

Crime and Disorder Committee Meeting

**Grand Jury Room, Town Hall, High Street,
Colchester, CO1 1PJ**

Monday, 07 November 2022 at 18:00

The Crime and Disorder Committee reviews and scrutinises 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!

The Council welcomes contributions and representations from members of the public at most public meetings. If you would like to speak at a meeting and need to find out more, please refer to the Have Your Say! arrangements here: <http://www.colchester.gov.uk/haveyoursay>.

Audio Recording, Mobile phones and other devices

The Council audio records public meetings for live broadcast over the internet and the recordings are available to listen to afterwards on the Council's website. Audio recording, photography and filming of meetings by members of the public is also welcomed. Phones, tablets, laptops, cameras and other devices can be used at all meetings of the Council so long as this doesn't cause a disturbance. It is not permitted to use voice or camera flash functions and devices must be set to silent. Councillors can use devices to receive messages, to access meeting papers and information via the internet. Looking at or posting on social media by Committee members is at the discretion of the Chairman / Mayor who may choose to require all devices to be switched off at any time.

Access

There is wheelchair access to the Town Hall from St Runwald Street. There is an induction loop in all the meeting rooms. If you need help with reading or understanding this document please take it to the Library and Community Hub, Colchester Central Library, using the contact details below and we will try to provide a reading service, translation or other formats you may need.

Facilities

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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
Monday, 07 November 2022 at 18:00

Member:

Councillor Dennis Willetts
Councillor Sue Lissimore
Councillor Darius Laws
Councillor Mike Lilley
Councillor Sam McCarthy
Councillor Lee Scordis
Councillor Paul Smith

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)

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 meeting held on (insert date) are a correct record.

Crime and Disorder Committee Minutes 25 May 2022

7 - 8

Crime and Disorder Committee Minutes 14 September 2021

9 - 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 - 52

This report provides the Crime and Disorder Committee with the opportunity to review the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP) during the period September 2021 – September 2022. Included within the report is background information and an explanation of the role of the SCP, work undertaken by the Partnership during September 2021 – September 2022 and plans for 2022/23.

8 Exclusion of the Public (Scrutiny)

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

Part B

(not open to the public including the press)

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

25 May 2022

Present:-

Councillor Laws, Councillor Lilley, Councillor Lissimore,
Councillor McCarthy, Councillor Scordis, Councillor
Smith, Councillor Willetts.

37. Appointment of Chairman

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

38. Appointment of Deputy Chairman

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

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

14 September 2021

Present:- Councillor Barton, Councillor Bourne, Councillor Chapman, Councillor Cory, Councillor Loveland, Councillor Whitehead, Councillor Willetts, Councillor Wood

Substitutes:-

Also Present:- Councillor B. Oxford.

35. Minutes of previous meetings.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

36. Safer Colchester Partnership

Pam Donnelly, Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership [SCP] 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. It was explained that an updated Appendix A had been provided for this report in order to give expanded detail regarding the Partnership's work and performance. Thanks were given to Colchester's policing team for continuing to provide updates on key issues and for liaising with the Council and members of the Partnership.

The new operating arrangements for the SCP were noted, with the SCP now operating within the 'One Colchester' Partnership, which linked and addressed economic and health issues with issues of community safety. The SCP remained as a statutory body, but now located within a wider partnership. The Partnership maintained a flexible approach to planning, in order to adapt to new challenges.

It was noted that the Adult Partnership Plan had been updated and the agenda contained reporting on planning, outcomes and observable benefits.

Chief Inspector Rob Huddleston, Colchester's District Commander, provided an update on the issues tackled by the Police. Overall crime rates had been 5.8% lower than as recorded at the same point in 2020, and statistics were given for the changes in crime rates for the different types of incidents. The Committee were informed that there had been a rise in reporting of harassment, stalking and hate crime incidents. Essex Police had adopted a gender-based hate crime approach and ambassadors had been appointed across the District, with new ways to engage being sought, including within schools.

Work on addressing hidden harms was detailed, with work conducted to help vulnerable individuals in cooperation with the local Safeguarding Board. Separate

work was conducted with repeat offenders and also with victims. Tackling Domestic abuse remained a key priority for the Police. Same-day targeted responses maximised the chance to successfully engage with victims.

The District's figures showed that 87.2 crimes had been reported per 1,000 residents during the relevant period. This placed Colchester District as sixth out of twelve districts in Essex, which was felt to be a good result given Colchester's status as a major population centre.

It was noted that the reporting of incidents relating to serious violence or exploitation had led to the Police setting up a specific team to address and investigate these. Raptor Team successes were listed, including the identification and disabling of 'phone numbers used for purposes of selling drugs. Sixteen County Lines had been focussed upon, with ten involving joint working with the Metropolitan Police. Local dealers had also been targeted, and safeguarding officers introduced to Raptor Teams to work with partners to identify vulnerable individuals and children. Work was also increased to carry out signposting to partner organisations who could help and support vulnerable individuals and drug users.

The use of 'stop and search' powers was detailed, with an intelligence-led approach continuing to be used and a reduction in the number of stops recorded. 8% of individuals stopped and searched were from black British demographics, roughly in line with the respective percentages of the overall population. A Police Scrutiny Panel had been set up and opened up to the public to oversee matters which included the use of 'stop and search' powers. A Committee member queried whether there would be any pressure to change stop and search tactics, should the intelligence-led approach lead to a disproportionate percentage of searches being carried out on certain demographics. The Chief Inspector underlined the key to ensure that stops and search use were proportionate. If the intelligence-led approach led to issues, the intelligence generated and used to guide stop and search use would need to be scrutinised to see if any unconscious bias was at play and whether intelligence generated was sufficiently quality assured. The assessment of the provenance of intelligence was outlined.

The Committee were informed that the rate of antisocial behaviour [ASB] incidents being recorded had increased by 22.4% compared to the comparable point in the previous year, but it was emphasised that these included all issues, incidents and tickets relating to Covid 19 and the enforcement of Covid 19 restrictions.

Multi-agency work continued, aimed at addressing alcoholism and aggressive begging. Problematic tenants also continued to be engaged with to support them to address issues and difficulties. Officers now worked until 4am to better cover the night-time economy and any related incidents. Violent crimes remained at a relatively low rate, even with a large increase in the number of people engaging with the night-time economy.

The Police continued to work with communities, businesses and individuals across town and rural areas. Community police work had increased after the end of lockdown, including youth engagement work and efforts to increase engagement with hard-to-reach demographics. Efforts were afoot to further develop youth engagement sessions carried out in partnership with Colchester United, and a YMCA youth worker now joined patrols to assist in engagement. Likewise, work continued

alongside the Fire Service to address ASB hotspots and engage with communities. Local festivals and community events were attended regularly.

The Rural Engagement Team looked at ways to tackle fly tipping, hare coursing and other rural-specific issues, proactively looking to prevent rural crime. More waterway patrols were now possible, with a new craft having been obtained. The Rural Crime Toolkit had continued to be advertised to Parish and Town Councils. A Committee member raised concerns that the perception was that rural communities got a slower and worse Police response than urban areas, and the view that news and information should be disseminated to Parish Councils so that they could be spread through communities.

The Chief Inspector gave assurance that work continued to engage to improve communications and perceptions in rural communities, including use of the monthly update to Parish Councils. Community Support Officers spent much time spreading information and news throughout communities. A high-visibility presence was being maintained, including speed checks and operations to crack down in areas where speeding is a significant cause of ASB. TruCAM fixed cameras were in use to gather evidence and neighbourhood watch schemes were encouraged and supported. The Committee discussed this and the Chief Inspector noted that, before a camera can be placed, a certified officer had to do a site visit, determine whether it was appropriate and then recommend a camera be sited where this was so.

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner [PFCC] was encouraging a scheme for special officers in villagers and had been keen for this to be rolled out. Some issues still needed resolving, with an example being that equipment such as pepper sprays could currently only be stored within Police Stations. Recruitment of special officers nevertheless continued to be pursued. The Chief Inspector was asked whether any plans were in motion to find alternative, more convenient, places for such equipment to be stored away from Police stations, including any potential for secure home storage. The Chief Inspector outlined the PFCC's work to find a solution for this problem. There was no current alternative to storage in Police stations as changes to legislation would be required in order to allow any alternatives.

A specific question as to policing of river-based issues on the Stour led to the answer that Essex Police worked with the Fire and Rescue Service, which took the lead on addressing river-based work. Essex Police liaised with Suffolk Police regarding issues on the Stour. Further details were promised for the Member who raised the question, from both the Police and from Quentin Sage of the Fire and Rescue Service.

The Chief Inspector was asked for his experiences of how Covid-19 had affected partnership work, and for information on any lessons learnt from this. The Committee were told that the Police had worked closely with existing partners and the strong Town Centre Team, covering private and public sector partners. This work continued, including with the Council's Licensing Team and the SOS Bus, amongst others. The pandemic had shown the strength of local partnership working, and good levels of public cooperation had resulted in a very low rate of tickets being issued for non-compliance with Covid-19 regulations. The Police had increased their involvement with public health meetings.

