru project, empowers and equips minority communities to make a difference to the exploitation of girls and vulnerable women, with a particular emphasis on domestic servitude. Working with Statutory and Voluntary Organisation partners to ensure that diverse solutions are in place, and robust policies and resources. This includes developing listening and action campaigns and running community led activities.</p> <p>National Womens Day event at Firstsite was planned for March – however was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.</p>	1 & 3	4, 5 & 6
<p><b>Spot It, Stop It</b> CBC Community Safety Team</p>	<p>Local businesses can play a positive role in helping to raise awareness and potentially stop children and young people becoming victims of</p>	1, 2 & 3	2, 5 & 6



Planned launch in late 2020	exploitation. The scheme has been developed to help businesses do all they can to ensure they are a safe place for young people and children to visit, to reassure parents and the public that they take their social responsibility seriously in relation to Children and Young People. Part of the scheme is a pledge from businesses to sign up giving confidence to report alongside guidance on how to approach creating a safer environment.		
<b>Op Aident</b> Essex Police Ongoing	Essex Police operation to tackle modern slavery – carrying out visits at local sites to spot the sights of modern slavery and human trafficking and to safeguard potential victims.	2 & 3	
<b>Op Ratify</b> Essex Police Ongoing	Essex Police Operation targeting perpetrators of sexual offences, Local officers working in partnership with Crime and Public Protection command.	2 & 3	
<b>Op Enlightenment</b> Essex Police Ongoing	Working in partnership with schools to spot the signs of Child Sexual Exploitation, Child exploitation and educate around gangs/county lines.	2 & 3	
<b>Op Pegasi</b> Essex Police Ongoing	Operation to tackle knife crime - targeting hotspots for knife crime, such as Greenstead and the Hythe.	1 & 3	
<b>Refugee Action</b> August 2020	Funding from Essex Violence and Vulnerability Unit to provide a comprehensive support service to Refugees, Asylum Seekers and vulnerable migrants of all ages. Including mental health, counselling, immigration, health, education and housing. This may extend into domestic violence, bereavement, hate crime.	2 & 3	

### **Fire & Crime Plan Priorities 2016 – 2020 – *Extended to 2021***

The Police and Crime Plan sets out the policing priorities and aims for keeping Essex safe. It brings together police, partners and the people of Essex to build safe and secure communities, thereby promoting public confidence in the police and ensuring that victims are satisfied with the service and support they receive. The commitments set out in the plan build on existing partnerships and seek to develop them in new and

ambitious ways. These include greater collaboration between police and fire and closer working with local councils, community safety partnerships, and the voluntary, community and health sectors

- 1) More Local, visible and accessible policing
- 2) Crack down on anti-social behaviour
- 3) Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse
- 4) Reverse the trend in serious violence
- 5) Tackle gangs and organised crime
- 6) Protecting children and vulnerable people
- 7) Improve safety on our roads

## **APPENDIX B - Statutory Partner Updates, relating to COVID-19**

### **Colchester Borough Council**

See Appendix A – Annual Partnership Plan, which outlines key community safety initiatives to date. Key activity includes:

- Mobilisation of CBC Community Response Team to provide support and assistance to residents across the Borough during the pandemic, along with a Communities Support Pack containing useful information and contacts
- Considering the COVID pandemic, efforts to raise awareness of domestic abuse were prioritized. Ongoing work with Next Chapter including successful bid of £500,000 to Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government.
- Sharing of internal resources to respond to the significant increase in anti-social behaviour reports (such as noise nuisance, residential bonfires) through the initial 'lockdown' period and provide guidance to communities on how to deal with this.
- Joint working with the Police and the Town Centre Business Improvement District to help businesses safely re-open within Covid-19 guidelines.

### **North East Essex – Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)**

As well as maintaining our statutory function and responsibility for commissioning and oversight of health care services for our local population such as acute hospital care, mental health services, community services and general practice for our population; a key focus of work for the NEE CCG team is the partnership development of the North East Essex Health and Wellbeing Alliance

The North East Essex Health and Wellbeing Alliance (the Alliance) is a collaboration of commissioners, providers and other system partners working together to transform the health and wellbeing of the population of North East Essex as an integrated system with the aim of reducing silo working for a greater impact on the health and wellbeing of our population.

