

Crime and Disorder Committee Meeting

**Moot Hall, Town Hall, High Street,
Colchester, CO1 1PJ**

Tuesday, 14 September 2021 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>.

Most meetings take place in public. This only changes when certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual are considered. At this point you will be told whether there are any issues to be discussed in private, if so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

Have Your Say!

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Access

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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, 14 September 2021 at 18:00

Member:

Councillor Mark Cory
Councillor Tina Bourne
Councillor Lyn Barton
Councillor Nigel Chapman
Councillor Derek Loveland
Councillor Lorcan Whitehead
Councillor Dennis Willetts
Councillor Barbara Wood

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.

1 Welcome and Announcements

The Chairman will welcome members of the public and Councillors and remind everyone to use microphones at all times when they are speaking. The Chairman will also explain action in the event of an emergency, mobile phones switched to silent, audio-recording of the meeting. Councillors who are members of the committee will introduce themselves.

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 meetings held on 16 February 2021 and 26 May 2021 are a correct record.

Crime and Disorder Committee Minutes 16 February 2021 7 - 14

Crime and Disorder Committee Minutes 26 May 2021 15 - 16

6 Have Your Say!

The Chairman will invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak or present a petition on any item included on the agenda or any other matter relating to the terms of reference of the meeting. Please indicate your wish to speak at this point if your name has not been noted by Council staff.

7 Safer Colchester Partnership Report 17 - 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 2021 – September 2021.

Part B

(not open to the public including the press)

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

16 February 2021

Present:- Councillor Barber, Councillor Bentley, Councillor Dundas, Councillor Hayter, Councillor Hogg, Councillor McCarthy, Councillor Whitehead

Substitutes:- Councillor Harris for Councillor Bourne

Also Present:- Councillor Lilley

24. Minutes of previous meetings.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

25. Have Your Say!

Councillor Roger Mannion, of Tiptree Parish Council, addressed the Committee pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 5(1) to request information as to how Government funding for Covid Marshals was being used, how many Marshals were operating and what outcomes had so far been achieved.

Councillor Mike Lilley, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Wellbeing and Public Safety, addressed the questions, explaining that Government funding had allowed for two Marshals to be recruited. Their duties included visiting businesses which remained open, checking compliance with Covid-19 regulations and giving advice. The role had now changed, moving to one full-time marshal who dealt with public complaints and following up on these to arrange appropriate actions. This can include site visits and, where necessary, official visits and warnings by the Council's Licensing Team.

Louise Wishart addressed the Committee pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 5(1) to request an update on the revised timetable for installing an improved CCTV system in Colchester, and assurance that this remained a part of the Council's Capital Programme.

The Portfolio Holder informed the Committee that the new operating system was now in place and functioning with the existing network, including 14 new additional cameras, at a range of locations including the Town Centre (such as in the Dutch Quarter, Eld Lane, and the Centre's tunnels) and Northern Gateway Sports Park. The next step would be the renovation of the control room. It had been necessary to liaise with Essex Highways where road excavations had been needed for the installation of cables, with certain work still to do. It was hoping that the system would be fully operational by mid-June. The Portfolio Holder offered to provide a more detailed written answer to Ms. Wishart.

Chris Piggott addressed the Committee pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 5(1) to ask for information as to whether there were plans to reduce

speeding in the South of Colchester, noting current work by the Police to reduce speeds on some main roads. Speeds within residential areas was raised as a particular concern and Mr Piggott asked if enforcement action depended upon reporting of specific instances/areas, or whether a plan to address the issue was in place.

Chief Inspector Jonathan Evans addressed the questions to explain that Road Traffic and Local Community Policing Teams were both conducting enforcement actions. Resources and attention were directed to the areas where reports from the public identified particularly serious problems. In the long-term, this was an issue that required attention from the County Council and Essex Highways, regarding the layout of road systems and traffic restrictions.

A statement from Catherine Spindler was read out by an officer, pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 5(1). Mrs Spindler welcomed and praised the work of Police and Council officers working to secure prosecutions and convictions for offences relating to the supplying of illegal drugs and highlighted the damage caused by the drugs trade, to both communities and the individuals within them. The Police were asked how more support could be given to victims of the drug trade, to help them provide evidence and information to help the Police in pursuing convictions of those involved in furthering the trade of drugs.

Mrs Spindler requested that the Police liaise with Neighbourhood Watch coordinators to provide guidance as to how best to note and report problems with dog fouling in public areas.

Chief Inspector Jonathan Evans summarised some of the ways in which concerns and suspected crimes can be reported to the Police, including via Crimestoppers, Essex Police online, reporting to local community policing teams or by calling the Police on 101 [for non-emergency situations]. Teams from Operation Raptor continued their work to tackle drug supply and related crimes. The Police also worked with Colchester Borough Homes to carry out closure orders [used where individuals or use of premises has resulted in, or is likely to result in, serious nuisance to the public].

The Portfolio Holder addressed the issue of dog fouling, agreeing that this remained a problem. Where witnesses came forward, the Council took action to collect statements and conduct enforcement actions wherever possible. The Portfolio Holder asked for all members of the public to report to the Council any instances which they saw occur. Enforcement options could then be explored, including potential prosecution.

26. 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).

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. The Chair of the Partnership noted the questions regarding Covid Marshals and directed attention to page 39 of the agenda for the meeting, where more information was provided on the Marshals and their work.

The Chair of the Partnership introduced Roger Hirst, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, members of the partnership, including Chief Inspector Jonathan Evans, who was representing the Police in place of Chief Inspector Rob Huddleston. Also in attendance was Beverley Jones, representing the charity 'Next Chapter', which worked to help victims of domestic abuse.

The Portfolio Holder praised the partnership working carried out and its addressing of priorities, including tackling domestic violence and mental health problems. Homelessness continued to be prioritised also.

The Public Space Protection Order [PSPO] for the centre of Colchester had been extended into New Town, and other extensions would be considered where this would be of use, as the PSPO had been shown to be effective. The work done within the office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to assist with tackling issues was also praised.

Chief Inspector Jonathan Evans introduced his update on the work of Colchester's Police. This included an update on the policing response to Covid-19 and its impact on policing. There were dedicated avenues in place for concerns or potential breaches to be raised to inform action by the Police. Highlights included engaging with 6,328 members of the public, issuing 1,227 verbal warnings and 112 Fixed Penalty Notices and carrying out 396 visits to licensed premises.

