

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

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

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

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

- * Colchester Garrison
- * University of Essex
- * Community 360
- * Colchester Borough Homes

Overview: This report provides information on performance towards achieving the Annual Partnership Plan targets.

The strategic key priorities for 2017-2018 are:

- 1) To reduce the occurrence of violent crime and fear of being a victim of violent crime
- 2) To improve community resilience to reduce the threat of vulnerability and exploitation
- 3) To tackle the incidents of high harm, repeat Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

KEY PRIORITY 1:

To reduce the occurrence of violent crime and fear of being a victim of violent crime

Targets:

- **Share data and good practice**
- **Develop an understanding of violent crime (CSP Analyst)**
- **Tackle alcohol related harm**
- **Deliver enforcement operations around hidden harms (gangs, modern slavery, child sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, night time economy)**

Outcomes:

- The Safer Colchester Partnership Webpage and Twitter account continue to be widely used. The Safer Colchester Twitter account was used during the 16 days of action to raise awareness of domestic abuse and its sometimes fatal consequences.
- Community Safety Hub at Colchester Police Station continues to be utilised by a number of agencies improving communications and providing a more reactive response to issues
- CSP Analyst in post for North LPA – joint work with CBC Community Safety team to produce Strategic Assessment of Crime and joint working to identify hotspot areas within the borough for emerging crime trends.
- Work with CSP Analyst to obtain knowledge of how crimes are reported and categorised
- CBC Community Safety Officer provided with access to police systems in order to evaluate trends/data
- Safer Colchester Operational Group (SCOG) continues to maintain a good membership with attendance of approx. 25 agencies at each 6 weekly meeting
- Operation Mauritius: Violence with injury commenced at the beginning of October 17 and resulted in: 5 Intelligence reports, 1 arrest for burglary, 8 Cannabis warnings, 2 Drug possession with intent to supply, 4 Cannabis possession, 1 going equipped, 1 Assault ABH, 1 bladed article, 1 drug driving, 1 recall to prison, 8 weapons seized.
- Operation Septor (see street weeks also) An event took place on 10th July 17 to raise awareness of knife crime – police conducted visits with identified individuals and awareness raised regarding the knife amnesty bins the town centre were visited and provided with CSE information. Essex Police targeted youths who it already had intelligence on for multiple incidents, to include home visits in an attempt to change behaviours.
- Operation Gallery successfully ran in 2017, with Essex Police, Fire services, Immigration, CBC and HMRC all working together to tackle issues. There were 15 victims of human trafficking revealed. A nail bar was found to have a 16 year old girl in who had been trafficked into the UK - an arrest was made on the owner and girl was safeguarded. Essex Police are planning to run this Operation quarterly. This will be a week of action will also cover any crime that comes into the Police Key Priorities.

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- Operation Make safe successfully delivered the week commencing 10th July 2017 with a focus on modern slavery and CSE. Six nails bars were visited by Essex Police and HMRC resulting in potential issues found at 4 premises, a potential victim of modern slavery was identified (see above), 7 hotels within the town centre were visited and provided with CSE information
- A high profile, 12 hour night of action took place on 27th October 2017, to educate the general public about keeping the town clean and safe with enforcement where necessary. An increased multi agency presence in the town on a busy Friday night was well received by the public and trade alike. Essex Police made 2 arrests for Drunk & Disorderly and Specials/ANPR carried out an operation with taxis working 1500-0300 to issue FPNS: littering (38), urinating and to move on beggars and offer advice on the PSPO. NEPP issued 101 PCN's, the camera car issued 15 other tickets (including parking in taxi rank, driving in bus lanes), the SOS bus assisted 14 persons with medical help, took 2 persons home by minibus and a further 2 to A&E. CBC Zone Wardens were available to speak to businesses regarding the ban of A Boards and educate on business waste. CBC Licensing, Food and Safety and Noise Teams carried out inspections. Joint patrols with RMP provided visible presence. A further night of action is planned for the month of April 2018.
- Street Weeks initiative, a new initiative allowing police to 'listen' to local people and take appropriate action. The first "Street Weeks" event took place in the Monkwick area from the 23rd October. Several partners were involved in the event (Police, One Support, ECFRS, CBH, CBC, Adult Social Care, and C360). The event resulted in over 1000 hits on social media for NHW and 250 likes on Essex Police Facebook page, Intel received from Crimestoppers resulted in evidence for Magistrates relating to Drug offences, ECFRS gave advice to 500 households, 12 people requested information on Special Constables / Active Citizens. The second Streets Weeks initiative, was undertaken in New Town from the 12th February 2018. Door knocking took place two weeks prior to event launch to establish communities' issues. Doors knocked on - over 900 doors Zone Warden Activities Hidden Harm Visits Volunteer Police Cadets, PC – Cadet Leader Eden Quinn, Operation Sceptre (knife crime), Warrants, Media/Social Media e.g. Gazette article regarding Drugs Warrant, Community events e.g. engaged with children outside of the Schools and the use of speed detection equipment. Further Street Weeks operation to be delivered in June 2018.
- Work in partnership with Purple Flag / ATCM / LEG / LAAA2 to promote and contribute to Purple Flag accreditation for the Town Centre. Purple Flag accreditation, run by the ATCM has now ended and Colchester has decided not to reapply for this. CBC are however embedding the principles of Purple Flag into its early evening and night time economy plans through the Licensing Enforcement Group (LEG) and working with the trade. CBC is still part of the Home Office LAAA2 cohort and regularly attends joint seminars to share learning and gain insight from other similar authorities which is proving very useful. CBC is currently working with partners on a new Night Time Economy Plan to take forward into the new 2018 financial year and this will incorporate several projects and schemes from the LAAA work