#### **Current partners in the North East Essex Health and Wellbeing Alliance include:**

- North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Anglian Community Enterprise (ACE)
- East Suffolk and North East Essex Foundation Trust (ESNEFT)
- Essex County Council (ECC)
- Tendring District Council (TDC)
- Colchester Borough Council (CBC)
- St Helena
- Essex Partnership University Trust (EPUT)
- GP Primary Choice (GPPC)
- Community Voluntary Services Tendring
- Community 360

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - April 2020:

- Operation Shield – emptying hospitals before peak. Patients discharged back to community with support from community nursing, volunteers, Social Services. 60% bedspace available at Colchester General. Plans to expand bed space into care sector, community hospitals if needed. Planning on peak being in 2 weeks,

although this could be 3-4 weeks. All elective care/surgery cancelled, except cancer support.

- Ambulance service being supported by Fire Service (being trained to drive ambulances). Promoting Stay Safe/Stay Indoors message.
- Military providing support with flow of PPE. Encouraging use of this correctly so not over-used.

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - July 2020:

- Supporting Colchester General Hospital to bring back routine/elective work.
- Weekend planning – key messages around keeping hydrated.
- Flu planning/immunisations.
- Demand/capacity planning for winter and Covid related cases.
- Work with Primary Care on mental health support – anticipate increased demand for services.

### **Essex County Council Children's & Families**

The following slides outline the impact of COVID on Children and Families.

*To view slides, right click – select Presentation Object – Open.*

## **Changes to Children's Social Care – COVID 19**

June 2020

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - April 2020:

- Youth Service – New Senior Youth Worker (Patrick Kielty). Introduced himself and background.  
Launching online activity sessions (using youth workers' skills). Timetable will be distributed. Buildings all closed.
- CYP [Children and Young People] – Statutory services continue, taking referrals. 100 families open currently. Using video for direct work. May need to support Compass in coming weeks.

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - July 2020:

- Youth Service –Office now open for younger people to visit by appointment only and seeing face to face in community. Supporting opening of Courts.

- CYP – Business and usual for statutory services and social care. Visits taking place to children and families. Re-occupying offices.

### **Essex County Fire and Rescue Service [ECFRS]**

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service worked in partnership with East of England Ambulance Service Trust during the pandemic. A team of 19 on-call firefighters worked to support the EEAS and drove ambulances to support the increased demand while another team was identified and stood up to further support the EEAS in other duties.

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - July 2020:

- Community Safety Officers out in the community now that in recovery phase
- Working with Community 360 to distribute fire safety leaflets
- Comms around fire safety in the kitchen, rural settings, safety messages
- Work with RNLI on water safety

### **Emergency response during coronavirus pandemic – taken from the ECFRS**

**website** [https://www.essex-](https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/About%20Us/Coronavirus/Emergency%20response%20during%20coronavirus%20pandemic/)

[fire.gov.uk/About Us/Coronavirus/Emergency response during coronavirus pandemic/](https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/About%20Us/Coronavirus/Emergency%20response%20during%20coronavirus%20pandemic/)

**Calling 999** - As always, if you believe there is an emergency call 999 immediately. We will always respond and be there for you when you need us in an emergency.

### **Our response and services**

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) is an emergency service, and rest assured, **there is currently no change to the way we will respond to incidents**. Keeping people who live, work and travel in Essex safe is our priority. Whatever the situation, we will always be there for you if you need us in an emergency.

Though the situation involving coronavirus (COVID-19) is unprecedented, ECFRS has a robust operational and business continuity plan which we regularly update and test, so that in events such as this, we are prepared and confident in meeting these challenges. We intend to use operational staff who are not currently on front line duty to provide resilience to our frontline services if needed, increase remote working across our whole Service and reduce non-essential interaction with our public, but not at the expense of upholding our emergency service.

As always, ECFRS is working hard to maintain communication and engagement with the public. While it has been necessary to postpone forums such as public meetings and events such as car washes and station visits, we will continue to deliver safety messages and updates through our website, social media channels and via local media.

We've changed the way we carry out our home fire safety and safe and well visits we, prioritising them for people who are particularly vulnerable to the risk of fire. During this time we will provide home safety advice over the phone, and ensure more staff than ever are available to reassure, educate and advise anyone who needs this information.