Overall, crime across the Borough has decreased by 10.5% from the beginning of 2020. Anti-social behaviour reports have increased by 34%, partly due to the extension of such reports to include Covid-related reports. The level of hate crimes has risen by 16.2%.

The Chief Inspector gave an overview of work to tackle gangs and County Lines offences/activities. Drug-related offences had increased during the pandemic, with a 21.4% increase in such crimes, from 5,829 to 7,074 offences recorded. This is against the backdrop of overall decreases in criminal activities overall. The Police continued to make it their first priority to tackle drug- and gang-related problems.

Intelligence-led stop and search tactics were used as part of Operation Sceptre, with over 5,000 searches recorded across the district over 2020. 73.94% of searches were on white individuals, 16.26 on BME individuals and 9.81% did not state an ethnicity. 18 Misuse of Drugs Act warrants were utilised across the district between September 2020 and January 2021, and safeguarding operations were carried out to protect vulnerable individuals affected by County Lines criminality. Two County Lines operations were entirely dismantled during this period. The benefits of the multi-agency approach were extolled.

Priority two, reduction of violent crime and antisocial behaviour [ASB] in public places, was described. ASB reports had increased by 34%, partly due to how such reports now included Covid-related incidents. Engagement and enforcement were explained, and again, partnership working was praised, including with Colchester Borough Homes on issues relating to residential premises. Further partnership working, for example with the Council, would be used to plan a coordinated approach to address the eventual reopening of the night time economy.

'Violence against the person' offences had seen a slight reduction of 0.2% across the district, with reductions in sexual offences of 9.2%, in robberies of 22.6% and weapon possession offences of 20.5%. Three offences of murder have resulted in suspects being located and charged for each offence. The Chief Inspector noted that the Police worked

with the University to promote student safety, and with rural communities to address offences recorded in rural locations.

The priority of addressing 'hidden harms' was explained, including hate crimes, safeguarding issues (especially for vulnerable children), domestic abuse and mental health issues.

Hate crimes reported had increased by 16.2% across the district, with a solved rate of 12.6%. 80 trained ambassadors and seven Hate Incident Reporting Centres were now in place across Colchester.

Operation Enlightenment had been used to provide regular liaison with schools' safeguarding leads to share information and safeguard vulnerable children. Operation Encompass carried out information sharing with schools to safeguard children affected by, or witnessing, domestic abuse.

A focus was being given to preventative action to reduce domestic abuse incidents. Through an increase in the precept for the office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, funding had been obtained to set up a Domestic Abuse Problem Solving Team, with six officers based in Colchester, due to double to 12 by December 2021. The Team would manage protection arrangements around domestic abuse offenders, work with victims and provide a support service to support and engage victims in the criminal justice process.

Operation Aidant carried out regular visits to business locations to ensure safeguarding of vulnerable individuals and identification of potential instances of modern slavery.

Beverley Jones, Next Chapter charity, gave an overview of her organisation's work to support and help victims of domestic abuse and violence. The charity had seen an increase of around 50-60% in referrals and reports regarding domestic abuse, which differed from the data compiled by the Police. One explanation was that not all victims wanted to go through the justice system. There had been increases in victims' risk profiles due to the Covid-19 crisis, with victims losing freedoms and opportunities to escape or seek support. Perpetrators were also prevented from leaving home situations or seeking coping mechanisms. This has led to cases taking more support for longer, exacerbated by the backlog in the courts system making it harder to obtain non-molestation orders.

The closure of schools had had an impact on children, with around 3,500 living in homes with domestic abuse having been reported, with a reporting rate of only around 30-40% being estimated. There were also reduced chances for outsiders to now spot and report suspected domestic abuse, especially regarding children. Vulnerable children were now experiencing the lowest levels of support, due to Covid-19 and lockdown measures. The pandemic had highlighted the dangers of domestic abuse and hidden harms.

The reduced capacity caused by Covid-19 was covered, including the need to close any refuge where cases of Covid-19 were discovered. Ways of working had been changed to maximise safety, and positive outcomes had come from further increasing partnership working with Open Road, Outhouse, the Police, social housing landlords and Essex County Council. Pilot schemes were being run in Tendring to support victims and conduct enforcement against perpetrators. £331k extra funding had been sourced and spent on seven extra practitioners.

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner [PFCC] praised the work of Next Chapter and the partnership operations in place. He explained that the Courts system is attempting to prioritise non-molestation and protection orders to minimise delays. £15m per year had been committed to in support for victims of crime in general.

Commencing the Committee's discussion, the guests were asked if ways to report hate crime and violence could be advertised and circulated to all councillors. The Chief Inspector highlighted the plan to increase visibility of patrols across all districts, community safety and engagement officers, social media, newsletters, via parish councils, schools etc. Contact options included via Hate Crime Ambassadors, reporting centres, 101 telephone number and Essex Police's website. CID investigated serious allegations. Answering questions as to whether anonymous reports could be made, the Chief Inspector explained that, whilst prosecutions would normally require reporting members of the public to identify themselves, there were options for other actions by the police which could target resources in response to reported problems, even where reports were made anonymously.

It was queried whether Next Chapter worked with local safeguarding boards and Essex Family Centres in Berechurch and Greenstead to support families. The Safer Colchester Partners were asked to confirm whether they used the services of MIND to help provide mental health support where necessary. Beverley Jones confirmed that Next Chapter did work with safeguarding boards and Essex County Council children's/family services, making referrals to them, usually involving children rather than adults. Potential new ways to provide outreach services were currently being risk assessed. MIND and other mental health support services were being used, although high demand had led to waiting times and challenges in accessing timely support, especially for acute cases. The Chief Inspector notified that the Police also worked with MIND, for example in providing support for drug-users seeking help.

