



ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2023-2024

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 City Council (CCC)
- Essex Police
- Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
- Essex County Council
- The Probation Service
- NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB)

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
- Department for Work and Pensions
- Eastlight Community Homes
- Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse in Essex (CARA)
- Phoenix Futures
- Victim Support
- Behaviour, Attendance and Inclusion Partnership (BAIP)

Key Priorities for 2023-2024

The Partnership identified five priorities for 2023/2024 following an assessment of crime and disorder, and consultation with various agencies.

Priority One: Safeguard adults and children at risk of violence and exploitation

Priority Two: Tackle neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour

Priority Three: Support victims of domestic abuse and sexual offences and reduce violence against women and girls

Priority Four: Develop early intervention and prevention to tackle the drivers of crime and reduce reoffending

Priority Five: Work with communities to build resilience and promote safety

This document provides an overview of projects and initiatives that have contributed towards achieving the Annual Partnership Plan priorities and meeting the objectives of the Crime and Fire plan. Consideration also given to meeting the targets of the Essex Crime Prevention Strategy launched in November 2021 [Crime-Prevention-Strategy-2020-v17-1.pdf \(pfcc.police.uk\)](https://www.pfcc.police.uk/Content/Essex-Crime-Prevention-Strategy-2020-v17-1.pdf)

Police and Crime Plan Priorities 2021 – 2024

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

The twelve plan priorities:

1. Further investment in crime prevention
2. Reducing drug driven violence
3. Protecting vulnerable people and breaking the cycle of domestic abuse
4. Reducing violence against women and girls
5. Improving support for victims of crime
6. Protecting rural and isolated areas
7. Preventing dog theft
8. Preventing business crime, fraud and cyber crime
9. Improving safety on our roads
10. Encouraging volunteers and community support
11. Supporting our officers and staff
12. Increasing collaboration

Priority One - Safeguard adults and children at risk of violence and exploitation

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Increase knowledge and awareness among CYP of issues affecting their safety	Crucial Crew	Colchester Council to deliver an annual awareness/engagement event with Year 6 pupils, to improve their knowledge of personal safety, key community safety messages and potential exploitation.	1629 pupils from 40 primary schools participated - an increase of 50% compared to 2022, with a further 11 schools taking part.	1,2,3,4	Organised Crime / Complex Needs
	Operation Henderson	Continue initiative by the Essex Safeguarding Children Board, British Transport Police, Essex Police, other partners including local councils, to raise awareness of the vulnerability of young people to exploitation and abuse at stations and transport networks.		1,2,3,4	Complex Needs / Organised Crime
	ECFRS Education Officers work with schools under the collaboration project between ECFRS and Essex Police	Education Officers deliver assemblies and lessons to schools, including Knife Crime Prevention and Gang Awareness.		2,7,8,12	Organised Crime / Serious Violence
Progress initiatives to combat Violent Crime, County Lines and Knife Crime	Op Sceptre / Op Pegasi	Op Sceptre a national operation to tackle knife crime. Locally operational name is Op Pegasi - targeting hotspots for knife crime.		1,2,4	Serious Violence
	Project Servator	Support Police operation to deter, detect and disrupt a range of criminal activity, including terrorism. Consider how partners, businesses and organisations can benefit and support this operation.		1,2,3,6	Vulnerabilities
Raise awareness of Modern Slavery	Anti-Slavery Partnership	Launch of the Anti-Slavery Partnership - to raise awareness and support vulnerable members of the community and progress any projects to identify and support victims of modern slavery. 'Colchester	Conference attended by over 45 delegates in April 2023.	3,5,8,10 12	Organised Crime