As this situation develops, and more people stay at home because they are social distancing or self-isolating, there is a chance we could see an increase in accidental house fires. This is

because people are at a higher risk of these types of incidents while they are at home. We are already increasing our safety messaging around these types of incidents as well as advertising our home safety phone number: 0300 303 0088

For more information on our home safety service visit [essex-fire.gov.uk/book](https://essex-fire.gov.uk/book)

In these unprecedented times it is difficult to know when official advice will change, but we will always work to keep our public updated whenever we can on our latest information and advice.

### **Essex Police**

#### **Priority One: Tackling Gangs and County Lines**

As we discussed in the March panel our multi agency approach combined with options provided by specialist teams from serious crime directorate has enabled us to effectively disrupt the one mapped and scored organised crime group that was operating from Colchester bringing in and distributing Class A drugs and firearms.

We updated that we had 14 members on remand, and these remain due to delays in judicial proceedings from the impact of COVID.

Our regular deployments Op Pegasi, under the Home Office funded Op Sceptre, provide high visibility reassurance combined with plain clothes patrols targeting those who carry weapons, the deployments are planned using a tool that identifies hotspots from a variety of intelligence reports and crime reports providing regular deployments of both uniform and plain clothes officers into the community, using targeted deployment and proactive powers under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, and Misuse of drugs act we conduct stop and search. Since our last meeting we have conducted 1,964 stop searches with a 30.24% positive outcome rate and 12.9% being BAME subjects (to end of July)

#### **Priority Two: Driving Down Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime in Public Places**

Covid provided the opportunity for high visibility patrols providing reassurance across the District, however, lockdown also meant emptier roads and we saw an increase in the anti-social use of motor vehicles, this led to an increase in reporting of nuisance vehicles especially in regard speeding. We responded to community concerns using the latest Tru-Cam technology and we continue to regularly deploy at areas suggested by our communities:

Some key examples are:

Abberton Reservoir – where repeated car racing, and anti-social driving has caused misery for residents we have deployed a number of operations, and at one stage put in place a dispersal order to prevent congregating

Reports of three off-road motorbikes being driven in the Middlewick area, great work with our community led to intelligence identifying the riders. From this the team executed a warrant resulting in the arrest of two of the riders for drug-related offences, and a recall to prison for a third male.

We continue to deploy across the District and publish these on social media to update local residents. We are also linking in with parish clerks to explore opportunities to update local residents and businesses.

Working closely with partners such as Colchester Borough Homes, we continue to tackle reports of ASB [antisocial behaviour] from our communities and this has seen several closure orders put in place preventing the use of premises by perpetrators of disorder. Our disruption of drug dealing also has a positive impact in reducing ASB.

To provide further reassurance and ensure our communities know what we are doing we are re-invigorating engagement events such as socially distanced coffee with cops and have already put out two radio updates through Colne Radio, who have given us the opportunity to have a slot once a month.

As the Government eased restrictions the partnership came together to work closely with businesses in the night-time economy to re-open. Coordinating with Pub Watch, and taking part in tactical meetings, we were able to influence decision making. The opening weekend was really successful with partners coming together to support our local businesses with minimal issues. As the venues have progressed the partnership has worked closely to monitor covid regulations and where necessary enforce – a good example was the night of action 7<sup>th</sup> August when combined police and licensing teams visited premises.

I would like to thank all our partners especially our volunteers on the SOS Bus and Street Pastors for the work they undertake protecting vulnerable people.

### **Priority Three: Increase Confidence in Identifying and Reporting Hidden Harms**

Our IAG goes from strength to strength, and we have moved to more regular monthly meetings through COVID to ensure we all stay virtually in touch. It was a pleasure to welcome new members to our meetings from the Black Lives Matter organisers to our younger member from the youth council. The IAG is a great forum to discuss stop search, hate crime, and how we can ensure we are reaching all of our communities and listening to their voice.

We have again expanded our teams bringing two experienced officers into the role of Children's Young Person officers, meaning we now have 4 dedicated officers in Colchester. These officers work closely with schools and partners to identify risk to young people, sexual, criminal, domestic at an early opportunity and put in place support and interventions to mitigate risk. We are really pleased with the engagement with schools throughout the covid period and are planning the return to schools following the summer break.

As part of this we will be rolling our Operation Encompass directly connecting police with schools to ensure better outcomes for children who are subjected to, or witness, police attended incidents of domestic abuse. Op Encompass allows rapid provision of support within the school environment meaning children are better safeguarded against the effects of short medium and long term of domestic abuse.