The Police's work on tackling County Lines was praised, and a request was made for further actions which could be taken in the future. The Committee were told that future focus would remain on identifying vulnerable individuals victimised by the drug trade, detailing the partnership approach with housing providers. Exploitation would continue to be identified and addressed. The unit addressing violent crime and vulnerable individuals would continue to work with partner organisations with experience of getting vulnerable individuals to safety and out of exploitation. Partnership working with relevant academic experts would continue so as to ensure that future approaches remained based on best evidence and research.

It was queried whether any further measures could be introduced to further ensure that racial bias issues were avoided.

More detail was requested regarding the approach to tackling gender-based hate crime.

The Chief Inspector was asked how officers addressed ASB issues where the perpetrators and victims were children, and whether there was anything more that the Council could do to assist the Police in its youth engagement efforts. The Chief Inspector emphasised the importance of youth engagement, in schools and with other partners. The approach used covered primary and secondary schools, as well as college level institutions.

Crime and Public Protection Command continued to target cases of suspected exploitation, and the common causes of such cases were listed. A dedicated online team had worked to reduce online exploitation. When malefactors were found to be young people, the first approach was to try to stop the behaviour in question, rather than necessarily to immediately seek to criminalise them. Significant additional funding for youth services and support had been obtained via the Town Deal, within the overall funding for the Deal of over £18m.

The Partners were asked to describe any effects caused by the merging of probation services.

The Committee queried why several standard paragraphs (on Equality and Diversity, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management) stated that there were no specific implications in those areas, given the issues raised within the report and the information given at the meeting. The Chairman clarified that the report itself detailed the implications relating to some, and that these paragraphs did not specify implications as this item did not involve decision making on the part of the Committee. The Committee were given assurance that, although most of the standard paragraphs did not need content for the above reasons, future reports would include full content in the section relating to Equality and Diversity implications.

The Chief Inspector was asked how approaches could be expanded to make enforcement actions against antisocial behaviour work more effectively, and how processes could be improved to make them more victim-friendly. Mel Rundle, Communities Group Manager, gave assurances regarding the multi-agency partnership approaches taken to tackling antisocial behaviour, including use of Public Spaces Protection Orders and the Council's work, through the Environmental Protection Team, to address issues such as noise complaints. The Safer Colchester

Partnership continued to support communities in finding ways to tackle and reduce antisocial behaviour.

Views were requested as to what effect a Youth Zone may have on potentially reducing antisocial behaviour by young people, and whether any assessment had been carried out as to potential effects of the expected ending of the £20 uplift to the rate of Universal Credit payments. The Committee were informed that the Town Deal Board were unable to progress a Youth Zone project at this time due to factors such as a lack of site and the need to identify ongoing revenue funding, but were keen on doing this in the future, alongside improving existing facilities. More information would be provided to the Scrutiny Panel at its meeting in February 2022.

The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership informed the Committee that senior Council officers continued to conduct meetings with representatives of the local Clinical Commissioning Group to discuss issues such as the end of the £20 uplift to Universal Credit, increased prices, ending of furlough, amongst others. A Partnership Plan was being drafted to address and mitigate likely consequences stemming from these.

The Committee asked for detail as to any new requirements from the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and how partners were working to meet them. Beverley Jones, Chief Executive of the charity 'Next Chapter' explained that the Act introduced a statutory definition for domestic abuse, as well as giving a wider legal definition than had previously been in use. Children were now recorded as victims in their own right and there was a lowering of the minimum age of abuse by a partner to sixteen years of age. The position of Domestic Abuse Commissioner was now codified to be a statutory role, and the domestic abuse scheme was now on a statutory footing.

Another change within the Domestic Abuse Act was that a 'rough sex' defence was now not permitted in cases involving homicide or violence. The Act placed a statutory duty on Tier One local authorities to support victims and children and sets minimum standards for sheltered accommodation/sanctuary housing and a guarantee that tenancy rights would be maintained for those fleeing domestic abuse and violence, as well as detailing types of support to be provided for victims. Tier Two local authorities [such as the Council] had a duty to cooperate with Tier One authorities carrying out their statutory duties.

Regarding the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, a Committee Member raised concerns regarding its potential effects on civil liberties and its potential difficulty to enforce. Chief Inspector Huddleston was asked if he could provide any reassurance as to the effects it might have on civil liberties. Chief Inspector Huddleston explained that he was not able to comment on Bills which were before Parliament and yet to be enacted.

The use of Public Space Protection Orders was then discussed Pam Donnelly, Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership, emphasised the importance of maintaining the rights of members of the public and gave assurance that enforcement measures, such as the current use of Public Space Protection Orders [PSPOs], were only used where the Police and relevant partners were convinced of a necessity existing. The Committee were informed that a holistic approach was used to ensure that residents and visitors felt supported. Where individuals were in breach of PSPOs, the first approach was to provide support, e.g., for street beggars, to address and end any

infractions or problematic behaviour, with enforcement only commencing where such efforts are unsuccessful. The Police and SCP partners continued to work with both perpetrators and victims of breaches of PSPOs. Tributes were paid to the outgoing Neighbourhood Watch coordinator, Graham Stehle, and the Committee were assured that the Police investigated criminal offences, and worked with partners to address non-criminal antisocial behaviour. The Council had adopted 'Community Can' principles to address problems within the Borough.

The Panel and guests discussed the important focus on prevention of suicide. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership emphasised the work done in this area, addressing the fact that the Colchester and Tendring area had the third-highest rates of suicide in the country. Members' development sessions were being held on this to inform and guide councillors on how this was being addressed and to help councillors identify possible signs of self-harm/suicide risk and help residents find and contact providers of help.

The Committee asked whether any future Nights of Action were scheduled. Mel Rundle, Communities Group Manager, explained that one had already been held and promised to check as to whether more were being planned. The Partnership continued to monitor and discuss town centre issues experienced since the end of lockdown. Details of Nights of Action were not usually published in advance, as the exercise sought to obtain a good representative picture of the night time economy in Colchester, without pre-warning people that it would be taking place.

The Safer Colchester Partnership partners were asked, regarding the vulnerable who were more likely to suffer from crime, whether they would be able to keep up their efforts and resourcing in order to maintain levels of support for those members of the public who were in positions of vulnerability. Additional questions were asked to gain insight into how partners carried out succession planning for key posts, to ensure that any staffing changes did not lessen the strength of partnership working and to ensure the Partnership had the maximum positive impact on people's lives. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership clarified that the Partnership's resources were reliant on a small budget from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, successful bids for external funding and on the committing of resources by the statutory and non-statutory partners. The Partnership relied upon the resources and goodwill of its partners. Regarding succession planning, the Chair gave examples of partnership teams working together, such as 'tactical cell' meetings to discuss problems and tactics to address them. The depth of knowledge and experience in those teams acted as a mitigation against staff/volunteer turnover.

The Committee discussed the Youth Offending Service and its work. Lee Bailey, Lead for Partnership Delivery - Children & Families [Essex County Council], informed the Committee that a substantive report had been compiled on project work relating to youth offending which had run for two years, working with those who were or had been in the youth justice system, gaining their views and experiences whilst helping them to move forward. The report stage had been completed and workshop work was now to be commenced. More details would be available for the Committee's members following this meeting and the Committee requested that details and the report be circulated to all councillors in the Borough, with advice given to ensure that councillors knew and used the correct language when talking of sensitive issues, including vulnerable young people and hidden harms. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership agreed to look to provide a full members' briefing on this

subject once the report was formally published. Councillor Beverley Oxford, Portfolio Holder for Communities, agreed that engagement was vital, and that information gathered should inform the Partnership's approaches and strategies. The Portfolio Holder praised the improved cooperative approaches used, compared to the past isolated actions used.

A Committee member raised the cultural influences and causes of domestic abuse/violence, abuse of children and hate crime, including gender-related hate crimes, and emphasised the importance of tackling cultural influences which exacerbated criminal and antisocial behaviour. The Chair of the Safer Colchester Partnership gave assurance that the partners were fully engaged with this and that a full briefing was likely to be brought to the One Colchester Partnership in the future.

The Committee discussed the importance of scrutinising the whole Partnership, beyond just the work of the Police, and the need to judge how effectiveness is perceived by the public, in addition to the perception generated amongst councillors.

A member of the Committee asked for comparison of local crime rates with those of other areas, to be told which local area had the lowest crime rates and whether it was possible to have data on conviction rates. The Committee were told that the lowest crime rates had been recorded in Rochford, of 48.8 crimes reported per 1,000 population, and it was noted that Rochford had a population roughly a third the size of Colchester's. The Colchester conviction rate currently stood at around 19% but that conviction rates were dependent on a number of factors, including the numbers of cases where a positive outcome could be achieved via restorative justice instead of convictions.

The Partner representatives were asked what alternatives were considered to the current structure and practices of the Partnership. The Committee further asked how the efficacy of the Partnership's work and direction of travel could be scrutinised without measurable outputs being provided, and whether it was possible to measure effectiveness and impacts on residents.