Answering questions on future next steps and hopes, Beverley Jones noted Next Step's intentions to extend their service provision, building upon actions already carried out. Domestic Violence advisors had been provided for consultation at Colchester Hospital, with their safeguarding team. Around 70 referrals had been received each week, but cuts to the service necessitated by an end to the funding received for it had led to a drop in referrals down to almost none. A discussion would be had with the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group [NEE CCG] as to whether there was scope to reintroduce the service once Covid-related disruption lessened. Limited funding had been received to provide a pilot scheme of practitioners in GP surgeries. There had been little interest from surgeries, despite engaging with GPs. Further attempts would be made once Covid-19 restrictions eased. Next Steps continued to work with commissioning bodies, such as the County Council and PFCC, to secure government funding and support. Proposals were being brought forward to address planned use of any funding gained.

Pam Green, Chief Operating Officer of the NEE CCG [North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group] recommended that Lee Bailey of Essex County Council worked with Next Chapter to find end-of-year funding for hospital and/or GP surgery practitioner placements. The priority at the hospital had been to conduct suicide prevention.

The Chairman extended the Committee's thanks to all the partners helping with the conducting of the vaccination programme, with especial thanks going to Pam Green and the NEE CCG.

An update on the Rural Crime Strategy and rural crime statistics was requested, along with any updates on how unlawful encampments were addressed. The Chief Inspector detailed Operation Vocal, the response to rural crime and need to increase police visibility. Road safety was a particular concern and reported issues were being tackled. Issues such as unlawful encampments and hare coursing were addressed by working with local farmers/landowners, with patterns being analysed by the Community Policing Team. The number of illegal encampments encountered had halved since the formation of the rural policing team. Lobbying of MPs had been conducted and had resulted in the issue being addressed within an expected Bill to be laid before Parliament in the near future.

In response to a question regarding whether there would be any merit in using TruCAM technology to address speeding, The Commissioner explained that the TruCAM system was a possible option, but that a recent trial of its use in Harwich had not shown great success. Speed Watch schemes were more focused on education and prevention, rather than enforcement. Overemphasis on enforcement had the potential to cause tension in the community.

The Chief Inspector was asked for assurance that the Police continued to prioritise tackling County Lines and their ensnaring of local young people. The Chief Inspector agreed that the priorities of safeguarding the vulnerable and raising awareness of county lines issues were still being addressed by the Police. Youth officers worked with schools and youth clubs to raise awareness, including with parents and businesses. The Commissioner informed the Committee that Essex had a formal strategy to ensure commissioning of services to tackle county lines. Work was conducted with the Metropolitan Police to tackle the heads of criminal gangs, whilst Raptor interventions and stop-and-searches continued locally. 44 arrests had recently been made.

The Committee were informed that mentoring and specific services were in place to divert young people away from potential involvement with gangs. This programme was now in its second year and was yielding positive results.

A Committee member praised the good relationships built between officers, Police Community Support Officers and communities across wards. This was felt to be working well and communications with the Police were now very good, building community links and quickly directing residents to the channels available for reporting issues. The Chief Inspector agreed and stressed the importance in receiving community intelligence to help ensure that resources are deployed to address hotspots.

It was queried whether the increase in reported drugs offences were down to an increase in offences committed, or due to greater visibility of them during Covid-19 restrictions, leading to an increase in reporting to the Police. The Chief Inspector agreed that the increased visibility of such offences had partly accounted for the increase in offences reported and clarified that such offences could only be so recorded where drugs were found. The Committee were told that the Police worked with victims to tackle perpetrators and that prosecutions related to the transport of drugs had increased by 47 cases compared to the number of prosecutions in the past year. Efforts to increase reporting and submission of evidence by the public had had a positive effect.

The Committee asked whether, when lockdown measures are gradually relaxed, the towns and larger villages in the Borough would receive support from the partner organisations and the Covid Marshals in order to ensure public health safety. The Portfolio Holder for Communities, Wellbeing and Public Safety and Charlotte Williams, the Council's Covid

Compliance Co-ordinator, explained that discussions had been held to ensure that support, advice and help with safety is provided across the Borough as businesses and services reopen. Support for the Marshals would continue for their Borough-wide work, and members who wished to know more could request briefings by the Covid Compliance Co-ordinator.

Concern was raised that the Borough had experienced the third-highest suicide rate in the country, which was not in line with other factors such as deprivation. Views were sought as to why this was the case. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership confirmed that resources and attention had been focused on suicide prevention, in response to the local rate being so high. Meetings had been held with the Director of Public Health for Essex to discuss and address this and the Partnership would continue to consult and work with its partners to address the issue and discern greater demographic data, especially regarding the most at-risk groups and causes.

Alison Andreas, Principal and Chief Executive of Colchester Institute detailed the support given by the Institute to young people dealing with mental health challenges. Concerted work was being conducted following four students committing suicide across the past seven years. MIND and the Wellbeing and Mental Health Resilience Team, supported by the Council and County Council, worked with 16- to 18-year-olds to conduct early referrals to address mental health difficulties. Lee Bailey, Lead for Partnership Delivery (Essex County Council) informed the Committee that extra funding had been gained for support services at the Institute and Sixth Form College which would support further work. An influx of young people suffering from suicidal thoughts or actions had been experienced by Colchester's hospital and work was underway to identify causes of this and what services might be possible to better support and address those affected. A Committee member welcomed the information given, and requested that, once further information and data was gained (e.g. on causes) that this could be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership was asked to pass on thanks and praise to Colchester Borough Homes (CBH) for their work with the Police to tackle antisocial behaviour. The Chairman of the Committee agreed with this request and committed to write to CBH to offer the thanks and praise of the Committee for their important work.

It was noted that a significant increase in the use of Section 135 [Mental Health Act 1983] warrants had been recorded and questioned as to the causes of this increase. The Chief Inspector explained that these were used where deemed appropriate to safeguard those with certain mental health circumstances and that officers would assist medical professionals in carrying them out, where needed, to take individuals to safety and to assess mental health needs. Pam Donnelly, Chairman of the Safer Colchester Partnership offered to request a more detailed response from Pam Green, CEO of NEE CCG, and forward this information to all members. The Committee were informed that four years ago, a dearth of services and facilities meant that there had been limited capacity to enforce such warrants.

An expectation of reduced funding for the Safer Colchester Partnership was recorded at 13.1 of the report, and it was queried how much of a reduction was expected and to what extent it was expected that this would affect service provision. Councillor Lilley, Council Portfolio Holder for Communities, Wellbeing and Public Safety, gave the view that there was extremely limited funding to pursue community safety and explained that the Council applied to the office of the PFCC for funding where needed. Different partners had access to different funding sources and the Portfolio Holder offered to provide greater detail in

written responses regarding specific types of funding if members of the Committee inform Owen Howell, Democratic Services Officer, as to which those specific types of funding were on which they wished to know more.