We have also put in place a community safety engagement officer [CSEO] working in partnership with other statutory organisations, non-government organisations and our community to take a longer-term problem-solving view of issues. Working closely with our Community Policing Team the CSEO will understand community issues and provide longer term resolution working with other agencies. The CSEO will also ensure that communities are updated with the work of the Police on a regular basis building trust confidence and satisfaction.

### **Essex Community Rehabilitation Company [CRC]**

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - April 2020:

- Essex CRC have currently suspended all Unpaid Work groups, Accredited Programme group delivery for 6 weeks in light of Covid 19 Pandemic.
- All face to face contact with Service Users has been suspended, however is a work in progress and will be reviewed again this week. In the meantime, contact with our service user group is via telephone. Our operational partner contracted work is also being delivered this way at present.
- We are liaising closely with local Prisons in terms of release planning.
- In light of operational delivery exceptions, we may call on support with any information from our partners that they may have to assist in locating individuals if we are experiencing problems getting in contact with those harder to reach service users e.g. rough sleeper group.

Reported to the Community Safety Delivery Board - July 2020:

- Recovery planning phase with National Probation service. Restarting unpaid work groups, structured group work.
- Reviewing opening hours, increasing face to face contact with service users.

#### Sodexo CRC Exceptional Delivery Model – Stage 2- response to COVID 19 Pandemic

**Stage 2:** business recovery from lockdown restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stage 2 sees the expansion of our face to face contact with service users; comprising of Medium Risk of Serious Harm cases, and some delivery of Accredited Programmes and Unpaid Work. Following the Ministry of Justice's Minimum Service Delivery Expectations (MSDE), the selection of service users for face to face contact is based on risk of serious harm, vulnerability and the time remaining until the end of the sentence for requirements to be completed, whilst continuing with structured telephone contact for others and doorstep visits where deemed appropriate and safe to do so in line with the SSoW [Safe Systems of Work]. The MSDE introduce new categories of service user, which are used to support decisions about the type of contact they should receive. Our response to the requirements of the MSDE will be adapted in areas subject to 'local lockdown' and where such restrictions are imposed, we may revert to Stage 1 delivery for remote contact only.

All offices are open and we have increased opening hours to accommodate increased appointments and need whilst maintaining strict social distancing measures. We have also seen our interventions "step up", such as, small group Accredited Programme delivery and Unpaid Work delivery sites in line with their Safe Systems of Work risk assessments for each location and intervention.

This stage 2 is delivered alongside the Probation Service Roadmap of Recovery. See update from National Probation Service which includes information on the Probation Recovery Roadmap – which also relates to Community Rehabilitation Company.

#### **National Probation Service**

The National Probation Service is a statutory criminal justice service that advises courts on sentencing all offenders and manages those who present a high or very high risk of serious harm or who are managed under Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

The National Probation Service is one of a number of 'responsible authorities' who by law are required to work together to tackle crime, disorder and reoffending. The work that the National Probation Service does with offenders at various stages of their journey through the criminal justice system means it is best placed to contribute – be that directly or indirectly – to achieving the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP) objectives.



Like other partners, the National Probation Service has had to respond swiftly to overcome the extraordinary challenges posed by Covid 19 by significantly adapting its ways of working. This has included:

- Running skeleton probation offices.
- Ensuring Approved Premises (APs) continue to operate safely.
- Implementing a number of national Exceptional Delivery Models (EDMs) and Exceptional Delivery Plans (EDPs) to alter the way we manage community sentences and other areas of our work.
- Conducting doorstep visits across England and Wales with high-risk offenders and medium-risk offenders with domestic abuse or other safeguarding issues
- A large number of probation staff working from home and contacting offenders by telephone.
- Redeploying a number of qualified probation staff to support frontline services.
- Significant changes for staff who were working in prisons and courts.
- Developing alternative methods to deliver staff training and for our trainee Probation Officers.

The restrictions we have put in place have been necessary to maximise staff and service user safety whilst continuing to deliver critical front-line services, protect the public and change lives.

Following the Government's announcement on how restrictions regarding COVID-19 will start to be lifted, we have been moving forward with our recovery, as outlined in the Probation Recovery Roadmap.

We have taken a phased and gradual approach to recovery, in step with government changes and have only moved forward when we are confident it has been safe to do so.