and the support available		Against Modern Slavery' CAMS launched and Action Plan outlined.	First partnership meeting held in June 2023. Task and Finish groups formed and met in August/September 2023.		
	Participate in campaigns to raise awareness of exploitation	Campaigns including Anti-Slavery Day	Awareness raising event and social media campaign planned for 18/10/23.	3,5,10	Organised Crime
Raise awareness of PREVENT and how partners can support those at risk	Review the PREVENT Strategy and annual Action Plan	Through Community Safety Delivery Board (multi-agency forum) review the strategy and action plan and ensure activity is progressing and new interventions in place as required. Including promotion of Home Office PREVENT E-learning and ACT Early website	Ongoing review.	3,5,8,10	Vulnerabilities
Develop interventions to tackle and reduce Hate Crime	Continue delivery of Hate Crime Awareness and Ambassador workshops	Support Essex Police in the promotion of workshops to enable them to build on the 120 people trained as Hate Crime Ambassadors in Colchester.	Promotion of hate crime training to partners – August 2023.	3,4,5	Vulnerabilities
	Support Hate Crime Awareness Week	Promotion to partners and wider community. Support through social media channels. Ensure relevant websites are updated including Safer Colchester Partnership website, with information, guidance, training links and how to report Hate Crime.		3,4,5,10 12	Vulnerabilities
	Project Omnis	Continue promotion of the Omnis Project. A weekly hub at the Greenstead Community Centre aimed to reduce hate/mate crime, cuckooing and violent crime associated with county lines, and domestic abuse support. Project funded for a further 12 months.	Increased participation and successful case studies evidenced	1,3,4,5,10,12	Vulnerabilities / Complex Needs

Priority Two - Tackle neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Develop initiatives for vulnerable and young people to reduce ASB	Project Morpheus	Diversionary work that encourages young people aged 10-18 years to engage and participate in activities such as Army days and paintballing to prevent young people going down the route of crime and ASB.		1,3,4,5,10,12	Vulnerabilities / Violent Crime
Support activity to ensure the safety of those participating in the Night-time economy	Nights of Action	Bring together partners including Police, Environmental Health, Business Improvement District and Army to ensure businesses are adhering to legislation and any license restrictions. Equipment and materials purchased with Safer Streets funding including drugs wipes, urine testing kits and launch of Bleed Control kits, and resource costs to deploy police dogs.	Events held with evidence of education and enforcement.	1,2,3,4,8 11,12	Serious Violence
	Ask for Angela	Initiative to improve women's safety in NTE, in development by BID and supported by Essex Police and partners.	300 booklets distributed, over 80 staff trained.	3,4	Violent Crime / Complex Needs
	Safer Streets funded town centre projects	Vulnerability Training, Partnership Portal, NTE Audits, Best Bar None, SOS Bus projects underway, due for completion by September 2023.	Over 120 staff received vulnerability/CSE training. Awaiting outcome of Best Bar None assessment. Portal launched.		

Participate in partner activity, Essex Police Operations and local communities to tackle ASB	Op Luscombe	Continue this multi-agency approach to reduce homelessness and ASB linked to homelessness. Continue to provide a drop-in centre on a weekly basis for homeless community to access services and support.	Ongoing	2,3,5,12	Complex Needs
	Mobile CCTV cameras	CBH and CCC to continue to deploy mobile CCTV cameras to assist in identifying and tackling ASB in hotspot areas along with environmental ASB, fly tipping etc.	Impressive results from mobile deployment resulting in enforcement.	2,4,5,6	Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime
	Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)	Ongoing review of existing PSPO's and any updates needed.	City Centre PSPO consultation in place until 15 th September.	2,9	Vulnerabilities
	Neighbourhood Watch	Increase membership and awareness of Neighbourhood Watch. Use a variety of communication methods to engage with the community to influence change in behaviours and deter opportunistic crime.			Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime

Priority Three: Support victims of

domestic abuse and sexual offences and reduce violence against women and girls

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Raise awareness of Domestic Abuse services and the support available	Promotion of Domestic Abuse awareness training	Promote to partners and the wider community, through relevant forums and distribution channels training by 'J9' and Alpha Vesta, and others as appropriate.		3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Participate in Domestic Abuse and Stalking Awareness campaigns	Link in with partners including Next Chapter, Essex Police and CARA to share information on social media. Support any location and national awareness campaigns including 16 Days of Action,		3,4,5	Complex Needs