The Committee noted that the pandemic had seen an increase in the profile of the issue of domestic abuse and asked how this high profile could be maintained. Beverley Jones, of Next Chapter, stressed their aim to ensure high visibility for domestic abuse and violence. Local media had already indicated that they want to continue and cover what happens as the pandemic recedes. A greater use of social media and other communication options would continue. Good foundations were in place and it was hoped that the Domestic Abuse Bill would be enacted in April.

Answering questions as to whether social distancing had detrimental effects and had caused changes to ways of working, Beverley Jones informed the Committee that some clients had been moved to 'phone/remote support and that it was encouraging that good outcomes were still being achieved, without negative effects occurring. Very vulnerable individuals had remained with face-to-face contacts to maintain connections. For some who had suffered trauma, telephone options were found to be less pressurised and can lessen the fear of judgement. It was considered to be vital to offer the right level of support for each individual.

The guest partners were asked to provide more information on activities which had been available for young people in order to help them maintain their mental health wellbeing and engage with others, especially during lockdowns. Lee Bailey, Essex County Council Children and Families Services, explained that much work was ongoing with the most vulnerable, including those at risk of sexual or criminal exploitation. Support and community safeguarding measures were reviewed, working with the Police and providing a link to restorative justice. Work continued to prevent issues and tackle them at crisis points.

The Chairman thanked all of the organisations and individuals represented at the meeting for their continuing work.

RESOLVED that: -

- a) The Committee had scrutinised the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP);
- b) The Committee expressed its thanks to all statutory and non-statutory partner organisations involved, and to the representatives who participated in this meeting and that;
- c) The Committee Chairman would write to each representative who had been present to express these thanks.

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

26 May 2021

Present:-

Councillor Barton, Councillor Bourne, Councillor Chapman, Councillor Cory, Councillor Loveland, Councillor Whitehead, Councillor Willetts, Councillor Wood.


27. Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Cory be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

28. Appointment of Deputy Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Bourne be appointed as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

14 September 2021

Report of	Strategic Director for Customer & Relationships	Author	Sonia Carr  282978
Title	Safer Colchester Partnership		
Wards affected	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 2021 – September 2021. 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 2021 – September 2021 and future priorities for 2021/22.
- 1.2. Appendices are provided from the Statutory members of the SCP (including Health, The Probation Service (TPS), 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), The Probation Service (TPS), 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, Colchester Business Improvement District (BID) and the Ambulance Service.
- 4.3. 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.
- 4.4. 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 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 2021 – up to September 2021

- 5.1 Following completion of the Strategic Assessment of Crime 2020-21 in December 2020, and the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions imposed from March 2021, the SCP agreed to adopt the previous year's Key Priorities for the period April 2021 - March 2022.

It was felt that the pandemic restrictions impacted on crime committed and reported in 2020, resulting in crime types experiencing unprecedented significantly reduced or increased levels. As restrictions changed, crime levels have continually readjusted. As the data set significantly reflects crime within a pandemic environment the data may not accurately inform priorities for the following year where similar restrictions may not be in place. The Partnership agreed the priorities identified in the previous assessment had not had an opportunity to address them.

- 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 2021-22 details the specific work and projects undertaken to address these themes (to date); this is attached as Appendix A.

5.3 Updates from statutory members of the SCP including Health (CCG), The Probation Service (TPS), Essex County Council (Adult and Children's Services), Essex Fire and Rescue (ECFRS) and Essex Police are included as Appendix B.

6. Plans for the Partnership's work during September 2021- March 2022

6.1. As detailed in 5.1, the Key Priorities for the period including September 2021 – March 2022 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 2021-22 will continue until the end of March 2021.

7. Changes during the year to date

- 7.1. The Department for Work and Pensions and Eastlight Community Housing became members of the Partnership during 2021.
- 7.2. The Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) was removed due to reunification with The Probation Service.
- 7.3. A change in name – The National Probation Service was replaced with The Probation Service.
- 7.4. A new Portfolio Holder for Communities was appointed by the Council. Councillor Beverley Oxford now holds this office.
- 7.5. The continued employment by the local authority of a Covid Co-ordinator and Town Marshals (previously called Covid Marshals) to work closely with Essex Police, Business Improvement District and Council Neighbourhood Teams to support public compliance with Government guidelines, as well as to assist in monitoring and reporting of ASB and drug/alcohol use.
- 7.6. Successful partnership working between all agencies in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery of businesses following national lockdown, including Covid Lateral Flow Test giveaways and Mobile Testing Units across the borough.
- 7.7. New Domestic Abuse Bill became law from 30 April 2021 – activity to ensure requirements on partners are met.
- 7.8. Planning continues for The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill currently being considered in the House of Lords, although initial findings suggest the Partnership have the necessary procedures in place to meet its requirements.
- 7.9. The deployment programme for the digital CCTV is nearing completion – offering upgraded and significantly enhanced/improved coverage already delivering solid results.

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

- 8.1. The PFCC is invited to attend Crime and Disorder Committee meetings. Unfortunately, the PFCC already had an existing engagement in his diary for this date and is not able to attend.
- 8.2. The PFCC for Essex's Community Safety Development Fund enables voluntary and community safety groups from across Essex to apply for funding. This is to help prevent and tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Essex and support vulnerable people.

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 2020-2023. Under 'Creating safe, healthy and active communities', the priority to 'Provide opportunities for young people', includes key goals to tackle crime issues and tackling anti-social behaviour. Specifically:

- Provide positive opportunities for young people to engage with their local community and do things that interests them, keeps them safe, makes them happy and supports improved mental wellbeing
- Support the creation of strong, safe, and friendly communities that care about each other
- Work with Essex Police, Colchester Borough Homes, Essex Youth Service and other partners to reduce anti-social behaviour and tackle serious crime
- Work alongside our partners to improve cleanliness and community safety in the town centre
- Upgrade and extend the CCTV network to reach more places

11. Consultation

11.1. The Strategic Assessment of Crime 2020-21 was completed in December 2020 and has been used to identify the Key Priorities for the SCP for 2021-22.