Our plans have been developed with the overarching priority of maximising staff and service user safety. Our overall approach to recovery has and will continue to be focussed on prioritising victims and public protection, risk management and rehabilitation to ensure we continue to deliver our core functions, particularly focusing resources on our highest risk service users.

We have established a National Recovery Programme Board which oversees and co-ordinates the activity across the system. This includes the oversight of the changes announced by the Government to widen the previous planned unification of case management and interventions currently split between the National Probation Service and our CRC partners. The new model of unified Probation delivery will commence from June 2021 with this year being one very much of transition and planning.

There is a recovery and transition board in each of the twelve probation regions, including the East of England, to take forward actions in their respective areas and to ensure these are tailored to regional circumstances. We will also continue to work closely with our criminal justice partners nationally and locally to ensure we are joined up in what we do.

We have started to increase the number of face-to-face contacts with our service users where possible for priority cases whilst continuing with video and telephone calls for others. All our offices are open, and we have increased opening hours to accommodate increased appointments whilst maintaining social distancing.

We are gradually scaling up our court work as needed in conjunction with HMCTS [HM Courts and Tribunal System] and other partners. There are also plans in place to

recommence unpaid work, interventions and probation programmes on a limited basis initially if it assessed as safe to do so.

We have continued to encourage our staff to work from home where possible during this period. We will ensure we continue to monitor the position and our staffing levels closely. If the position on Covid-19 deteriorates and we need to move back from a higher to a lower step, these decisions will be made for regions or local areas affected.

We also recognise that as we move on from the initial response phase to this outbreak, we are presented with opportunities to do things differently and use our learning from this experience. We want to build a more resilient service which is better prepared for any future emergencies. We are therefore also looking at how we ensure this learning is built into not only our recovery programme but also our reform and workforce programmes.

Please see link to the published document

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-probation-roadmap-to-recovery>

### **Essex County Council Adult Social Care**

Report to the Community Safety Delivery Board – September 2020:

Response to **Covid-19 pandemic**

- Operation Shield – Through a coordinated effort, with partners in local councils across Essex and in the third sector we delivered, ensured those residents shielded were kept safe and supported with food, medication and regular contact.
- PPE – Making funds available and, through an Essex-wide appeal, we ensured initial supplies were available for care providers to be able to safely provide care and support, whilst protecting those who use services and their staff.
- Care Homes Hubs – A multi-agency approach to support over 180 registered care settings was successfully implemented across North East Essex. Designed to stop the virus spreading within care homes, this was managed using a Red/Amber/Green approach to highlight areas of risk and take steps accordingly. Working closely with staff, management and owners of these care homes, we made resources, advice and support available to take proactive steps to reduce the risks identified.
- Engagement and Communication – Daily email updates on advice and guidance, to care providers, was coordinated through Essex County Council Adult Social Care. With regular webinars, providing a medium for care providers to ask specific questions. This proved a vital mechanism to maintain regular contact with the significant number of providers of adult social care and support, across the County.
- Discharge Pathways – in response to the developing Covid-19 crisis, Adult Social Care, working closely with other NHS providers and local care providers discharged back to community a significant number of patients withing Colchester Hospital. This ensured sufficient capacity existed within the acute Hospital to meet the expected wave of demand arising from the outbreak.

- Mental Health – There have been and continues to be increasing numbers of people recorded as experiencing impacts on their mental wellbeing, with higher levels of need for support from social care and health professionals, as they manage and recover from these episodes.
- Preparing for Wave 2 – Working closely with NHS and Public Health colleagues, Adult Social Care continues to track key measures, to ensure our plan to respond to any further waves of Covid-19 are as up to date as possible.
- Made over £50m available, initially through Essex County Council reserves, whilst awaiting Government allocations, to support care providers to continue to operate and support some of our most vulnerable residents.
- Infection Control Fund – Essex County Council administered over £16m of grant allocated to provide care homes and other care providers, additional resources to take steps and reduce the risks of outbreaks, provide capacity to provide safe isolation areas and stop the spread of the virus.
- Homelessness – As of the 24th April, Greater Essex had 307 rough sleepers with 177 in the ECC area. They were placed in temporary accommodation through a mix of hotels, B&B and social housing. In addition to sourcing accommodation, a mixture of support was commissioned by ECC and put in place such as substance misuse support; floating housing support services; and food parcels provided by a range of voluntary sector services.