The Chair of the Partnership assured the Committee that the Partnership was constantly open to learn and adopt new ideas and approaches. An example was the moving of the Partnership under the overall umbrella of the One Colchester Partnership, to ensure that community safety was considered within the wider context including health and wellbeing and economic factors. Matrix working was difficult, due to the reliance on goodwill and cooperation between members, however this was being practiced in Colchester. There were very few quantitative measures that could be used to judge performance. If more resources were available, then more metrics could be measured. The Partnership continued to focus its limited resources where they could be shown to produce the greatest benefits. All the outcomes shown within the report were based upon evidence, qualitative evidence where quantitative evidence was not available. The Chief Inspector expanded upon this to give assurance that outcome effectiveness was judged on complex statistical analysis and the judgement of experienced professionals. As an example, the 'solve' rate for crimes in Colchester stood at 16.27%, compared to a rate of 13.8% for Essex as a whole. Many offences presented no investigative opportunities

A Committee member asked whether a business case had been prepared and considered before the migration of the Safer Colchester Partnership [SCP] under the

oversight of the One Colchester Partnership, and whether details of that decision were available for scrutiny. It was queried whether it would have been more proper for the Crime and Disorder Committee to scrutinise that proposed decision. The Chair of the Partnership explained that the statutory role of the Partnership remained a constant. Quarterly reports were provided to the One Colchester Partnership to cover the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership and its delivery groups. The placing of the SCP under the One Colchester Partnership allowed a holistic approach to be taken to its community safety work and allowed for greater partnership working with organisations such as the local Clinical Commissioning Group. The SCP remained subject to oversight by the Crime and Disorder Committee. Regarding whether the change should have been examined by this Committee, it was explained that the linking of the SCP with the One Colchester Partnership had not changed its terms of reference, its statutory role or fundamental structure. The Chair of the SCP offered to bring the overall work of the One Colchester Partnership, and its relation to the SCP, to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Panel. The Committee welcomed this and agreed to this being scheduled for a Panel meeting which would take place on 15 February 2022, replacing a scheduled meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee.

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) An item be tabled for a future Scrutiny Panel meeting on 15 February 2022 for the Panel to scrutinise the work of the 'One Colchester' Partnership, and its relationship to, and governance arrangements linked with, the Safer Colchester Partnership, which sits within it.



Crime and Disorder Committee		Item 7
7 November 2022		
Report of	Assistant Director Communities	Author Sonia Carr
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 September 2021 – September 2022. Included within the report is background information and an explanation of the role of the SCP, work undertaken by the Partnership during September 2021 – September 2022 and plans for 2022/23.
- 1.2 The Annual Partnership Plan is attached as an Appendix detailing all activity linked to the SCP and key priorities.
- 1.3 At the meeting, key stakeholders, including the Colchester Borough Council Portfolio Holder, 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

The Crime and Disorder Committee is invited to scrutinise the work of the SCP.

3. Reason for Scrutiny

The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 require that the Committee meet at least once a year to review the work and progress of the SCP in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their statutory crime and disorder reduction functions.

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 to deliver this statutory duty and includes the following partners: (statutory) Colchester Borough Council (CBC), Essex Police, NHS SNEE (Suffolk and North East Essex) Integrated Care Board (ICB), 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 (C360), and Colchester Garrison.

- 4.3 The SCP forms part of One Colchester Strategic Board, which consists of Chief Officers representing local statutory partners and non-statutory partners and organisations. It aims to achieve sustainable solutions following the identification of local needs and priorities. It does this by delivering initiatives and engaging with local communities through two Operational groups; these being the Community Safety Delivery Board (CSDB) and the One Colchester Delivery Board. The CSDB is set up as a forum for the Safer Colchester partners to work together to reduce crime and disorder in Colchester and deliver the key priorities through an action plan.
- 4.4 There are many areas where the work of agencies overlaps, and it is more effective to work in partnership to address issues. Also, more effective data sharing between agencies enables partners to target resources to where they are needed most. The benefits of this established partnership working have been evidenced through multi-agency support to produce successful funding bids, partnership promotion and participation in community safety activity and joint communication initiatives.
- 4.5 The SCP has a statutory duty to carry out an annual 'Strategic Assessment of Crime'. This involves analysing data on the frequency, location, and types of crime (over the period 1st October – 30th September) to identify patterns and trends. This Assessment is used to develop the SCP Annual Partnership Plan (for the period 1 April - 31 March) which prioritises the key local issues and outlines actions to address them. The SCP then monitors this Annual Plan throughout the financial year, reviewing and refocusing activity as necessary to effectively tackle the issues.

5. Overall Police Summary

- 5.1 The focus since July 2021 has been high harm, having seen an increase in violence since the end of Covid, across the board, and as such the focus has been on Domestic Abuse, Violence with Injury, Robbery, Residential Burglary, and Sexual Offences. Police confirm that they have made significant disruption to an Organised Crime Group distributing Class A drugs in Colchester, with over ten of their members now imprisoned.
- 5.2 On a rolling 12-month basis to the end of July 11.3% more crimes have been recorded than the previous year.

(Noting that the previous year figures include the COVID Lockdown periods)

- Violence with injury increased 23.7% (Total of 2059 offences) (Force increase of 16.8%)
- Robbery increased 10.2% (Total of 125 offences) (Force increase is 10.1%)

- Residential Burglary increased 15% (Total of 459 offences) (Force increase is 8.8%)
 - Business and Community burglary increased 64.7% (Total of 252 offences) (Force increase of 8.8%)
 - Domestic Abuse increase of 0.8% (Total of 3254 offences) (Force increase 5.2%)
- 5.3 Colchester has 97.1 crimes per 1000 people this ranks us 6/12 DPA (Population listed as 194,706) By comparison; Harlow 132.4 / Southend 115.9 / Basildon 108.8 / Tendring 97.7 / Thurrock 97.6

5.4 The Quarter 4 Public perception Survey Results for Colchester show the following:

(Percentage of people who strongly or tend to agree)

- Confidence in local Policing 73%
- Essex Police understand the issues that affect your community 56%
- Essex Police are dealing with Crime and ASB [Antisocial Behaviour] 56%
- Confidence in receiving a good service from Essex Police 76%
- Police in this area are doing a good/excellent job 78%
- Feel Informed about what the police are doing in the local area 58%
- Feel Crime and ASB have become more of a problem in the last 12 months 16%

6. The Partnership Priorities

6.1 The partnership priorities are focussed on findings from the Strategic Assessment of Crime, they provide the focus for partner throughout the year, unless unforeseen circumstances require a shift in that focus. The current priorities are listed below and will be the focus of the presentation from partners.

7. **Priority One - Tackling organised crime, gangs & county lines with an emphasis on Drug Trafficking**

7.1 Introduction

The PFCC [Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner] and Chief Constable have made it clear that violence in any form is unacceptable. Drug trafficking is perpetrated by organised criminals who bring harm to others; they do this through the use of violence to enforce their territory, or through the exploitation of vulnerable people, either those who use drugs, or those influenced to work for them. Social media has seen the proliferation of “gang culture” which many young people see as a way to make money, without realising the dangerous world they are entering. The reach of the organisations impacts across the partnership, for example with looked after children or those suffering mental health issues being at risk.

County Lines is a term used to describe movement of drugs. In the last month Essex Police have arrested and processed 14 people linked to drug supply through County Lines in Colchester. Two dealer line phones have been recovered, closing the lines and we have seized cash of £11,000.00, 0.17g of crack cocaine, 0.23g of heroin. We have also seized a bottle of acid from a male stopped searched in the Greenstead area, and 2 large knives and two batons.

Across the year activities and results similar to this are delivered on a regular basis through the growth of a Police serious violence unit encompassing the multi-agency violence and vulnerability unit, this is a two pronged approach tackling the perpetrators who exploit vulnerable individuals, and providing support through diversion such as sport England.

7.2 **The Safer Colchester Partnership will:**

- Develop an intelligence and awareness picture of this escalating criminality, especially focusing on Drug Trafficking
- Strive to provide appropriate safeguarding and support to those vulnerable to exploitation
- Assist in the disruption of drug-related activity and crime within the community
- Implement early intervention through education and awareness raising within the local community, to help build community resilience

7.3 **Overall SAC evidence base** - Violence against the person crimes, in particular Violence with injury, were scored as high-risk areas to people and both local and community issues. Trafficking of drugs saw an increase of over 31% and scored highly across all risks and vulnerability areas. This was backed up by data in terms of active nominals and county lines operating in Colchester. The data also showed a 29% increase in Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking referrals, with MSHT links to Organised Crime Groups

7.4 **Priority One - What have we achieved so far**

7.5 **Essex Police:**

- The Multi Agency Co-ordination Panel (MACP) continues to play a role in sharing data to disrupt criminals, together we have dismantled an organised crime group supplying cannabis edibles to young people
- Teams across Essex Police supported Colchester Officers to disrupt the major identified organised crime group through two operations. These resulted in the closure of licensed premises linked to the group, detention of seven members, and seizure of cash and drugs, the arrest charge and remand of the five principle, significant members, and seizure of cash and drugs. The Multi Agency Co-ordination Panel (MACP) continues to play a role in sharing data to disrupt criminals.
- Essex and Kent Serious Crime Directorate provide support through specialist teams providing overt and covert strategies. Colchester Community Policing Team (CPT) work with partners including Open Road

to provide support and engagement, divert from drug use, and prevent exploitation of vulnerable people. CPT develop intelligence and target those involved in the supply of drugs locally. This ranges from use of stop search through to warrant execution.