KEY PRIORITY 2:

To improve community resilience to reduce the threat of vulnerability and exploitation

Targets:

- **Raise awareness of hidden harms (gangs, modern slavery, child sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, night time economy)**
- **Protect and support vulnerable residents at risk of exploitation**
- **Raise awareness of digital and cyber crime**
- **Raise awareness of prevent/counter terrorism**

Outcomes:

- Crucial Crew (Year 6 pupils) was successfully delivered during 5-16 June 2017. 4 Community Safety scenarios were delivered, including ASB, Drugs and Alcohol, Internet Safety/Online Grooming and Fire Safety. 56 schools came for the events totalling 1970 pupils. SCP are currently working with the Colchester Institute and the Essex University Games Hub to design an on line version ('Virtual Crew') to be rolled out in July 2018.
- Essex Police Anti-Slavery Coordinator has delivered 6 awareness raising workshops to professionals
- CARA, in partnership with SCP and Community 360, hosted a conference on sexual violence and child sexual abuse on 6th February 2018 at Firstsite.132 delegates attended the conference, representing a wide range of organisations including Essex Police, Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs), adults and children's social care, the NHS, the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner in Essex, Essex University, Virgin Care and voluntary sector organisations including Barnardo's, Youth Enquiries Service (YES), Beacon House and many others. Several private counsellors and psychotherapists also attended. CARA has evidence that conference has increased understanding of trauma reactions from professional referrals.
- J9 training delivered to multi-agency partners in 2017 including members from SCP. Colchester are now part of the J9 scheme so continue to participate in the J9 programme for victims of domestic abuse.
- PFCC commissioned Gangsline to deliver a 2 year service to 6 districts across Essex – Colchester being 1 of those areas. Gangsline are working with 14-24 age group, those at risk of or affected by gangs. Service will consist of 1-2-1 mentoring, Professionals Training and Schools Awareness sessions/Assemblies. Discussions are ongoing to complete this during 2018 (3 schools and 1 Pupil Referral Unit). 120 Professionals from partner agencies received the Professionals Training in 2017 with further sessions being arranged for 2018 (during June, July, Sept and Oct 2018).
- Maintain and extend the Keep Safe scheme across the borough to reduce the risk of vulnerable people becoming victims of crime The scheme now has approx. 205 vulnerable adults and approx.23 venues. The scheme underwent a county relaunch in 2017 including extending to older people and discussions around introducing a mobile APP. New promotional materials have been produced.
- YSG Commissioned 'Alter ego' to raise awareness of CSE with young people in 5 secondary schools in Colchester via Chelsea's Choice drama piece. YSG also offered 6 adult performances of the drama piece across the county (Stanway School in Sept 2017). Following the drama piece, 20 young people (10 from Colchester) were identified to attend a residential on Risky behaviours.
- Task and Finish Group researching campaigns to raise awareness and educate the public on the issue of begging

