

ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2021-22

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 County Council
- * The 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
- * DWP
- * Eastlight Community Homes

Key Priorities for 2021-22

The Partnership identified three specific priorities for 2021/2022 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.

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Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	SCP Priorities	PFCC Priorities
MAC Panel 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. 2021 has shown good results from partnership working with several OCG's disrupted.	1 & 2	4, 5 & 6
Closure Orders 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
Virtual Crew CBC Community Safety Team	<p>The aim was to raise awareness before secondary school to help children recognise an exploitative friendship or relationship via a powerful theatrical performance and interactive workshop. The facilitator and actors guided the workshop session to ensure the experience was fully interactive. The production was created by TiBox with input from the Community Safety team, teachers, and other local authorities, as a pre-recorded performance. This was followed by a live online interactive session.</p> <p>The 30/45-minute production was streamed via a link followed by a 45/60-minute interactive workshop session.</p> <p>1884 pupils from 49 primary schools participated in the virtual sessions. The average rating for the performance by teachers was 4.29/5. The average rating for the performance by children was 4.17/5.</p>	1 & 2	2 & 5

Essex Youth Services EYS	Funding available - circulated through CSDB and via EYS.	1, 2 & 3	
Op Sceptre / Op Pegasi 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. Locally – operational name is Op Pegasi - targeting hotspots for knife crime, such as Greenstead and the Hythe.	1, 2 & 3	1, 4, 5 & 6
Project Servator 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. Project promoted at CSDB in April 2021 and posters made available to partners/businesses.	1 & 2	1, 4, 5 & 6
Op Enlightenment 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 & 3	1, 4, 5 & 6
Box Smart Colchester Borough Homes Autumn/Winter 2021	'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 for 9 weeks will be held for 12 vulnerable 12-16-year olds, who might be vulnerable to the dangers of County Lines and knife crime, to try something new. 9 week programme to be completed by December 2021.	1 & 2	3, 4, 5 & 6

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

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Op Luscombe Essex Police in partnership Launched November 2019 - Ongoing	A multi-agency approach, Police, NHS, Open Road, Colchester Borough Homes, Community 360 aimed at long term reduction in homelessness and anti-social behaviour linked to homelessness. 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
ASB Service Delivery CBC Community Safety/CBH Ongoing	ASB service delivered in conjunction with Colchester Borough Homes. Using funding obtained from the Safer Colchester Partnership Fund, mobile CCTV cameras in use to support this service.	2	
ASB Awareness Week Essex Police/CBH/CBC 19-25 July 2021	ASB Awareness Week is a week of action dedicated to bringing together people and organisations from across the country to take a stand and make communities safer. Organised by Resolve , the week is being backed by the Home Office, Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), Local Government Association (LGA), National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and the National Fire Chiefs' Council (NFCC). Partners shared comms. Make A Difference day on Greenstead Estate held.		
Rural Tool Kit CBC Community Safety Team Ongoing	Sharing by the partnership of the Rural Crime Toolkit in conjunction to provide communities with ideas, information and support to make their neighbourhood a better place to live. Highlighted at Town and Parish Clerk Forum – April 2021.	2	2

Reviewing Neighbourhood Watch Data NHW/Community Safety	Collating data provided by Neighbourhood Watch to monitor trends relating to type of offence, hotspot Wards/Postcodes and any intel from Essex Police. Using Power Bi to present data and feedback to relevant partners to look at any actions required.	1,2 & 3	
Town Centre Action Plan CBC Community Safety Team Ongoing	Meetings held weekly. Action Planning to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of activity. Refer to TCAP action plan for further information.	2 & 3	1, 2 & 6
Make a Difference Days Colchester Borough Homes Various dates	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. First MAD Day co-ordinated with Essex Police took place in ASB Awareness Week (Greenstead Estate).	2	2
Project Soteria 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. Mobile CCTV used to support this project.	1, 2 & 3	2, 5 & 6
Op Vocal Essex Police October 2019 - Ongoing	Essex Police operation aimed at increasing the visibility of Police in the rural areas of the district where demand led need is likely to be less obvious. Supports the Rural Toolkit. This has seen numerous deployments across our rural communities addressing issues from speeding, to drug use.	1, 2 & 3	1 & 2
Nights of Action (Op Emblazen) Essex Police and Partners Various	Nights of Action bring together partners that include Police, Environmental Health, Business Improvement District and Army, alongside our Council Town Marshals. This joint working ensures businesses are adhering to legislation and any license restrictions. They also offer a supportive role to assist with any issues. Held to support re-opening of Night Time Economy and nightclubs. So far 16/17 th April, 21/22 nd May	2	1, 2, 4, 6 & 7
Town Centre Re-opening CBC/Essex Police / BID Spring 2021	Joint working with the Police and the Town Centre Business Improvement District to help businesses safely re-open within Covid-19 guidelines.	2	