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

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:

Abbreviation	Description
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
KP's	Key Priorities
PFCC	Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
SCP	Safer Colchester Partnership

Appendices:

- Appendix A SCP Annual Partnership Plan 2021-2022
- Appendix B Statutory Partner Updates

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.

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
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

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
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.

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.

Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	SCP Priorities	PFCC Priorities
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

APPENDIX B - Statutory Partner Updates

See Appendix A – Annual Partnership Plan, which outlines Safer Colchester Partnership community safety initiatives to date.

Colchester Borough Council

Key activity relating to Colchester Borough Council includes:

- CBC Community Response Team has continued to provide support and assistance to residents across the borough during the pandemic. They have continued to adapt and issue up-to-date guidance through a Community Support Pack.
- Successful partnership working between all agencies in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery of businesses following national lockdown. Including Licencing Team and Town Marshalls who continue to work closely with Essex Police, Business Improvement District and Council Neighbourhood Teams.
- New Portfolio Holder for Communities – Cllr Beverley Oxford.
- Covid Lateral Flow Test giveaways and Mobile Testing Units (for symptomatic residents) across the borough.
- Continued support for the Track and Trace process
- Comms support for range of community safety related events including ASB Awareness week, National Stalking Awareness week, Operation Henderson child exploitation campaign.

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

- Launch of new virtual crew programme

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

- Town Centre Action Planning meetings have been held on a weekly basis to monitor and evaluate activity to support ASB enforcement, support for rough sleepers and has adapted to support covid guideline compliance.
- The continued employment by the local authority of a Covid Co-ordinator and Town Marshalls (previously called Covid Marshalls) to support public compliance with Government guidelines, as well as to assist in monitoring and reporting of ASB and drug/alcohol use. Further detail below.
- Training for Designated Safeguarding Officers and Town Marshalls - Hate Crime Awareness Sessions, delivered by Essex Police Hate Crime Co-ordinator
- Fear of Crime survey – July 2021 – results currently being analysed
- Greenstead project to work with vulnerable children and young people until March 2022. Incorporates mini jobcentre with a focus on those aged 15-24, Sector based work academy programmes, Better Neighbourhood Project, Support for Colchester Academy.
- Setting up a Multi-agency Centre in Greenstead in conjunction with DWP and funded by Violence Vulnerability Unit.

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

- Formation of the Colchester and Tendring Suicide Prevention Task and Finish Group to investigate, understand and address the significantly high suicide rates for Colchester.
- J9 Domestic Abuse Awareness workshop for Designated Safeguarding Officers
- Continued awareness raising of domestic abuse through partnership work with Next Chapter and sharing of social media campaigns.

- Extended the Together we Can project – continue to support Recovery Refuge, Community based support and Resettlement programme, specialist support for CYP affected by domestic abuse, and review/implement new housing interventions.
- Looking into the new Domestic Abuse Bill which came into force in April 2021 and meeting our requirements under this legislation.
- Launch of new Safeguarding Training Plan for all staff, including new mandatory elements for all staff to complete Suicide Awareness and Prevent training. Also includes a new level 2 safeguarding course for frontline staff.

Covid Compliance/Marshalls

The contracted Covid Marshall working hours have been flexible over the last 6 months to adequately oversee the restrictions relevant at the time. Their work assists our partners, the police and Neighbourhood teams with issues within the town centre and Borough wide. They are used as eyes and ears to ensure restrictions are adhered to. Following the relaxation of restrictions, their focus includes anti-social behaviour and drugs and alcohol abuse.

The contract has improved communication between Police, Neighbourhood Wardens and CBC, sharing information and giving a joined-up approach to keeping the residents and business owners safe.

Complaints received by our Licensing Team via the Essex Police reporting website, are forwarded on to the Covid Co Ordinator to manage visits carried out by the marshals. The main offenders during restrictions being gyms, barbers and takeaways, either allowing people inside to train when premises should have been closed or not wearing the appropriate PPE.

Joint patrols with Police were made on Friday and Saturday nights. Visits to pubs or other premises where it was felt a police presence might be helpful, were made. On some weekends, partners joined up, Police, Environmental Health, Neighbourhood wardens and Marshals to make sure restrictions were being adhered to.

More recently, the marshals have been undertaking work to do with anti-social behaviour, and alcohol and drug abuse. Working alongside the Neighbourhood wardens, they report any offences to the relevant partner if action is required. One evening they discovered a distressed female standing precariously close to the edge at the top of a carpark, wanting to end her life. They were able to keep her calm, advise CCTV and police of the incident and worked with them to coax her down.

On night shifts (until 4am) they have been assisting the Police and the SOS bus staff with late night party goers who need assistance in one way or another.

Colchester Borough Homes

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

- Throughout the pandemic CBH served CPW's CPN's and Partial and full closure orders to protect residents from drug related ASB and criminality
- Colchester Borough Homes have recently taken part in ASB awareness week – promoting how residents can report ASB and drug activity
- We have identified hot spots and installed CCTV cameras and doorbells with cameras

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

- CBH recently published a Good Neighbour Guide to help promote good citizenship
- We have recently restarted our Make A Difference Day's that focus on particular areas and estates with high visibility and engagement.
- CBH funded a Box Smart scheme for younger people at risk of knife crime, this was shortlisted for a national award.
- Have published closure orders through the local press and social media to promote zero tolerance.
- Run the CBH Good Neighbour awards to celebrate those tenants who work positively in their communities and make a difference.
- Have recently started to use camera doorbells and CCTV cameras in hot spot areas to drive down incidents.
- Hot spot area that received a lot of bad press- we have worked with the residents to install new lighting and fencing to secure the area and make our tenants feel safer
- Have started a social landlords ASB forum to share good practice and training. This does help in shared tenure communities.
- We have purchased the NoiseApp to enable tenants record incidents themselves.

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

- CBH manage the sanctuary scheme on behalf of CBH
- CBH are currently working through the self-assessment for Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation which promotes best practice when supporting and working with victims of DA.
- We have key DA officers within the organisation and promote this through our website
- All front-line staff have recently completed an annual DA eLearning module to refresh their knowledge and understanding.
- We have a Cause for Concern process for our repairs staff to report any concerns they have when visiting tenants' homes e.g., types of repairs that may flag DA.
- We complete direct lets for any tenants fleeing DA within our housing stock and support them throughout the move.