- Serious Violence Unit work with CPT to target County Lines, utilising tactics that ensure removal of the line from street dealers to the line holders, this approach has seen over 20 Lines, with direct links to Colchester, closed down in the last 12 months.
- Vulnerable people are identified through further work with schools, an example is a promising young footballer who is now in the Colchester United Youth Scheme.
- With National Support through Operation Aidant we have undertaken a number of Modern Slavery Human Trafficking operations throughout the year, the most recent being labour exploitation at car washes, resulting in identification of links to the aforementioned Organised Crime Group, the rescue of victims and referral to our specialist partners. The next operation is targeting potential sexual exploitation.

7.6 Colchester Borough Council:

- A new crucial crew programme was delivered in June/July 2022. Over 1,000 Year 6 pupils from 27 Colchester primary schools attended a live theatre production that raised awareness of grooming and criminal exploitation. Children participated in an interactive workshop exploring topics such as healthy relationships, grooming, shoplifting, knives and criminal responsibility. Where concern was raised based on the children's interaction/knowledge, this was highlighted to schoolteachers in attendance. One teacher commented that they were aware of issues at home and would escalate this within their school setting.

7.7 Colchester Borough Homes

- Worked with Essex Police to tackle drug activity within the Council's social housing stock. Used delegated powers to close seven properties due to drug related crimes. Used a managed moved process to support vulnerable tenants who have been cuckooed and used the Housing Act legislation to take back possession of four tenancies where drug activity continued.

7.8 The Essex North Probation Service

- Have seconded an officer into the Violence and Vulnerability Team for the past 18 months to ensure effective liaison with Police and Youth Offending colleagues.
- Through this partnership developed an analytical tool to help identify offenders at risk of causing serious violence through use of a weapon.
- Worked closely with Police to combine Probation dynamic clinical risk assessment alongside actuarial risk factors to inform which individuals would benefit from additional support to prevent offending behaviour.
- Seconded a team member to deliver one to one intervention to address the risks associated with weapons, county lines and urban street gangs

(Fearless Futures). They ensure that intensive supervision supports the one-to-one work completed with Fearless Futures.

- The East of England Probation service is working on a regional strategy to address County Lines and Urban street gangs. This work will look to understand the key areas of risk and diversionary activities.
- All Probation Practitioners are required to record accurately and flag when an offender is known to have affiliation to a gang. They will be professionally curious and ensure licence conditions are in place for those offenders released from custody to manage their risk in the community.

7.9 **Essex Children and Families Service (ECFS)**

- Support young people experiencing high level child exploitation risk through MACE 1, multi-agency planning, bespoke interventions /disruption, and MACE 2 that provides multi-agency strategic oversight including training and development to support the wider community.
- Essex Youth Offending Service deliver the 'Lived Experiences' workforce development programme to capture the life experiences of 10 young people (including young people from Colchester) who either are/have been, supervised by the Youth Offending Service. Additionally, there are a series of 4 workshops to assist professionals covering key areas (Lets start at the beginning, Relationships, The Bigger Picture, Missed Opportunities).
- Children at Risk of Exploitation (CARE) has been funded through the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex and to support children and young adults who have been/are at risk of being, exploited. This is delivered through The Children's Society who work with children, young people and adults aged between 8-24 years old at risk of criminal or sexual exploitation.

7.10 **Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS)**

- Education Officers deliver assemblies and lessons to schools on Knife Crime and gang awareness.
- Joint project with Firstsite on art project linked to young riders
- On Demand Delivery rider intervention project - this sector is also those from lower socio-economic groups, may be choosing this work / mode of transport out of necessity rather than informed choice, and they are exposed to multiple risk and increased risk of RTC [Road Traffic Collision] due to the amount of miles travelled

8. Priority Two - Driving down Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Violent Crime in public, focusing on Hate Crime and possession of weapons

8.1 **Introduction**

We know from community feedback that anti-social behaviour has an impact on our communities. In some cases, the disruption to life is huge and people become fearful to step outside their own front door. Where public space violence also occurs the fear is increased, and we have seen the impact just

one incident in the town centre had - a one punch assault where the victim hit their head on a kerb and was hospitalised. Police tape and a road closure saw a multitude of social media comments about the Town Centre being totally unsafe, thus impacting the perception of safety for the wider community. As a diverse growing community, we know that hate crime impacts, and affects the confidence of more than the victim. As a priority it is the right thing to do. We work together to ensure, as Colchester grows, we are diverse, inclusive and strive for equality.

The Safer Colchester Partnership will:

- Use available resources and legislation to tackle ASB and public order offences
- Develop an intelligence and awareness picture to assist in the disruption of perpetrators of violent crime
- Bring reassurance to residents regarding their personal safety and assist in driving down crime rates for the borough to improve quality of life for the wider community
- Deliver interventions to tackle and reduce incidents of Hate Crime such as training and encouraging reporting
- Support activity to ensure the safety of those participating in the night-time economy, including disruption of knife crime and possession of offensive weapons

8.2 **Overall SAC evidence base** - ASB saw an increase of over 13% in reports on the previous year, with over 5,600 incidents. This scored highly in terms of risk to both people and property and was backed up by Council ASB data recording over 17,600 incidents across Environmental and Neighbourhood Teams. Racial/Religiously Aggravated Offences saw a 10% increase and Hate Crime a significant 40% increase in reports on the previous year. It also scored highly in terms of a CSP approach being of benefit. Scoring high in all risk areas was possession of weapons offences and this was therefore included in the wording of the key priority.

8.3 **Priority Two - What have we achieved so far:**

8.4 **Essex Police**

- ASB has reduced by 53.7% with 2,756 incidents reported across the year. The Community Policing Team (CPT) and Town Centre Team (TCT) work closely with partners to prevent ASB and Violence. The CPT have identified and targeted key individuals who facilitate disorder, and use a range of powers to disrupt those individuals, prosecute, and close premises.
- The TCT focus on Town Centre areas, particularly the night-time economy. A partnership approach with licence holders, Council, Open Road, Street Pastors and Royal Military Police (RMP) provide a significant presence in our town centre to maximise coverage to keep those in the night-time economy safe.
- Working to tackle anti-social use of motor vehicles. Police enforcement often displaces the issue. Through dedicated roads policing units, visible

patrols and immediate disruption, review of CCTV and social media and issuance of postal enforcement, the combined enforcement and preventative work is coming to fruition. ECC have installed speed calming measures in one area, and consultation has begun on a Public Space Protection Order (led by Council).

- Hate Crime continues to be a focus with Colchester seeing an increase of 57 offences over the previous year. Those defined as Racially/Religiously Aggravated offences have increased by 15 to 276 offences for the 12 months. The Independent Advisory Group (IAG) engages with a range of communities to understand local concerns and issues, and Colchester continues to expand Hate Incident Reporting Centres to provide greater accessibility.
- In order to provide reassurance, ensure we are listening to the community and increase confidence Essex Police publish a regular newsletter, this has now changed to a weekly update. This provides information on activity police are undertaking and publishes information on engagement events to allow the community to feed in local concerns, this has contributed to an increase in survey result data in reply to the question “feel informed about what the police are doing in my local area” from 38% in Q4 20/21 to 58% in Q4 21/22. This is the highest of all Districts.

Partners have promoted the Hate Crime Ambassador training, with courses being delivered to Community 360 and 100 staff members at CBH and included in the mandatory training for taxi drivers through CBC.

8.5 Colchester Borough Council:

- Town Centre Action Plan meetings (TCAP) and Colchester homeless action partnership work together to share, address and act on any concerns, to provide a safer town. Between January and June 2022, interactions with the public including verbal warnings, enforcements and arrests have taken place as a result of Neighbourhood patrols (932 hours) and Joint Neighbourhood/Police patrols (38 hours). Referrals have also been made to Op Luscombe (64) and Project Servator (14).

Op Luscombe: Multi-agency support at "the Hub" in conjunction with Enforcement for those perceived to be aggressively begging. Op Luscombe, originally developed in the MET, works on a traffic light system with a positive action for those witnessed begging to attend "the Hub" and receive the relevant support. Project Servator: Aims to deter, detect, and disrupt a range of criminal activity, including terrorism, while providing a reassuring presence for the public

- The #SeeYouSafer campaign launched in December 2021 promoting key messages for people to keep themselves safe in the night time economy (NTE). This included a widespread social media campaign, [website](#) and a [YouTube video](#). The campaign video had over 2 million impressions and over 400,000 plays. A pop-up event in Colchester High Street engaged with members of the public. A Higher Education programme was

successful with content shared widely, direct engagement at events, posters and leaflets distributed: Colchester Institute - 8,000 students and 3,112 followers on Instagram. Colchester Sixth Form – 3,200 students and 1,544 followers on Instagram. University of Essex / Student Union - 13,179 students at University SU and 10k followers on Instagram. The campaign received excellent feedback. Further event at Essex University in October which will enable cascade of messaging to new students, and the opportunity to evaluate any impact from the previous event. Autumn 2022 higher education campaign for the new term to be discussed. Successful partnership with the Garrison, key messages shared widely. All partners support marketing messages through their own communication channels.