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- DRIVE project - A 3 year pilot behaviour change programme for perpetrators of domestic abuse, the programme is to work with priority perpetrators who are not yet part of the Criminal Justice System, began Jan 2016. As of March 2018, there were 87 closed cases for Essex, and 84 open cases.
- Domestic Abuse Awareness Crimestoppers campaign launched August 2017 to help Essex healthcare professionals take action against domestic abuse.
- DWP went ahead with funding for Community Safety Support Officer, to work alongside those individuals deemed as vulnerable or at risk of exploitation from criminal gang activity, from January 2017 – January 2018. CSSO worked with a caseload of chaotic, vulnerable adults who were being criminally exploited, providing them with intensive 121 support. Also to raise awareness of the gangs/county lines issue in Colchester.
- CSSO role has now changed to Safer Communities Officer (January 2018 – March 2019) with the purpose of raising awareness on the issues relating to 'county lines' with [professionals, schools and communities by delivering or commissioning training and awareness sessions. SCO will also act as Gangs/Vulnerability SPOC for Colchester, offering advice of service provision for victims, setting up a directory of services and building a true picture of the issues affecting the borough.
- Essex Youth Offending Service Gangs Team set up the SVEF (Serious Violence and Exploitation Framework) in September; a pilot covering Colchester and Tendring in which names of vulnerable young people and adults are fed into a core group of agencies, who will meet and discuss on a monthly basis and agree appropriate course of action for each case.
- LCAPs revamped and rebranded as LCM's to encourage more public participation. Police to attend 12 meetings per year (1 per month). Public encouraged to attend any LCM, not restricted to local area. LCM's will be reviewed October 2018
- Domestic Abuse awareness raising - social media campaign – supported ECC DA Communications team with the Essex wide campaign in Nov 2017
- CBC Licensing have raised awareness of CSE with Taxi drivers in the borough via the 'I Didn't Know' campaign. Further Taxi driver training is due to be delivered by CBC Licensing in 2018
- MAD (Make a Difference) Days delivered by CBH throughout 2017 to enable CBC tenants to become involved in making a difference to their area and improve their quality of life. Events took place in Tiptree, Greenstead, Shrub End, St Anne's, Old Heath and Berechurch wards.

KEY PRIORITY 3:

To tackle the incidents of high harm, repeat Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Targets:

- **Tackle and raise awareness of hate crime**
- **Tackle repeat youth ASB and low level gangs nuisance**

Utilise ASB tools and powers to tackle high profile issues (aggressive begging, rough sleeping, street drinking, retail crime)

Outcomes:

- Event successfully took place on 12th July 17 to tackle issues of begging and rough sleeping. The day incorporated high visibility, multi-agency patrols (CBC, Police and CBH) to both reassure the public but also signpost and support those individuals identified. 16 rough sleepers and/or beggars were engaged with, a clean-up operation took place and other activities under Operation Gallery took place.
- CHASUP Group (multi agency) – still in operation – names of rough sleepers/beggars discussed in order to establish whether they are in fact homeless or housed and action plans for support put into place.
- Beacon House Ministries were delighted to win the coveted Essex High Sheriffs' Shield recognizing the care and support provided to people who find themselves homeless in the Colchester area.
- Startwell Anti-Social Behaviour Project: CBC's Safer Colchester Partnership is investing in new research that will assist the development of interventions to reduce ASB, improve the life chances of marginal young people, make better use of community assets, and promote inclusive economic growth and prosperity. Two Youth Workers started to engage with young people, via detached youth work, in identified hotspot areas (Town Centre and New Town) in February 2018, build relationships with them, establish their patterns of behaviour and identify any areas of concern. Once relationships have been built with the young people, the Youth Worker's will explore diversionary activities to move them away from their current ASB related activity. University of Essex also have a team of researchers working alongside the project, conducting their own research, which will contribute to the evaluation process. Detached youth work ends July 218, with final evaluation being completed August 2018 and stakeholder conference being arranged for September to showcase findings of the project.
- PSPO for town centre car parks was adopted on 15th May 2017 and will restrict the following activities: Use of the designated areas for anything other than parking vehicles, behaving in a manner that is likely to result in any member of the public being intimidated, harassed, alarmed or distressed, consuming alcohol or using drugs within the designated areas. This follows a high number of complaints to both the Council and the Police from local residents and visitors about anti-social behaviour including: Speeding and loud music playing from vehicles, causing a nuisance and distress, persons gathering to consume alcohol, use drugs, defecating and urinating, wilful damage to car parks and other property within the proposed restricted areas. The PSPO is in place for a period of 3 years.
- The PSPO for Town Centre/Public Realm was adopted 23rd October 2017 following complaints from local residents and visitors about: persons urinating and defecating in places open to the air, persons taking intoxicating substances in places open to the air, persons being intoxicated and incapable, persons begging for money, persons fly-posting, persons distributing free literature, skateboards, scooters and other wheeled vehicles being used in

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pedestrian areas so as to cause nuisance and annoyance, the stationing of advertising boards or other structures being used as such, Persons being intimidating, verbally abusive, blocking access, aggressively shouting, swearing and fighting .

- PSPO East Bay & the Moors area was adopted 14th June 2017 and will restrict the following activities: Any person using the restricted areas for unauthorised camping or human habitation and any person behaving in a manner that is likely to result in any member of the public being intimidated, alarmed, harassed or distressed. The PSPO is on place for a period of 3 years.