North East Essex – Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

August 2021:

- Ongoing work with ESNEFT at the Colchester Site to manage the return to normal demand for both emergency care and the increased activity needed to support elective recovery to reduce waiting times for procedures, making progress in reducing the numbers of those waiting the longest ie over a year for treatment and seeing improved waits for routine diagnostic tests locally.
- Ongoing work to Support the Residential care market to manage Covid outbreaks and support residents to remain well at home, via the jointly managed care home hub with ECC partners.
- Winter Messages – key messages around keeping warm homes, exercise and supporting maintaining good mental health remain important for improving residents' wellbeing across NEE, and actions across partners are supporting this in both health and VCSE organisations.
- Covid immunisations roll out remains a key priority with planning happening for both Flu and Covid booster jabs across NEE. The flu campaign is expected to be larger than usual due to concerns over a potential increase in flu post the lockdowns last year.

- Demand/capacity planning for winter and Covid related cases is ongoing across all health providers and ECC adult social care teams.
- Work with Primary Care on maintaining primary care services that support health and wellbeing as well as mental health support – we anticipate increased demand for services to continue for support to both Adults and Children.

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service

Our community safety activities have returned to near normal levels with the relaxing of COVID restrictions.

In addition, we have carried out two safety campaigns in the Colchester and Tendring area.

1. Following the tragic fatal fire in a mobile home earlier this year we have visited every caravan/mobile home site in the area to check existing safety standards and offer advice and guidance to residents. This piece of work will be ongoing as we expect a large number of visitors to the area this year.
2. We have worked with other agencies to deliver water safety messages for both inland and coastal water. Again, this will be an ongoing project as the summer continues.

Our community safety team has also carried out a focussed piece of work on specific, identified areas of Clacton which has generated a significant number of Home Fire Safety visits in the area.

Essex Police - Chief Inspector 42001385 Rob Huddleston

A big focus since March is the emergence from lockdown and the roadmap to ensure community safety. Close partnership working has ensured that together we have been able to reopen the Town Centre and wider hospitality sector with minimal incidents.

On a rolling 12-month basis to the end of June we have recorded 7.8% less crime in the last 12 months (Force reduction is 4.3%)

- Violence with injury is down 7.1% (Force reduction is 4.3%)
- Robbery down 18% (Force reduction is 10.7%)
- Residential Burglary down 34.9% (Force reduction is 31.4%)
- Business and Community burglary down 28.6% (Force Reduction is 30.8%)
- Increase in stalking and harassment offences of 13.7% (Force increase is 18.1)
investment in identification of offences and trust confidence of victims to come forward

We have 86 crimes per 1000 people this ranks us 6/12 DPA

- Harlow 115.7
- Southend 102.6
- Basildon 97.9
- Tendring 93.5
- Thurrock 90.2
- Colchester 86

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

We have only this month taken out 2 County lines recovering large amounts of crack cocaine and heroin along with cash, most importantly we have seized the actual dealer line. Seeking to provide opportunity for addicts to gain support and help we are texting customers of the line details of Support available in our area such as Open Road

Since March North Raptor have

Made 60 arrests

Charged and remanded 28 dealers

Seized over £12,000 of drugs

And seized 18 main lines

This is across Chelmsford, Braintree Uttlesford, Colchester and Tendring

In some cases, warrants have been executed as far afield as Croydon to take out those controlling the line.

CPT also focus on more local dealers and recently two warrants have resulted in arrests for supply of class A drugs, and Cannabis

A big focus for us is protecting the vulnerable and we have introduced safeguarding officers to our Raptor teams in order that we can protect those young people being exploited by ruthless gangs and drug dealers. We are also working to address addiction identifying support pathways for those who are left without access to drugs when we close a line down.

With the reduction in violence, we have reduced our incidents of stop search, we continue to use this as a tactic where appropriate however we are aware of the intrusive nature of this tactic, and it is important its use is intelligence led and proportionate.

Key is ensuring we are focused on those who carry weapons and that we ensure parity across communities. For the 12 months to date all non-white stops amounts to 13% with the 2011 census putting the population of non-white at just over 11% ten years ago I am comfortable that we are reflective of our overall community

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

In terms of ASB we have seen an increase in 26.2% - however this can in part be attributed to the fact that any COVID breaches reported were required to be recorded under ASB

Op Luscombe is again running post covid and we have seen noticeable reduction in the town centre of street begging

We continue to work with CBC and CBH to enforce CPN and CPW

Joint patrols continue across the town and our dedicated Town Team work until 0400 in the morning to ensure our NTE has a visible presence through the main opening hours.

Last week a male was convicted at court of 13 counts of criminal damage after spraying graffiti in the Town Centre and in addition to 200 hours of community service, he is now subject to a 2-year criminal behaviour order

Hate Crime see figures Appendix 1

We continue to see positive support from our HIRCs and it is clear that confidence to report has increased through the engagement work undertaken across our communities.

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

Essex Police continue to work in partnership with the Southend Essex Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) to ensure we provide support to vulnerable victims of Domestic Abuse.

In Colchester we have an established Domestic Abuse Investigation Team (DAIT) who provide safeguarding support and investigation to medium and high-risk victims. Our Domestic Abuse Problem Solving Team work with repeat victims and suspects engaging with a range of partners to provide support to both sides to reduce risk and prevent re-offending. Where we identify repeat standard risk DA these are also referred into the DAIT.

DA is a priority for Essex Police, and we work to ensure we respond as effectively as possible, it has been proven that the faster the response the more likely a victim is to engage and work with Police.

CPT work with partners such as Next Chapter to provide drop in coffee mornings, we work with the University and schools providing engagement on safe relationships, consent, and dangers of impairment.