Street Ambassadors BID October 2019 – current	Trained in areas such as Hate Crime and Dementia. Interacting with businesses - including informing of campaigns. Key issues, such as thefts, shoplifting and general street issues have been reported. The top four issues are, paving, footway cleaning hazardous materials. Trained in areas such as Hate Crime, Dementia and evidence collection.	2	
Community Safety and Engagement Officer Essex Police	Recruitment of Community Safety Engagement Officer to join the Community Policing Team in Colchester. Role to reduce crime and ASB, protect vulnerable people. Extended to 2 officers.	2	
Safe, Well and Secure ECFRS/Police/CBC	Events to deliver safety messages/advice to residents in target areas across the Borough,	2 & 3	
Op Talla Essex Police Ongoing	Operation Talla is a county wide effort to ensure compliance with the Coronavirus Regulations through the 4 E process (Engage, Explain, Encourage, (3E) and finally for blatant breaches Enforce (4E).		
Covid Co-ordinator Role CBC November 2020-ongoing	Employed through MHCLG funding provided to CBC to co-ordinate 'Covid Marshalls' operating across the borough, and any associated Covid related activity.		
Covid/Town Marshalls CBC November 2020 - ongoing	Employed to work across the borough to assist with adherence to government guidelines by the general public and businesses, and to provide a PR/support presence.		
Test and Trace CBC	Working with Essex County Council and NHS Test and Trace, CBC are supporting the process of contacting residents required to self-isolate due to contact with someone testing positive for Covid. This involves making calls, home visits and referral to Essex Police for enforcement if found not to be self-isolating.		
Covid Testing CBC January 2021 – April 2021	Working with Essex County Council CBC implemented a process for Lateral Flow and PCR testing. Relevant communications to staff and general public about criteria for accessing this facility to follow.		
Fear of Crime Survey CBC Summer 2021	Fear of Crime Survey launched July 2021 for a 4-week period. Online completions – 111. Results are currently being analysed.		

Greenstead Support to Engage with Employment/Education Project CBC/DWP December 2020 – March 2022	Funded by the Violence and Vulnerability Unit to deliver a project to support work with vulnerable children and young people through “Support to Engage with Employment or Education in Colchester” (Greenstead ward). Project includes a mini jobcentre with a focus on those aged 15-24 who have additional barriers which may prevent them from engaging with Employment or Education. Sector based work academy programmes, Better Neighbourhood Project, Support for Colchester Academy. Initial project extended with additional VVU funding until end of March 2022. Between project initiation and April 2021 74 CYP had been referred to the project. We are currently awaiting referral numbers to date.		
Multi Agency Centre – Greenstead CBC/DWP/other partners September 2021 – March 2022	Funded by Violence and Vulnerability Unit, with funding in kind by DWP staffing resource. Operating on a weekly to fortnightly basis from Greenstead Community Centre, involving partners including Youth Enquiry Service, DWP, Colchester Borough Council, Colchester Borough Homes and others. In process of confirming funding agreement, room bookings and partner commitment.		
Dog Event Essex Police June 2021	Event at Gosbecks Archeological Park – Advice to help combat dog attacks and animal theft. Advice on basic dog control, microchipping, crime prevention.		
Op Halfback Essex Police Current	Policing and Safeguarding the Night-time Economy	1 & 2	
Going Country Operation Trespass Essex Police/VVU June 2021	Promotion of County Lines campaign – film commissioned by the VVU to help young people develop an understanding of exploitation, highlighting the personal risks, and providing skills and tactics to recognise and avoid risky situations. If young people understand how the gangs operate, they have the knowledge to spot the signs and walk away.		