8.6 The Essex North Probation Service

- Continue to work with partners under the multi-agency public protection umbrella to disrupt perpetrators of violent crime. Prompt sharing of information and taking enforcement action, where individual is subject to probation results in return to court for breach of their order or prison if they breach their licence.
- Undertakes comprehensive assessments on all offenders sentenced to a community order or released on licence which help to identify individuals who, irrespective of their conviction, may be involved in violent crime, hate crime and possession of weapons. This information is used to identify interventions that will manage and reduce any risks posed by the individual, as well as change their behavior.

8.7 Colchester Borough Homes

- Launched Project Omnis in June 2022 (funded by Violence and Vulnerability Unit) a community café at Greenstead Community Centre to reduce hate crime around vulnerable children and adults, offering a safe place to report incidents and request support. The café sessions have 5 to 10 people in regular attendance and resulted in 6 referrals to partners. The individuals have received relevant support and signposting to other agencies and are now regular attendees at the sessions.
- Support by partners' communication channels continue to raise awareness and engage communities as seen in ASB Awareness week and CBH's Make a Difference Days.
- Developed an ASB forum including all housing providers and Police to focus on ASB hotspots, trends, and nominals of interest.
- The use of mobile CCTV cameras funded by the Partnership has helped to evidence ASB to initiate enforcement action, further deter ASB incidents and make communities feel safer. Community meetings involving CBH and Essex Police have been held to offer reassurance and co-ordinate a structured response between all agencies.
- Project Morpheus was launched to divert behaviours, educate, and prevent incidents of ASB. This 12-month project engages 10–17-year-olds in many varying activities including Army days to build trust and discipline, Fire Break sessions which teach consequences and Community Days that ensure a sense of belonging and pride in their communities.

- Developed materials including ‘pocket guides to support’ and ‘How to be a good neighbour guide’ to offer customers valuable information and support.
- Opened and investigated 400 cases of ASB (Just CBH Tenants)
- Using Delegated Powers under the ASB, Crime and Policing Act, CBH issued 82 CPW’s/CPN’s to deter and change behaviours likely to cause ASB
- Attended 21 court hearings relating to ASB and closed 11 Properties
- Served 14 Notices Seeking Possessions
- Carried out 4 evictions under Housing Law (this is without people surrendering their tenancy)
- Using Housing Law, we have supported Vulnerable Tenants with a Management Move to safeguard them
- Working with Essex Police, we have over 100 professionals trained as Hate Crime Ambassadors in order to promote reporting, identify incidents and educate around its impacts

8.8 **The Youth Offending Service**

- Caseloads are increasing in the North of the County. Youth court has largely caught up post COVID. All victims of youth crime from Court Orders to Out of Court Disposals are contacted by the Restorative Justice worker in the YOS and offered Restorative Justice intervention. The Restorative Justice worker will also work with young people in relation to victim awareness, including resources looking at the impact of drugs/weapons offences.

8.9 **NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB - formally CCG)**

- As a result of the pandemic, children and young people have increased levels of anxiety which puts them at risk for being drawn into criminal activity including ASB and violent crime. Barnardo’s LINK Families Together Service has been commissioned locally. This helps support young people experiencing mental health problems and their families, focusing on therapeutic support. In NE Essex this service has been successfully delivering prevention support avoiding the need for escalation into cost intensive services and avoiding the risk of family breakdown. From the data provided, 86% strongly agreed that service has led to a positive change in their family’s situation.
- Work in partnership with Family Solutions, The Children’s Society, Teen Talk and Y.E.S to support children, young people, and families across North East Essex. The Mental Health School Teams (delivered by Mid & North Essex Mind) provide early support for emotional health and wellbeing needs in schools and colleges.
- Health Teams participate in hate crime training to raise awareness, and support community development via cultural awareness work with Community 360.

8.10 **Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS)**

- Firestoppers - Confidential referral scheme for the public to report information on deliberate fires
- Prevention Analyst appointed to work on improving the targeted approach to reducing deliberate fires and the impact of this ASB

9. Priority Three - Identifying & supporting the victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences, focusing on reducing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

9.1 Introduction

Violence against women and girls is a national issue and across Colchester, historically, we have seen the impact of sexual offences and Domestic Abuse. Partnership working is key to ensure that victims have the confidence to come forward and report, and that we invest in prevention to ensure Colchester is a safe place for all.

The Safer Colchester Partnership will:

- Increase understanding and awareness to the public and front-line practitioners to reduce Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment, Sexual Offences and VAWG
- Encourage all affected by these crimes to engage with relevant agencies to seek help and support, acknowledging men and minority groups
- Consider early intervention activity and work with potential and known perpetrators

9.2 Overall SAC evidence base - Domestic Abuse crimes remained high with over 3,200 reports and increases in both High and Standard Risk Domestic Abuse categories. They were also scored highly in terms of risk of harm to vulnerable people, psychological and physical harm categories, and local and community priorities. Additionally, all Sexual Offence crimes that includes Rape saw a significant increase in reports, over 24% on the previous year. Stalking and harassment also saw an increase of 13%. Along with reducing Violence against Women and Girls being one of the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan 2021-24.

9.3 Priority Three - What have we achieved so far:

9.4 Essex Police:

- Essex Police's newly established Domestic Abuse Problem Solving Teams (DAPST) work to prevent repeat behaviour with dedicated officers providing support to the most vulnerable victims. Offenders are supported to reflect/change their behaviour. In the last 10 months, after DAPST engagement, 40% of the victims who were referred in for withdrawing support have re-engaged to support a prosecution. DAPST currently directly manage 26 High Threat Offenders of which 9 have been imprisoned in the last three months when they failed to engage in change programmes

- Further expansion of Domestic Abuse Investigation Teams has seen an increase in positive outcomes for victims of medium and high risk domestic abuse incidents with solved rates of 17.1% and 23.9% respectively across the Force
- DAIT teams are able to provide specialist support to victims, through referral to partners such as Next Chapter.
- Local Policing Teams attend all Domestic Incidents as a priority or emergency response ensuring early attendance to safeguard victims, unless a victim wants a specific appointment.
- CPT work with partners including Next Chapter to provide a range of prevent options from drop in coffee mornings at the University, through schools where pupils receive education on safe relationships and consent (All University students receive inputs as part of their induction to University life)

9.5 **Colchester Borough Council**

- Participated in Operation Henderson, a multi-agency project to identify child sexual exploitation on transport networks. This runs twice a year with the last event held on 26th April. The project includes digital reach (24955 social media reach), face to face engagements (total 889 including 495 young people passengers), training materials issued widely including taxi drivers, bus drivers and train staff. Feedback was gathered from all activity and learning points noted for future events including the need for focused training for bus drivers and extending locations to places young people spend time.
- Funded by the CCG Community Safety Fund, Colchester CARA (Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse) received £20,000 to support their Integrated Support Project, 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. The project aims to support 100+ victims and survivors each year, anticipating 35 from Colchester. From April 2022 to date, the project has so far supported 77, with 31 of those from Colchester.

9.6 **Colchester Borough Homes:**

- Named officers build links with CBH tenants to increase confidence in domestic abuse reporting and for management of the sanctuary scheme. Front-line officers attend domestic abuse awareness training, and a process has been introduced for operatives to flag concerns when visiting tenants' homes. Additionally front-line officers have lone worker training and are issued with emergency response device when they are lone working.

9.7 **Essex Children and Families Services (ECFS)**

- Continued to develop Children's Services, as well as the wider partnerships understanding of Child Exploitation – 'Risk in the Community' highlights how children and young people can experience community-

based risk outside of the family home. A successful pilot by ECFS in the South of the County was designed to offer an alternative child protection pathway for children experiencing exploitation. This was successful and will now be rolled out across the county. New roles and processes will provide an alternative pathway to traditional child protection processes which focus on interfamilial risk. Additionally, to support young people 18yrs+ (previously subject of child protection/child in need), the development of a Transitional Safeguarding Protocol, will aid their transition into adulthood with support from Adult Services.

- Moving forward Children Services, supported by the wider partnership will be offering additional support to children, young people and their families who are at risk of exploitation through Risk in the Community Support Officers. At an Essex level they conducted an Honour Based Case Audit that resulted in updates to guidance currently out for consultation. Essex will also recruit a Domestic and Cultural Abuse Practitioner to support the wider service to recognise and respond to all forms of domestic abuse.

9.8 **Next Chapter** - The commissioned provider for domestic abuse services in North Essex including Colchester.