### **One Colchester Recovery Board**

One Colchester Partnership mobilised itself to Respond to Covid19 in a swift and very effective manner, demonstrating quickly the benefits of our overall approach to working across a system.

With the onset of the Global Pandemic that threatened the Safety of Colchester in a completely unexpected way these weekly meetings quickly became a key path to share information, work together to get things done, avoid duplication and maximise use of resources.

Statutory and non-statutory partners provided support activities from supporting Rough Sleepers off the streets, provision of PPE, shielding mobilisation, volunteer co-ordination and getting advice and support to individuals and businesses through to provision of creative digital solutions and befriending to reduce impacts of social isolation.

The Response to Covid19 moved to recovery work in July with system agreement to key areas of focus for the partnership and below provides a snapshot of this recovery plan as at mid-August 2020.

**Objective One: Levels of inter-organisational collaboration and new working practices brought about by C-19 crisis are sustained**

Activity	Service Area / Partnership	Medium Term Development (1 August 2020 – 31 March 2021)	From	To
Partners to consider flexible working within their organisations going forward and keep or build upon Covid19 experiences.	Alliance	Project underway. Many changes already in place that will continued in the future e.g. use of Teams meetings, saving travel & costs. Alliance are working with Integrated care systems (ICS) for recruitment, looking at skills available rather than just want they need now. Looking to train and grow their own. This is linked to the work being carried out by Colchester Institute. New ways of working allow appointments to work from anywhere, so location is not a barrier.	Started	31/03/2021
Collaboration opportunities including joint recruitment of resources between organisations and sharing data and insight to enable working on actions and initiatives across the system and allocation of funding (to avoid duplication).	Alliance	Project underway. Alliance piloting in Colchester a virtual Careers Academy for 16-18 age group that replaces the old-style face to face. Next to be rolled out to Tendring District Council for all ages. Another imitative is an online health & wellbeing support & training offer, linked to Mind. Training could be rolled out to all System partners.	Started	31/03/2021
Make use of digital technology across the system to enhance delivery options and supply efficiencies.	One Colchester Delivery Group	Working Group formed following One Colchester Delivery Board meeting in July (includes Digital Access Team, Colchester Foodbank, Essex Integration, the Council and Citizens Alliance); First meeting took place and outline priorities found – feedback sought, and presentation given to wider Board.	Started	31/03/2021
Build upon and embedded where service enhanced	One Colchester Delivery Group	Many changes already in place that need to be continued in the future. Further work on collaboration	Started	31/03/2021

or more streamline, customer centric delivery achievable.		opportunities to take place. e.g. GP (General Practitioner) appts online/phone. Inspections done via photos rather than visits.		
Housing Solutions including Rough Sleeping	Colchester Borough Homes	Colchester Borough Homes has aligned its recovery plan to meet the objectives of the Councils Housing strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing advice and support to Landlords and tenants to prevent homelessness</li> <li>• Identifying accommodation and support for those who are rough sleeping</li> <li>• Working with local charities and voluntary organisations to target support for those who are homeless</li> </ul> This meets the objectives within the Housing strategy and we will be able to provide updates as required	Started	31/03/2021
<b>Objective Two: Communities are strengthened to mitigate economic disruption, reduce isolation, and improve Health and Well Being</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Service Area / Partnership</b>	<b>Medium Term Development (1 August 2020 – 31 March 2021)</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
A project to support the process of grieving and remembrance at community level involving the arts community as well as religious leaders and non-religious community leaders.	St Helena	Work to strengthen and embed the project into support programmes to continue (One Colchester and our Cultural Partners.	Started	31/03/2021
End of life Hub.	St Helena	St Helena continue to deliver their amended model in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, this includes, but is not limited to, coordinating all End of Life care in the community across North East Essex, working	Started	31/03/2021