Hate Crimes & Non-crime Hate Incidents		
Previous 12 Months	Current 12 Months	Difference +/-
Hate Crimes		
365	471	+106
Non-crime Hate Incidents		
56	84	+28

Last 3 months compared with previous year – crime and non-crime			
	Previous 3 Months	Current 3 Months	Difference +/-
Apr	23	48	+25
May	23	46	+24
Jun	43	71	+28

Top five wards last 12 months			
	Previous 12 Months	Current 12 Months	Difference +/-
Mile End	72	123	+51
Castle	79	81	+2
New Town	29	64	+35
St Andrews	28	49	+21
Shrub End	28	31	+3

Type of Hate last 12 months	
Racial	382
Religion – Christian	3
Religion – Buddhist	
Religion – Hindu	1
Religion – Jewish	2
Religion – Muslim	11
Religion – Sikh	
Religion – Other	
Religion No Religion	
Religion – Unknown	
Disability	76
Sexual Orientation	58

Transgender	25
Other	1

Victims last 12 months			
	Over 18	Under 18	Total
Male	265	39	304
Female	205	28	233
Unknown	1		1
Unspecified	5	3	8
Total	476	70	546

Victim by Self-Defined Ethnicity		
B2	African	56
A9	Any other Asian background	24
B9	Any other Black background	12
O9	Any other Ethnic group	8
M9	Any other mixed background	20
W9	Any other White background	25
O2	Arab	
A3	Bangladeshi	4
B1	Caribbean	14
A4	Chinese	2
W3	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	
A1	Indian	4
NS	Not Stated	9
A2	Pakistani	11
M3	White and Asian	3
M2	White and Black African	4
M1	White and Black Caribbean	8
W1	White British	181
W2	White Irish	1
	Blank	164

Essex County Council Adult Social Care

Essex County Council – Social Care Response to *Covid-19 pandemic*****

- Vaccinations – ECC have continued to work closely with NHS colleagues, supporting the vaccination programme for all care homes, for both residents and staff, together with frontline social care staff.
- Care Home Hubs – A multi-agency approach has been in place since to provide support to over 180 registered care settings across Essex. This continues to be successful meeting twice a week and has helped a number of providers with advice, support to reduce the risks identified with Covid as well as supporting with outbreak tracking, oversight and assurance.
- Discharge Pathways – Adult Social Care, continues to work closely with NHS colleagues to safely discharge patients, back to the community. This focused work is to avoid people remaining in hospital longer than is required, to with

ensuring sufficient capacity exists within the acute hospital setting. We have continued to look at ways of increasing capacity in order to safely manage people in their own homes.

- Mental Health – Adult Social Care continues to see an increase in referrals because of the pandemic and this continues to be monitored. More funding is being sourced to work with individuals who could historically have fallen between services (see priority one below).
- Having made over £50m available, Essex County Council continues to provide significant financial support, through the Government funds allocated, to support care providers to continue to operate and support some of our most vulnerable residents.
- Infection Control and Testing Funds – Essex County Council continues to administer the national ICF and testing funds which were extended through Summer, whilst we are still waiting to hear if these are extended into Winter. We continue to run our local Covid Resilience Fund for all care providers to support with further additional costs not covered by the ICF or should the ICF not be extended. This covers purchase of equipment for infection control, PPE costs, support for staff testing and additional work to support visiting in a safe way.

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

Colleagues in Public Health have submitted a bid to **Full Circle Changing Futures** for funding to pilot a model supporting vulnerable adults with needs across a range of areas who are in contact with multiple agencies – Adult Social Care, Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Criminal Justice and Homelessness. We are currently modelling the workforce which will sit alongside the Mental Health and Wellbeing Service and work with partners to provide support to people who are known to be vulnerable within these areas of service.

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

Practitioners in Adult Social Care have had access to Police run 'Hate Crime Awareness' training sessions which have contributed to greater awareness and partnership working in this area.

Adult Social Care have a monthly Vulnerable Adults Networking Session (VANS) which launched in 2021. This forum allows for multi agency discussion between Adult Social Care, Phoenix Futures (criminal justice and substance misuse) and Mental Health colleagues.

Local Link Support is an early intervention and support pilot for people with a Learning Disability and autism. Workers attend community network meetings to support people who may have been victims of physical or sexual abuse.

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

Through the Essex Safeguarding Adults Board over 220 people have completed a variety of courses promoting best practice in safeguarding throughout the workforce. Hidden Harm is an intrinsic part of the content in all courses.

Further E-Learning courses have been developed following 'Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews' and over 2200 people/partners have completed one of these modules in 2020/21.

The Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) is made up of representatives from agencies and organisations working to join up and better facilitate Southend, Essex and Thurrock's vision to work together to enable everyone to live a life free

from all forms of domestic abuse. The Board is responsible for designing and implementing the Domestic Abuse Strategy across the region.

Alongside the Safeguarding Adult and Children's Boards SETDAB are collaborating to develop a Learning from Reviews Podcast which will focus on the theme of 'Think Family' that will be available for practitioners in the Autumn.

North Quadrant Children & Families Service, Essex County Council

Priority One - Tackling Gangs & County Lines, focussing on keeping drugs and weapons out of the Community.

The multi-agency Young People's MACE 1 meetings supported 112 young people experiencing high level CE risk during 20/21, planning bespoke interventions/disruption across the wider partnership to support young person.

The Bi-Monthly MACE 2 meeting, provides multiagency strategic oversight, focusing on developing quadrant-based knowledge, interventions focused on places and spaces, multiagency training and development to support the wider community.

The Risk in the Community Thinking Tool helps workers to think and respond differently, forming the basis for practice guidance, Hidden Harm Co-ordinator case discussion, and the development of the amended and reviewed CE Risk Record.

Essex Youth Offending Service have been developing the 'Lived Experiences' project for around 2 years. The aim of the project was to capture the life experiences of 10 young people (including young people from Colchester) who either are, or have been, supervised by the Youth Offending Service. The project sought to identify: -

- 'Gate -opening' and 'gate-closing' moments – what helped/hindered their ability to remove themselves from gangs/county lines/serious youth violence.
- What do families/care givers feel their role was in the young person's journey, or could have been in this process?
- Professional anxieties that may have impacted on intervention delivered?
- What intervention has worked well to support young people to remove themselves from a negative lifestyle.

The development phase of the project is now nearing completion; we have a series of 4 completed workshops covering key areas (Lets start at the beginning, Relationships, The Bigger Picture, Missed Opportunities). These workshops are designed to share knowledge, experiences, theoretical perspectives and lessons learnt in order to assist professionals from a wide range of disciplines to increase their skill set.