The total number of referrals for the Colchester area is detailed in the table below

Period	Q1 – 21/22	Q2 - 21/22	Q3 – 21/22	Q4 – 21/22	Q1 – 22/23
No of Referrals	143	155	181	189	173
Ave monthly	48	52	60	63	58

- Whilst the monthly profile is relatively spiky, particularly during the height of the pandemic – there is a clear upward trend in relation to referral numbers. The average monthly referrals into the organisation have risen from 164 per month in 2019/21 to 258 per month in the first quarter of this year – equating to a 58% rise in referrals compared to pre-covid levels. This trend is also reflected in the number of referrals from victims originating in the Colchester borough as can be seen in the table above.
- The Together we Can project has been extended until March 2023 with £494,000 received from ECC. Led by CBC, this project has supported Next Chapter to offer specialist drug and alcohol support through recruitment of a specialist support worker in their Recovery Refuge to support the increasing number of referrals up to 31 per month (based on 2021-22 reports), enabling the continued employment of Domestic Abuse Housing Practitioners to provide support to families to remain safely in their own home and work alongside housing providers to find solutions when this is not possible, supporting over 1300 clients through community outreach service in 2021-22. Specialist support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse through the continued employment of Children’s Support Workers, to develop resilience working alongside mothers to provide a family-based approach and include partnership work with schools.

- The children and young people’s service (CYP) has now been running for over 12 months and has established bespoke programmes which support both parents, children, and young people and with a whole family approach to enable the family to recover and move forward from the abuse they have experienced. The parenting support aims to provide the non-abusing parent with an understanding of how the domestic abuse has impacted their children and tools for them to support their children in their recovery.
- As a result of the investment to create a community based CYP service, Next Chapter have secured additional funding (until March 2025) through Children In Need and the National Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) fund to add 3 Young People Violence Advisors to the team – they will work with young people 14-19yrs who are experiencing serious harm from intimate relationships or domestic abuse in their family setting.

Referrals into CYP Service for Colchester & Maldon

Colchester & Maldon	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Q4 21-22	Total 21-22
Early Intervention - parents benefitting	20	14	20	18	72
Early Intervention - children benefitting (incl Healthy Relationship workshops)	378	350	200	500	1428
One-to-one work - parents benefitting	12	60	10	30	112
One-to-one work - children benefitting	50	144	90	70	354
Recovery Groups - parents benefitting	20	14	15	25	74
Recovery Groups - children benefitting	128	0	25	25	178

Colchester & Maldon	Q1 22-23
Early Intervention - parents benefitting	49
Early Intervention - children benefitting (incl Healthy Relationship workshops)	300
One-to-one work - parents benefitting	30
One-to-one work - children benefitting	120
Recovery Groups - parents benefitting	30
Recovery Groups - children benefitting	45

- Early intervention - Equipping young people through work in local schools with the right tools and resilience to be able to sustain their own healthy relationships and be able to recognise and deal with the signs of an unhealthy, or “toxic”, relationship to keep themselves physically and emotionally safe. Professionals training enables the professionals’ supporting children and young people in school to understand domestic abuse, healthy relationships, and the impact of domestic abuse on the whole family. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and Next Chapter have a waiting list of schools for early intervention workshops/professionals training.

- To meet the requirements under the new Domestic Abuse Act, CBC have worked with Next Chapter to identify gaps in provision. Using funding to support this Act, we have enabled Next Chapter to recruit a Male Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) to support men/young men who are experiencing domestic abuse, and a dedicated CYP Officer for Colchester who will offer 1:1 support for children and young people and their non-abusing parent, who are experiencing domestic abuse.

9.9 **NHS Integrated Care Board**

- Actively increased awareness and understanding to the public and their own practitioners to reduce Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment, Sexual Offences and VAWG (violence against women and girls), through participation in safeguarding training. The SHELLS (Shelter & Health EnListing Local Support) SOS bus work with partners to support safe places for those seeking help both in the NTE and for those seeking support to report/get out of a controlling or abusive situation.

9.10 **The Essex North Probation Service**

- Complete an assessment on all offenders to establish if they are a perpetrator and/or victim of domestic abuse and/or sexual offending. Work with partners to reduce the risks posed by perpetrators and protect victims, be that through sharing prompt information, delivering suitable interventions and/or by imposing licence conditions such as curfews, electronic monitoring, and polygraph testing to check compliance with licence conditions.
- Have high levels of completion rates for their mandatory e-learning training: Safeguarding Children - 92.9%, Safeguarding Adults – 90.3%, Domestic Abuse – 90.9%, Prevent – 84.4%

9.11 **Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS)**

- Continue to conduct Home Fire Safety visits and Safe and Well visits, focused by a combination of local intelligence and a MOSAIC computer programme for victims. Safe and Well Visits for victims of domestic abuse, victims of/people at risk of arson, and other vulnerable members of the community.
- Targeted intervention in the Greenstead area of Colchester, one of the top three wards in Colchester for fire related incidents. This activity continues with planned uplift in the number of visits to be carried out.
- All stations hold an open day each year with safety, fire, RTC, and water as a focus – all to be completed before October.
- Fire Break Programme specifically tailored to deliver sessions on VAWG.

For further detail on the above achievements and outcomes please refer to Appendix A (Annual Partnership Plan).

10. **Future Plans for the Partnership's work (September 2022- March 2023):**

- The Key Priorities for the period including September 2022 – March 2023 are as detailed in 5.1.

- The Annual Partnership Plan for 2022-23 will continue to be reviewed and updated until the end of March 2023.
- The process to identify the Key Priorities for 2023-24 will be adapted. Consultation with wider SCP partners will be sought for their input into setting the key priorities.

11. Colchester Borough Council:

- Two funding bids to the Home Office Safer Streets Round 4 (Greenstead and Town Centre) were submitted and successful in achieving over £500,000. The success of both bids will enable the delivery of a range of environmental and community-based projects to be delivered.
- We are also working with partners to implement an Anti-Slavery Partnership / forum in 2022-23, with the aim to further raise awareness and support those vulnerable members of our community.
- Consultation has begun to introduce a new Public Space Protection Order for Vehicular Nuisance across the whole borough (to tackle vehicle related noise, speeding, obstruction, and congregation.) If approved, implemented in September
- Launch of Sports and Mentoring Programme in September 2022, to engage with young people who are known and/or supported by the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and other agencies to reduce/prevent youth criminality and violence.
- Launch of Jumpstart Project in September 2022, to support vulnerable young people to remain offending free and support them into sustained education, training, or employment.
- CBC, CBH and Essex Police are in the process of planning how to support the White Ribbon Campaign in November 2022, by linking in with Leisure World and Colchester United to focus on the 'positive masculinity' messaging through sporting venues/clubs.

12. Colchester Borough Homes:

- Using funding from ECC to support the introduction of the new Domestic Abuse Act that became law from 30 April 2021, recruitment has commenced for a Domestic Abuse Project Officer. This role will help CBH achieve Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) Accreditation and produce a Domestic Abuse policy for CBH and CBC.
- The Box Smart project will commence in September 2022 for young people to divert their behaviour and channel their energies into a sport activity.

13. Next Chapter:

- A new project confirmed in partnership with Essex Police funded through the Ministry of Justice National Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Fund, with additional funding contributions from Essex Police. The project is of national importance with Next Chapter working alongside Essex Police DAPST to target the perpetrators that represent the highest risk in our community. Next Chapter will work alongside the DAPST team to support all the victims, enabling the DAPST team to focus on

managing and tackling the dangerous criminal behaviour. If successful, this project could offer learning that will be used nationally.

- Next Chapter plan to use volunteer mentors through their DART Project to assist clients who are moving out of refuge, temporary accommodation or resettling following a housing move and coming to the end of their specialist DA support. This will provide clients with continuing, but lighter touch emotional and practical support during the period of transition. This has recently commenced, and early feedback has been very positive.
- Next Chapter Recovery Programme will start in September 2022. The Rise Programme combines group work, online sessions and clients using a bespoke journal to capture their journey to recovery.