		alongside the Primary Care Networks.		
Continued shielding / support of most vulnerable.	One Colchester Delivery Board	Important Shielding efforts from the voluntary sector and Council continue. While the guidance has changed the desire and importance of ensuring some of the most clinically vulnerable individuals across Colchester are kept safe, have access to food, medicines and are not left socially isolated still is a key priority. Ensuring that the Hub provision is still available for a potential second wave in the Winter – Community 360. Resilience (Winter) steering group forming and meeting in July. The Council & One Colchester are part of the wider shielded and vulnerable taskforce.	Started	Ongoing
Community-led events / celebration of activities and community heroes.	Communities & Cultural partners	Will also look at long-term permanent memorial. Project/events team to be formed to consider options, link with key contacts, source funding and plan events (links to Economy Cell through Town Centre Task Force). Could include Amphora.	TBC	TBC
Use of volunteer networks to identify socially isolated individuals and signpost to existing community assets.	Community 360	Links to social prescribing. One Colchester, Community 360, Parish Councils, Cultural Partners, Council Leadership team.	Started	31/03/2021
Projects to support people “getting back on track” with positive physical and mental health and harness the daily exercise that has built up during the crisis.	Alliance	These are part of the Be Well Domain developed with the Local Development Partnership and the North Essex Health and Well Being Alliance. Build on Active Essex relationship and Local Delivery Pilot work. Evidence gathering has begun to show trends, risk areas and intelligence to shape support & work required. We	Started	31/03/2021

		need to link to Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data.		
Community Spirit built during the crisis and volunteers to help ensure elderly and vulnerable have access to continued befriending schemes.	Community 360	Links to social prescribing. Partnership working to continue with organisations enabling the community to support each other and developing a retention scheme for volunteers. Building on community schemes and activities. (One Colchester & Community 360). Community 360 held Befriending Network meeting in June.	Started	31/03/2021
Better awareness of schemes and activities for those who need help.	Community 360	Links to social prescribing. Communications support required. Asset mapping review to be held.	Started	31/03/2021
Use of data and insight gained through the crisis to support those with highest health vulnerabilities going forward.	One Colchester Delivery Board	An evidence base to understand and inform decision making is key and new qualitative research commissioned by the Council and Health Alliance from Anglian Ruskin University has supplied insight into the importance of community assets and impact of the pandemic.	Started	Ongoing
<b>Objective Three: Pre-existing inequalities within and between communities are reduced</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Service Area / Partnership</b>	<b>Medium Term Development (1 August 2020 – 31 March 2021)</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Using existing established groups and their networks to help inform and shape future workstreams to reduce inequalities.	One Colchester Delivery Board	Communities forum / faith groups / minority work to be led by One Colchester / Alliance / the Council. Should link to climate emergency project at the Council.	TBC	TBC
Support work of faith groups and leaders of ethnic minority communities disproportionately	Communities	Faith Groups are working hard to support both their own and wider communities as well as re-opening for worship, looking creatively at	Started	Ongoing

affected by Covid-19.		options and collaborating with each other and the Council.		
Project to look at Alliance and One Colchester apprenticeships and intern opportunities. To include community Initiatives and activities / funding to support Youth Employment / skills.	Colchester Institute	Current Colchester Institute Projects cover these requirements, Tracey will be working with Vicky at the Alliance on furthering this.	Started	31/03/2021
<b>Objective Four: Increase in volunteering, civic engagement and building on the strengths within Communities</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Service Area / Partnership</b>	<b>Medium Term Development (1 August 2020 – 31 March 2021)</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Work with C360 to enhance current volunteering strategy for Borough.	Community 360	Information gathered through Community 360 Volunteer Service Survey.	Started	TBC
Work with Community Leaders and Ward Cllrs to capture and help enable continued volunteering efforts in local communities.	Community 360	Initial meetings held with local area groups and community centres.	Started	TBC
Review Community Enabling Strategy and repurpose into ABCD.	Communities	The Community Enabling Strategy is currently being reviewed & updated. This work will continue and will be shaped by the current situation. A small working group has started to review the strategy and pull together a new draft.	Started	31/12/2020
Member and officer awareness of Asset Based Community	Communities, Community 360 and One	Further training is being planned for Asset Based Community Development and work will need to be undertaken to embed in	Started	31/12/2020



Development (ABCD)	Colchester Partners	<p>organisational ways of working. Nurture Development will roll-out online training for the Council, Community 360, One Colchester and Alliance – both introduction training and training for leadership.</p> <p>An Organisational Approach and System Leadership approach necessary.</p>		
Asset-mapping to be updated.	Community 360	<p>Review and update of existing asset-mapping may include further organisations as part of wider definition of assets.</p> <p>To be informed by Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) assets report.</p>	TBC	TBC