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

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Domestic Abuse Awareness CBC Community Safety	Training cascaded to all CBC Staff as part of the Safeguarding Training Plan launch in May 2021. Range of training options given to staff including J9 workshops, SETDAB domestic abuse awareness e-learning, and Alpha Vesta workshops.	2 & 3	
Together we Can Project CBC Community Safety/Next Chapter/LA Partners April 2020-March 2022	£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. Project extended to July 2021 due to delayed start. Due to the delay in commencing some of the projects as a result of Covid-19 – a proportion of this fund has been carried forward into 2021/22. In response to the new duties in the Domestic Abuse Bill, Essex County Council have worked with the partnership to award continuation funding for these projects until the end of March 2022.	2 & 3	
Suicide Awareness Training CBC Community Safety	Zero Suicide Alliance awareness e-learning course made mandatory for all staff and Councillors at CBC. Cascaded as part of Safeguarding Training Plan launch in May 2021. In addition, Level 2 Public Health Suicide Prevention e-learning was also made mandatory for all front line staff. As well as to staff, promoted to Councillors and Town and Parish Councils. Promoted to CSDB members.	3	

Colchester and Tendring Suicide Prevention Task & Finish Group Public Health, CBC and partners March 2021 - ongoing	Formed in March 2021 as a result of recommendations by Health and Wellbeing Board, to explore the high suicide rates in Tendring and Colchester. Meetings held monthly. Action plan includes: Distribution of Self-Harm booklet to key partners and community Support of research/data collection on suicides in Colchester, including support for Real Time Suicide Surveillance system.		
Suicide Prevention Partnership Group – Colchester August 2020 – May 2021	Partnership Group formed in August 2020 and meet quarterly to consider risks of suicide (particularly in young people) and co-ordinate activity at a local level to prevent incidents across the borough. Group consisted of CBC Officers, Councillor, Network Rail Community Safety, ECC Youth Services, Samaritans, Essex Police, Mental Health Services. May 2021: Agreed to integrate this group into the Colchester and Tendring Task and Finish Group.		
ICS Wave 2 Suicide Prevention Project Group Ongoing	Formed by Public Health – this group covers Suffolk and NE Essex. Partnership working to consider national activity to prevent suicide, funding bids/projects, local campaigns. Attended by CBC officers to co-ordinate with Colchester Suicide Prevention Group and Tendring and Colchester Task and Finish Group. Sharing of information relating to subsidised Suicide First Aid training, funded by the ICS Wave 2 funding.		
PREVENT training CBC Community Safety Ongoing	Mandatory for all Council 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. Launched May 2021 along with Safeguarding Training Plan. New PREVENT Strategy and Action Plan shared with Community Safety Delivery Board members – July 2021. Promoted to Town and Parish Councils.	2 & 3	
ACT Early promotion CBC and partners	Promotion of Essex Police's ACT Early initiative. Details included on Safer Colchester Partnership website. Also promoted at CSDB meeting.		

April 2021			
Modern Slavery Statement and Action Plan CBC September 2021	Modern Slavery Statement 2020-21 published in September, along with an Action Plan to improve staff training, raise awareness within the Council and its' partners/suppliers. New training for 2021 includes e-learning course for those CBC staff working with budgets/supply chain. NRM First Responder training refresher.	2 & 3	
Anti-Slavery Partnership CBC/Police/Partners	Work underway to investigate the feasibility of developing an Anti-Slavery Partnership in Colchester. Linking into the Eastern Region Anti-Slavery Partnership and sharing best practice with SAMS (Southend Against Modern Slavery). The purpose of this partnership will be to raise awareness and support those vulnerable members of our community. Linked in with Essex Police, Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking Officer.		
Modern Slavery Project CBC/Private Sector Housing/Licencing	Work has begun to scope out a project to support vulnerable workers in the food industry, and who may be housed in inappropriate/unsafe accommodation. Project group formed and in process of sourcing funding and defining target businesses/numbers.		
Safeguarding Training Full Review and Launch CBC Community Safety	Safeguarding training plan launched May 2021, including training at Levels 1-3, mandatory and optional training courses for CBC staff, councillors and volunteers.	1,2 & 3	
Hate Crime Awareness Sessions 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. Community 360 organised a session - held 30/6 for up to 20 Community Leaders.	2 & 3	2 & 6