14. The Essex North Probation Service

- Essex North Probation Service received an overall rating of inadequate following an inspection in May 2022: <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/inspections/essex-north-pdu/> They have published an improvement action plan and have started the process of addressing the areas of concern and will continue to work with partners to reduce reoffending and protect victims. [East of England joint action plan - Essex North and Northamptonshire - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

15. Funding from Partners

- The NHS SNEE Integrated Care Board (ICB) have supported the partnership with funds to support projects which deliver our partnership goals. As an active partner they have allocated £43k non recurrently. These funds can be used to support residents at risk of:
 - Domestic and sexual violence
 - Knife crime
 - Risk taking habits including drug usage and alcohol dependence
 - The safety of the night - time economy
 - Modern slaveryThis has been used to fund the CARA Integrated Support Project and match-fund the Jumpstart Project. The remaining funds are currently unallocated.
- Together we Can – 2021-22 - £376,000 / 2022-23 - £494,000
- Essex County Council New Duties Funding 2021-22 £32,610 being used to recruit a Domestic Abuse Project Officer
- MHCLG New Burdens 2021-22 - £33,646 awarded to Colchester Borough Council used by Next Chapter to recruit Male IDVA
- DLUHC New Burdens 2022-23 - £33,674 used by Next Chapter to recruit CYP Officer
- Home Office Safer Streets Round 4 - £264,000 Greenstead / £283,000 Town Centre
- Violence and Vulnerability Unit- 2021-22 £22,000 – Omnis Project and Sports and Mentoring Project 2022-23 - £5,513 match fund the Jumpstart project

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

- The PFCC is invited to attend Crime and Disorder Committee meetings.
- A crime and disorder reduction grant of £22,511 was awarded by the PFCC to support the CSP in 2022/23
- PFCC for Essex's Community Development Fund enables voluntary and community safety groups from across Essex to apply for funding. This is to help prevent and tackle crime and ASB in Essex and support vulnerable people. The partnership has supported the promotion of this fund through their networks and endorsed partner applications to the fund.
- The PFCC through the Violence and Vulnerability Unit have funded several projects in the last year

17. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

A key aim of the CSP is to protect vulnerable people. Many of the workstreams include supporting people with protected characteristics and dealing with the impacts of inequalities.

18. Strategic Plan References

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

19. Consultation

- The Strategic Assessment of Crime 2021-22 was completed in January 2022 and has been used to identify the Key Priorities for the SCP for 2022-23.
- The Fear of Crime Survey was launched on 22nd August 2022 for 4 weeks to Understand residents' feelings around public safety and their experience of crime and anti-social behaviour. The results from this survey will help inform future priorities and highlight opportunities to tackle public safety issues.

20. Publicity Considerations

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

21. Financial implications

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.

22. Community Safety Implications

The Community Safety implications are the subject of this report.

23. Health and Safety Implications

There are no specific Health and Safety Implications.

24. Risk Management Implications

There are no specific risk implications.

ACRONYMS:

Abbreviation	Description
APP	Annual Partnership Plan
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
CARA	Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse
CBC	Colchester Borough Council
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CBH	Colchester Borough Homes
CBO	Criminal Behaviour Order
CPN	Community Protection Notice
CPW	Community Protection Warning
CS	Community Safety
CSDB	Community Safety Delivery Board
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CYP	Children and Young People
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
ECC	Essex County Council
ECFRS	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice
ICB	Integrated Care Board
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
NTE	Night-Time Economy
PFCC	Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
RTC	Road Traffic Collision
SCP	Safer Colchester Partnership
SNEE	Suffolk and North East Essex
TPS	The Probation Service

Appendices:

- Appendix A SCP Annual Partnership Plan 2022-2023



ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2022-2023

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
- 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)
- British Transport Police

Key Priorities for 2022-2023

The Partnership identified three specific priorities for 2022/2023 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:

- Develop an intelligence and awareness picture of this escalating criminality, especially focusing on Drug Trafficking
- Strive to provide appropriate safeguarding and support to those vulnerable to exploitation
- Assist in the disruption of drug-related activity and crime within the community
- Implement early intervention through education and awareness raising within the local community, to help build community resilience

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

The Safer Colchester Partnership will:

- Use available resources and legislation to tackle ASB and public order offences
- Develop an intelligence and awareness picture to assist in the disruption of perpetrators of violent crime
- Bring reassurance to residents regarding their personal safety, assist in driving down crime rates for the borough to improve quality of life for the wider community
- Deliver interventions to tackle and reduce incidents of Hate Crime such as training and encouraging reporting
- Support activity to ensure the safety of those participating in the Night-time economy, including disruption of knife crime and possession of offensive weapons

Priority Three - Identifying & supporting the victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences, focusing on reducing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

The Safer Colchester Partnership will:

- Increase understanding and awareness to the public and front-line practitioners to reduce Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment, Sexual Offences and VAWG
- Encourage all affected by these crimes to engage with relevant agencies to seek help and support, acknowledging men and minority groups
- Consider early intervention activity and work with potential and known perpetrators

These priorities form the basis of the Safer Colchester Partnership (SCP) action plan and other activities during the year. 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 \(pfcc.police.uk\)](#)

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

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 Borough Council to explore methods 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. Then working with partners aim to deliver to all primary schools in Colchester to achieve maximum attendance and performance ratings	1071 children participated from 27 schools	1,2,3,4	Organised Crime / Complex Needs
	Op Enlightenment	Partnership with schools to identify vulnerable students who may be at risk of exploitation. Supported by Essex Police Children's and Young Person officers and other partners as required.	All secondary schools have a named Children's and Young Persons Officer who	1,2,3,4	Organised Crime / Complex Needs

			will regularly visit and develop relationships with. All Primary schools have a geographical PCSO aligned to them.		
	Box Smart	Develop 'Box Smart project for 12–16-year-olds vulnerable to County Lines and knife crime, through weekly boxing sessions/mentoring support.	Project commences 23 rd Sept for 9 weeks for up to 15 YP.	1,2,3,4	Organised Crime / Serious Violence
	Operation Henderson	Joint initiative by the Essex Safeguarding Children Board, British Transport Police, Essex Police, other partners including local councils. It aims to raise awareness of the vulnerability of young people to exploitation and abuse at stations and transport networks in parts of Essex.	Operation ran 26 th April. Will run twice a year. Another campaign due to take place on 24 th August.	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 on Knife Crime and gang awareness.	663 students in Colchester area	2,7,8,12	Organised Crime / Serious Violence
	Joint project with ECFRS and Firstsite on art project linked to young riders	Collaboration with YAK at Firstsite to include a young person artistic interpretation of the risk		9, 12	Serious Violence / Vulnerabilities
	On Demand Delivery rider intervention - ECFRS	The theory behind this intervention is that those choosing to work on the On Demand Delivery sector are also those from lower socio-economic groups, may be choosing this work / mode of transport out of necessity rather than informed choice, and they are exposed to multiple risk and increased risk of RTC due to the number of miles travelled		9, 12	Serious Violence / Vulnerabilities
Share intelligence and data with partners to	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.	Several county lines disrupted, with arrests, and charges including supply of	1,2,6	Organised Crime

generate a consistent picture of criminal activity in the borough		Operation Raptor – targeting county lines operations in Colchester.	crack, heroin, supply of Class A Qtr 1 – 4 males sentenced (or between 3 and 6 years) relating to 4 county lines operations.		
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, such as Greenstead and the Hythe.		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.	Project Servator Operations have run throughout the year both in the Town Centre and at the Garrison. Often in the run-up to large events e.g. Castle Park concerts	1,2,3,6	Vulnerabilities
Raise awareness of Modern Slavery and the support available	Modern Slavery Statement and Action Plan	Colchester Borough Council publish their annual Statement and Action Plan.	2021-22 statement in progress. Will be published in Sept 22 Essex Police MSHT Officer presented local update at CSDB July 22	3,4,5,10	Organised Crime
	Progress activity to create an Anti-Slavery Partnership for Colchester	Review funding opportunities, partner endorsement of the project and actions required to recruit a Co-ordinator. The Partnership aim will be to raise awareness and support vulnerable members of the	Unsuccessful bid for funding to PFCC and SPF. Looked at SCP funding for this post.	3,5,8,10 12	Organised Crime

		community and progress any projects to identify and support victims of modern slavery.			
	Participate in campaigns to raise awareness of exploitation	Support Anti-Slavery Day	Supported Unseen UK's social media for World Day Against Trafficking, 30 th July.	3,5,10	Organised Crime
Raise awareness of PREVENT and how partners can support those at risk	Promotion of Home Office PREVENT E-learning and ACT Early website	Promotion through partners and wider distribution channels to introduce the risk of radicalisation and the role professionals, practitioners and public can play in supporting those at risk.		3,5,8,10	Vulnerabilities
	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.	On CSDB agenda for October 22	3,5,8,10	Vulnerabilities

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

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
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.	Hate Crime stats given at every CSDB meeting. Indicate on the rise currently. Quarterly updates from Essex Police HC Officer.	3,4,5	Vulnerabilities
	Project Omnis	June 2022: Launch 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. With specialist support on hand for those with learning disabilities, mental health needs and/or autism.	Funded by VVU for 12 months. The first two café sessions have seen 4 referrals to partners, for support/sign posting.	1,3,4,5,10,12	Vulnerabilities / Complex Needs
	Project Morpheus	Diversionary work that encourages young people aged 10-18 years to engage and participate in activities such as Box Smart, Paintball, Army days with an overnight event, Bird Box building, tree planting and Christmas present give away event. All to prevent young people going down the route of crime and ASB.	Positive feedback received	1,3,4,5,10,12	Vulnerabilities / Violent Crime
	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		3,4,5,10,12	Vulnerabilities

		information, guidance, training links and how to report Hate Crime.			
	Op Oscar	Continue operation whereby officers work within NHS mental health premises to reduce number of hate crime incidents and offer education.	An officer is now dedicated full time to working with NHS Mental health premises	1,4,5	Vulnerabilities
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.	NoA – August and October	1,2,3,4,8 11,12	Serious Violence
	Op Halfback	Policing and Safeguarding the Night-time Economy	Op Halfback is the business-as-usual response to the night-time economy. This involves patrols by CPT Officers and Special Constabulary whilst also having engagement through Pub watch etc.	2,4,5	Serious Violence
	#See you Safer	Following the successful launch of this campaign in December 2021, consider how the key messages for people to enjoy a night out and keep themselves safe can continue to be shared.	Campaign summary report available – August 2022. An additional engagement event with Essex University planned for 12/10/22.	1,2,3,4,5	Serious Violence