		Violence Against Women Day, National Stalking Awareness Week.			
	Continue to deliver the Together we Can Project	Delivered by Next Chapter and Open Road, this project supports 5 Local Authorities including Colchester. Support victims of domestic abuse through the Recovery Refuge, Community based support and Resettlement programme, specialist support for CYP affected by domestic abuse, and support from a Domestic Abuse Housing Practitioner. Extended until March 2024.	Regular partnership updates/meetings to review outcomes. Excellent feedback and positive outcomes achieved.	2,3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Stronger Together Project	Funded by Safer Streets – project to cascade messaging to address VAWG. Methods include series of focus groups to young people and production to secondary schools, various activities to capture an adult audience. For completion by end of September 2023.	Production delivered to 6 secondary schools. Adult shows/forums booked throughout September 2023.		
Support victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	Integrated Support Project	Project delivered by CARA to deliver a range of additional support services aimed at victims and survivors of sexual violence and child sexual abuse who have a high level of immediate need and/or face multiple disadvantages, including due to mental ill-health.		3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Essex Police DAPS Team	Specialist officers conducting activity including supporting Afghan community, to address religious/cultural barriers to reporting domestic abuse and VAWG.		3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Safe and Well Visits	Safe and Well Visits conducted by ECFRS for victims of domestic abuse, victims of/people at risk of arson, and other vulnerable members of the community.		12, 3, 4, 5	Vulnerabilities
Address perpetrator behaviour	Perpetrator Programme	Funded for 2 years to implement a Perpetrator Programme in Colchester.		1,2,3,4,5 8,10	Organised Crime / Complex Needs

Priority Four: Develop early intervention and prevention to tackle the drivers of crime and reduce reoffending

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the project / initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Identify perpetrators and victims of crime	Essex Police Operations				
Share intelligence/data to generate a consistent picture of criminal activity	MAC Panel	Working together through the Multi Agency Coordination Panel partners to target individual criminals and to disrupt the criminal in addition to the criminality.		1,2,6	Organised Crime
	Crime Prevention Sub-Group	Forum to review and plan activity targeting specific concerns and crime types.	Two meetings held to agree activity to address knife crime and drugs/alcohol dependency		
Influence change in behaviour to reduce those becoming victims of crime	Neighbourhood Watch	Consider campaigns to reduce incidents of opportunistic crime and educate residents/visitors to Colchester on adopting safer behaviours to prevent/reduce these crime types.			Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime

Priority Five: Work with communities to build resilience and promote safety

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the project / initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Suicide Awareness and Prevention	Support promotional activity including local and national campaigns	Support World Suicide Prevention Day – 10 th September and Self Harm Awareness Day	Light up Green – castle and Town Hall will be lit from 4-10 September	10,12	Complex Needs
	Suicide Prevention Operational Group	Forum for partners to meet as an operational group. To consider requests from participating	First meeting June 2023. To be held bi-monthly.	10, 12	Complex Needs

		organisations to all work together on suicide prevention for Colchester.			
Public Safety and Perception of Crime	Fear of Crime Survey	CCC to repeat the Fear of Crime survey across the city. Build on the data collated last year to identify trends and inform further action planning.	For 2023 this was replaced by an Essex-wide Community Safety Survey.	1-12	Serious Violence / Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime / Complex Needs
	Outreach Events	University of Essex events supported by partners including Police, Paramedics, BID and KAT Marketing, to share safety messaging. Events including Freshers Fayre.	Positive feedback from students.		
	Safe, Well and Secure	Events organised by ECFRS to deliver safety messages/advice to residents in target areas and ultimately reduce accidental dwelling fires and deliberate fires.		1,6,9,12	Vulnerabilities
	Police Station Open Day	3 RD June 2023	Attended by just under 3000 people. Will be repeated next year.		
	Firestoppers	Firestoppers information line – to reduce/prevent deliberate fires FireStoppers Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (essex-fire.gov.uk)			