

Report title: Essex Police Performance Report – Quarter 3 2019/20	
Report to: Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel	
Report author: Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Roger Hirst	
Date: 13 February 2020	For: Noting and comment
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County Divisions affected: All Essex	

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of Essex Police's progress in delivering the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020, based on data and other information to December 2019.

2. Recommendations

That members of the Panel note and comment / seek clarity as appropriate on the content of the report and attached appendix.

3. Context / Summary

The attached quarterly report, produced by Essex Police and scrutinised at the monthly Performance and Resources Board chaired by the Commissioner, provides highlight reporting against the seven priorities set out in the Plan.

This quarter, highlights with regard to performance include:

- As at the end of 2019, the Special Constabulary was 8.8% larger than at the same time the previous year, with 519 officers compared with 477 in December 2018. These officers contributed a 4% increase in hours during Quarter 3 of 2019/20 compared with the same period in 2018/19. The hours worked by Special Constable are equivalent to having an additional 105 full time officers, who would attract an annual salary cost of £5.4m.
- Membership of Neighbourhood watch continues to grow, with approximately 105,000 registered members and more than 3,000 Coordinators.
- The new Force Control Room Digital Online Team went live in October 2019. The team provides information and intelligence in the initial stages of a critical operation / investigation in cases where digital sources can be exploited.
- Following a successful pilot in the South Local Policing Area (LPA), the new Resolution Centre has been fully open since 1 December 2019, providing a team of investigators based at Essex Police Headquarters which manages less complex crime investigations.

- The first multi-agency Rape Scrutiny Panel was held in November 2019. The Panel comes together to scrutinise individual cases in order to improve performance across agencies.
- Project Goldcrest (an initiative designed collaboratively by Essex Police, the Oakwood Place Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and other partners) is now live. This project enables young people who have been identified as being at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) to take their own forensic samples at home, with someone with parental responsibility (or an appropriate adult) as a witness. Completed kits will be retained by Essex Police for 25 years. If a complainant subsequently comes forward, the kits can be utilised as evidence which otherwise might not be available.
- The Drink Aware project went live in December. As part of this project, a Nightlife crew of two people are located inside licensed premises, circulating with customers to provide support for those who are vulnerable due to alcohol and to promote a positive social atmosphere.
- The Essex Police Victim Navigator has triaged 76 Modern Slavery Human Trafficking (MSHT) crimes since October, offering strategic advice to 21 officers and supporting the victims in relation to issues such as housing, clothing, banking and counselling.
- The Police Online Investigation Team (POLIT) executed 50 search warrants and safeguarded 81 children in October and November 2019. The report attached at Appendix 1 provides greater detail regarding the work of the team and the significant sentences it has helped to secure.
- The network of Hate Incident Reporting Centres (HIRCs) continues to grow. There are now 60 HIRCs countywide with 850 trained volunteers supporting them. So far, the network has facilitated the reporting of 78 hate crimes that otherwise would not have come to the attention of Essex Police. Two volunteers have been recruited to assist the administration of the network to ensure its sustainability.
- There was a 6.7% reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured on Essex roads in Quarter 3 of 2019/20 compared with the same period the previous year, from 223 to 208. However there was a slight increase in the number of these which were fatal, from 13 to 14.

In terms of challenges, drink and drug driving continues to pose a significant threat to the safety of the county, which Essex Police and its partners on the Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP) are being proactive in tackling. There were increases in the number of drink and drug drivers arrested in Quarter 3 of 2019/20 of 22.7% and 38.2% respectively compared the same period in 2018/19.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Police and Crime Plan Quarterly Update – Quarter 3 2019/20