Hate Crime Ambassadors Session Essex Police/CBC	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. We have trained 120 Hate Crime Ambassadors, members of the public and professionals who raise awareness and support victims to report hate crime. Session held in April 2021 for CBC Designated Safeguarding Officers, Covid Marshals and front-line staff at Colchester Borough Council. Training is routinely highlighted to partners at CSDB meetings.	2 & 3	2 & 6
Hate Crime Awareness – Website Information	The SCP website has been updated with information on Hate Crime, what it is, and how to report it.	2 & 3	
Hate Crime Awareness Week CBC/ Essex Police	Planning activity to raise awareness of hate crime ready for October 2021.	2 & 3	
Essex Hate Crime Action Plan Victim Support/CBC/Essex Police	Input/support the Strategic Hate Crime Prevention Partnership Action Plan.	2 & 3	
Observers CBC Community Safety Team May 2021	Launch of Level 2 Safeguarding e-learning package for CBC staff. Includes topics: Modern Slavery, Gangs & County lines, Sexual Offence, Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation. Plans to tailor this package and make available to contractors and external partners.	1 & 3	3, 4, 5 & 6
Keep Safe CBC Community Safety Summer 2021	Re-launch of Keep Safe for Colchester planned for Autumn 2021. 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	
Hidden Harms Conference CBC Community Safety	Looking at options to deliver key Hidden Harms messages. Previous Conference forums not possible due to covid. Further details to follow.	1, 2 & 3	

National Stalking Awareness Week April 2021	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 changing the way they socialise, changing their routes to work or isolating themselves. Linked in with Next Chapter and Essex Police to share information on social media.	2 & 3	3, 4 & 6
Sanctuary Scheme Colchester Borough Homes Ongoing	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.	2 & 3	3, 4 & 6
J9 Domestic Abuse Awareness CBC Community Safety Team	J9 training sessions are intended to raise awareness and increase knowledge and understanding of domestic abuse for staff in public and voluntary sector organisations. J9 online workshops promoted by CBC comms and through CSDB partners. J9 session held for CBC Designated Safeguarding Officers – 9 June 2021, and plans to deliver to Councillors in late 2021. Promoted to Town and Parish Councils.	2 & 3	3, 4 & 6
Spot It, Stop It CBC Community Safety Team Planned launch 2021	Local businesses can play a positive role in helping to raise awareness and potentially stop children and young people becoming victims of 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. Planning in process to launch in 2021 – delayed due to Covid.	1, 2 & 3	2, 5 & 6
Op Aident Essex Police Ongoing	Nationally used operation name set by the National Crime Agency to target 'hidden harms'. April 2021 campaign focusing on labour exploitation. Further campaigns in June (child trafficking), September (sexual exploitation) and November (elicit finances).	2 & 3	

	July 2021 – Week of Action focused on car washes – no modern slavery issues identified.		
Op Ratify Essex Police Ongoing	Problem solving operation run by Public Protection Command, aimed at persons who present a danger to the community, including sex offenders, violent offenders.	2 & 3	
Op Yalta Essex Police Ongoing	Essex Police Operation to identify repeat victims of sexual abuse where intelligence would indicate they continue to be at risk. Once identified it is the intention of Op Yalta to utilise Police resources alongside a multi-agency approach to mitigate this risk and reduce the risk of repeat victimisation.	2 & 3	
Op Enlightenment Essex Police Ongoing	Working in partnership with schools to spot the signs of Child Sexual Exploitation, Child exploitation and educate around gangs/county lines.	1, 2 & 3	
Social Media to share Campaign material CBC / Partners	Sharing of campaign material via social media channels in relation to: Child Exploitation Awareness Day – March Self-Harm Awareness Day – March National Stalking Awareness Week – April Crimestoppers Campaigns Unseen : Child Exploitation-County Lines – June World Suicide Prevention Day – 10 September		
Op Henderson CBC / Essex Police / Partners 1 June – 7 June 2021	Partnership campaign – Safeguarding Vulnerable children on Transport Networks: Essex Safeguarding Children Board, Southend and Thurrock Safeguarding Children Partnerships, British Transport Police, Essex Police, Violence and Vulnerability Unit, Rail Operators, The Railway Children, Reach Every Generation, Social Care and local councils. Results: Face to face engagements – total 976. Digital reach – social media reach 202,500+, social media clicks 1023, social media engagements 2955, 87,500+ newsletters		

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