			Looking into further campaign for December.		
	Ask for Angela	Initiative to improve women's safety in NTE, in development by BID and supported by Essex Police and partners.	Launch anticipated September 22	3,4	Violent Crime / Complex Needs
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.	Op Luscombe continues every week with Essex Police and numerous partners attendance	2,3,5,12	Complex Needs
	Mobile CCTV cameras	CBH to continue to deploy mobile CCTV cameras to assist in identifying and tackling ASB in hotspot areas.		2,4,5,6	Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime
	ASB Awareness Week	Build on events of last year to support ASB Awareness Week - a week of action dedicated to bringing together people to make communities safer.	Social media campaigns July 22	2,4,5,6,12	Vulnerabilities
	Promote Rural Tool Kit	Promote Rural Crime Toolkit to Town and Parish Councils to provide communities with ideas, information, and support to make their neighbourhood a better place to live. Look for further opportunities/distribution channels.	Promoted at Town & Parish Council forum	2,6,9	Vulnerabilities
	Project Soteria / Closure Orders	Continue CBH project to raise awareness of positive actions taken when house closures are undertaken. Closures/partial closures are actioned to tackle ASB and drug offences.		2,5,6	Vulnerabilities/ Organised Crime
	Town Centre Action Plan (TCAP)	Continue multi-agency meetings/activity to reduce crime and ASB in the town centre.	TCAP continues to be held regularly	6,10,11,12	Vulnerabilities / Complex Needs
	Police Operations	Op Vocal: Essex Police operation aimed at increasing the visibility of Police in the rural areas of the district to address issues from speeding to drug use.	Engagement Team. Stroll with a Patrol launched to give all areas of the district	1,2,6,7,9	Vulnerabilities

		<p>Op Tumbler: Targets 10 highest harm individuals – intensive support from officer to divert from crime/enforce</p> <p>Op Tailor: Will see PCSO's conducting follow up visits when there are no lines of enquiry</p> <p>Op Malebar: Focusing on Castle Park and carriage of weapons over the Summer</p> <p>Op Grip: Sees 15-minute officer patrols in hotspot areas (town centre at University area)</p>	<p>a chance to spend time with community officers. Op Tumbler is approaching the end of its first cohort, we have seen increased engagement, stop and search and intensive activity to divert the cohort away from crime. Initial indicators show that majority of cohort 1 will not be involved in cohort 2 and thus have been diverted away from criminality.</p> <p>Op Tailor- To be launched</p> <p>Op Malebar- Additional patrols in Castle Park which is continuing through the Summer</p> <p>Op Grip- Officers will continue with this throughout the year and full results will be available at the conclusion of the programme.</p>		
	Employment of Community Safety	Following recruitment of Community Safety Engagement Officer to join the Community	Full programme of community	1,2,3,4,5 6,7,9,10	Serious Violence /

	and Engagement Officers	Policing Team in Colchester, look at further opportunities for partnership working to reduce crime and ASB, and protect vulnerable people.	engagement including Balling with a Bobby and Stroll with a Patrol		Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime / Complex Needs
	ECFRS Education Sessions for Students	ECFRS Education Team deliver sessions for students on Hate Crime.	Not currently being delivered to students in Colchester.	1, 12	Serious Violence / Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime / Complex Needs
	Reduce impact/number of deliberate fires	Firestoppers is a confidential referral scheme for the public to report information on deliberate fires. Prevention Analyst appointed to work on improving the targeted approach to reducing deliberate fires and the impact of this ASB	Deliberate Fire Analysis report available.	1, 6, 8, 10, 12	Serious Violence /Vulnerabilities

Priority Three - Identifying & supporting the victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences, focusing on reducing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the Project / Initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Raise awareness of Domestic Abuse services and the support available	Support National Stalking Awareness Week – April 2022	Link in with partners including Next Chapter, Essex Police and CARA to share information on social media.	Social media supported	3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Recruit Domestic Abuse Navigator to achieve DAHA accreditation for CBH – March 2022	New post to be based within Colchester Borough Homes but also work across Colchester Borough Councils services to ensure that effective Domestic Abuse policies are in place and achieve DAHA	Recruitment issues led to redesign of JAS and new recruitment push	3,4,5	Complex Needs

		accreditation. Funded by ECC New Burdens funding for 12-month period.	underway. ECC to extend contract.		
	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.	Included in Community Safety newsletter	3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Participate in Domestic Abuse awareness campaigns	Support any location and national awareness campaigns including 16 Days of Action, Violence Against Women Day.	White Ribbon Uk campaign – co-ordinating partner support for this.	3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Continue to deliver the Together we Can Project	Delivered by Next Chapter and Open Road, this project supports 5 Local Authorities including Colchester. With funding from Essex County Council Next Chapter can 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.	Project extended until March 2023. DLUHC funding held by CBC allocated to Next Chapter to recruit a Male IDVA and a CYP Officer for Colchester for 12 months.	2,3,4,5	Complex Needs
Support victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	Integrated Support Project	Launch of project 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.	Colchester residents supported by funding from NEE CCG Wellbeing Fund.	3,4,5	Complex Needs
	Understanding Young People's Experiences of Sexual Harm	CARA launch of five 90 second animations to support schools and professionals working with children and young people to understand the impacts of sexual violence.	Plan for ECC to disseminate to all Essex schools for use from September	3,4,5,12	Complex Needs
	Essex Police DAPS Team	Monitoring of this new team of officers.	Last 10 months, 40% of victims who were referred in for withdrawing support have re-engaged to	3,4,5	Complex Needs

			support a prosecution.		
	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
Increase safeguarding awareness	Safeguarding Training for Taxi Drivers	The Council to deliver a mandatory online Safeguarding training programme for Taxi Drivers.		3,5,9,10	Vulnerabilities
	Safe, Well and Secure	Events organised by ECFRS to deliver safety messages/advice to residents in target areas across the Borough, and ultimately reduce accidental dwelling fires and deliberate fires. Further events to be planned for forthcoming year and look at ways for partners to support.	Qtr 1 – 50 Safe and Well visits / 44 home Fire Safety checks / 18 Safe and Well sensory Greenstead event planned for 12 th September	1,6,9,12	Vulnerabilities
	VAWG Firebreak	ECFRS have specially developed Firebreak to educate young men.	Currently halfway through the delivery of these sessions and have seen evidence of positive behaviors attitude changes with students that have completed the courses	3, 4, 6	Complex Needs
Identify perpetrators and victims of crimes relating to 'hidden harm'	Essex Police Operations	Op Aident: National operation to target hidden harms. Campaigns and Week of Actions throughout the year. Op Ratify: Problem solving operation aimed at those who present a danger to community inc. sex offenders.	Joint work with Essex Police CSE Proactive Team	1,2,3,4,5 8,10	Organised Crime / Complex Needs

		<p>Op Enlightenment: Working in partnership with schools to spot the signs of Child Sexual Exploitation and educate around gangs/county lines.</p> <p>Op Yalta: Essex Police operation to identify repeat victims of sexual abuse where intelligence would indicate they continue to be at risk.</p> <p>Op Puffin: Essex Police operation to target a cohort of 20 nominals who have been identified as most likely to commit a domestic homicide.</p>			
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Vulnerabilities/Opportunities for Partnership/ Multi-agency working
(not covered by key priorities above)

Objective	Project / Initiative	About the project / initiative	Outcomes	PFCC Priority	ECPS Strand
Suicide Awareness and Prevention	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, campaigns, and how we can support at a local level	Meeting with Essex Police/Samaritans regarding recent concerns for bridge over A12. Promoting the Help for Heroes/ZSA Suicide Awareness course and campaign to veterans.	10,12	Complex Needs
	Support promotional activity including local and national campaigns	Support World Suicide Prevention Day – 10 th September Support Self Harm Awareness Day Creating Hope through Light – lighting up key landmarks across Essex in green. Participated in December 2021 and planning in place for 2022.	SCP Comms Plan to be developed, to encourage all partners to work together on promotional activity.	10,12	Complex Needs

Public Safety / Perception of Crime	Fear of Crime Survey	CBC to repeat the Fear of Crime survey across the borough. Build on the data collated last year to identify trends and inform further action planning.	Survey developed and to launch 22 Aug-19 Sept 22. Working with comms to encourage increased completion rates on last year. Results to be used as data for Strategic Assessment of Crime report.	1-12	Serious Violence / Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime / Complex Needs
	Police Station Open Day	Partner participation and promotion of the Colchester Police Station open day – 27 th August 2022.	To be held 27 th August		Serious Violence / Vulnerabilities / Organised Crime / Complex Needs