Children at Risk of Exploitation (CARE) has been funded again through the Police Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex and is set up to support children and young adults who have been or are at risk of being exploited, It is delivered through The Children Society and work with children, young people and adults aged 8-24 who are at risk of criminal or sexual exploitation.

The CARE service provides;

One-to-one therapeutic sessions — these sessions will assist with trauma. They are aimed at helping young people move forward, increase their emotional well-being and keep them safe.

Targeted group work sessions - this 8-week program is there for when more than one person is identified as being at risk of exploitation.

Parenting support (provided by Barnardo's) — this support is for parents or carers of young people. It teaches them how to provide a safe family environment.

Priority Two - Driving down Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime in public places.

All victims of Youth crime from Court Orders to OOCDS are contacted by the Restorative Justice worker and offered Restorative Justice intervention. This can range from knowing what has happened to the young person who committed the crime, to a face to face meeting if agreed by the victim and young person.

The Restorative Justice worker will also work with the young people in relation to victim awareness work. With regard to drug matters/violent crimes this will include resources looking at the impact of drugs/weapons offences on the wider community and their family, not just the impact on the young person.

Priority Three - Increase confidence in identifying & reporting Hidden Harms.

The Hidden Harm Co-ordinators conduct a 3+ missing and high CE risk, case record review on a monthly basis as part of their monthly data review. They liaise with allocated Social Workers to develop understanding, intervention and explore additional support where appropriate. Those young people who go missing are supported through Choices targeted and intensive work.

The Hidden Harm Co-ordinators work alongside Essex Social Care Academy, building the knowledge and skill base of the workforce in relation to Hidden Harms, supported by 15 team-based CE Advisors who are placed across the children's social care workforce.

They produce and distribute a bi-monthly Hidden Harm Newsletter that outlines key work areas, highlights concern and provides support to access services. To subscribe please follow the link [Subscribe to this newsletter](#).

Between April 2021 and June 2021, the Hidden Harm Co-ordinators completed 28 case discussions with North being the highest (10), (Mid (8), West (8), and South (2). The case discussions have included all areas of Hidden Harm.

On the 15 and 16 June 2021, the Hidden Harm Co-ordinator completed 2 training packages entitled "a Walk through Hidden Harm" which was supported by ESCB, and there were 24 attendees on both days.

The 1st County Wide Honour Base Abuse case audit began in June 2021, looking at 33 Honour Base Abuse cases between the 2017– 2021. The case audits will be reviewing best practice, looking at gaps and identify training and development needs. The audit will be completed by August 2021 and the report will be disseminated later in the year.

The DA, FGM, and CE county wide advisors meeting, are held quarterly. The meetings look at current research, training, challenges in practice and disseminating information to the wider workforce. To date the advisors have received training on Conceive Control and new DA Bill.

The new Practice Guidance on FGM and CSE has been updated, and it is currently out for consultation.

The Probation Service



- Unification of Probation Delivery.
- The new Target Operating Model for Probation.
- Future Developments for Local Partnerships.



Safer Colchester Partnership 14 September 2021

Probation Target Operating Model – The Key Features



Probation Reform – It's a Journey



Vision and Design Principles

- The Target Operating Model [TOM] will establish a strengthened probation service that keeps the public safe, supports victims of crime and tackles the often-complex causes of offending. It will support the provision of a robust Criminal Justice System that commands public confidence.
- The model unifies probation delivery under a single organisation that draws on best practice and innovation from legacy community rehabilitation companies and legacy national probation service approaches.
- The new model is grounded in the overall HMPPS Business Strategy.
- Probation reform links with other developments in the Ministry of Justice and across government:
 - Community Sentence Treatment Requirements [CSTRs],
 - Offender Management in Custody [OMiC]
 - Integrated Offender Management [IOM]
 - Homelessness Prevention [HPT & Vanguard]
 - Drug and Alcohol interventions
 - Alcohol Abstinence Monitoring & Electronic Monitoring
 - Complex Needs Programmes



Assess – Protect – Change

Probation Regional Reducing Reoffending & Social Inclusion Plans

The East of England will work to a 3 year 'Regional Reducing Reoffending and Social Inclusion' plan. Core to this plan will be the addition of 'social inclusion' in its title, because we believe strongly that only by acknowledging the role of social inclusion and capital in reducing reoffending can we develop plans that will significantly change outcomes for offenders. The 3 year Regional Reducing Reoffending Plan will be made public for the first time, and will include sections on the 1-3 year regional differences and aspirations for courts, sentence delivery, victims, prisons.

We are ambitious and willing to try new and different approaches – we recognise that working in the same ways we always have will not deliver further improvement on outcomes for our service users

The plans will set direction of travel/where we want to get to over the next 3 years, with a focus on shared outcomes with local partners and identification of co-commissioning opportunities, helping shape future investment direction around which services are prioritised in each area.

Priority Service User needs:

- Accommodation
- Substance Misuse
- Mental Health
- Multiple needs/severe disadvantage

Priority service user cohorts

- Women
- Young adults
- BAME
- Neurodiversity

- How do we know these are the right service users to focus on?
- What are the regional differences that make these a priority or a challenge?
- What does our core offer look like today?
- What would we like it to look like?
- What pilots and pathways are already in place?
- What funding are we expecting?
- Who are our key partners in working with these user groups?
- What are our unknowns?
- How do we currently work with partners?
- What would make our partnership working more effective [Local & Regional]?
- What would we like to commission? How do we test if those are the best things?



Transition
Through
Partnerships

4

Preventing victims by changing lives



Dynamic Framework & Regional Outcomes Innovation Fund

Accommodation

ETE

Finance Benefit and Debt

Dependency and Recovery

Family and Significant others

Lifestyle and Associates

Emotional Wellbeing

Social Inclusion

Cognitive and behavioural change

Women

Black Asian and minority Ethnic

Restorative Justice

Service User Involvement

- A mechanism for providing rehabilitative interventions for criminogenic need not covered by core Probation delivery, e.g. Accredited Programmes.
- Providers with specialist expertise in areas that impact on people committing crimes, e.g. alcohol, drugs, mental health.
- Tailored to local need & available to those in custody and the community.
- Options for longer contracts for added consistency and reliability.
- RPD also has a **Regional Outcomes & Innovation Fund** [ROIF] to purchase additional interventions based on service needs.