

# Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020

## Quarterly Update

Quarter 4 – 2018/19

*Data to March 2019*



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Performance Analysis Unit, Essex Police

# Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020 – Quarterly Update 2018/19 Q4

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## Priority 1 - More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing

### **We will:**

*Boost community volunteering, encourage the Active Citizen Programme and grow the police family – doubling the Special Constabulary, with a Special Constable in every community.*

- The Special Constable headcount increased from 474 to 516 during the last quarter (42 additional officers). In the last quarter there have been 346 applications to join the Special Constabulary; 60 candidates are currently in pre-employment checks. The #MyOtherLife campaign focused around key sporting dates and Mother's Day.
- In the three months to 31 March 2019, Specials contributed a total of 44,113 hours (a 33% increase on the same period in 2018). The operational contribution over the last three months has amounted to 33,676 hours (a 48% increase). The Specials have recorded 17,514 hours of high visibility policing over this time (a 98% increase). The hours worked by the Special Constabulary across this period was equivalent to having an additional 97 full-time officers, which would attract an annual salary cost of £5.1m.
- Our work to improve and enhance the Employer Supported Policing scheme now has 15 companies committed to providing their staff with paid time off to volunteer as Specials in Essex (13 more than 12 months ago). This has realised a total of 941 hours over the last three months, an increase of 145% from 383 hours in the same period last year. Recently signed-up employers include Southend-on-Sea and Basildon District Councils, British Airways, Lloyds Banking Group, KeyMed and WorldPay. Over the last three months we have received 17 applications for Community Special Constables (CSC) roles.
- We now have 31 Parish or Town Councils signed up to CSCs from across the county.
- Kelvedon Parish Council are currently considering funding CSCs following the success in other areas.
- Southend now has 50 Special Constables, and Leigh Town Council are the first organisation to fund a dedicated Special Constable for their area.
- West Local Policing Area (LPA) has started to use Special Constables in new ways to increase visibility and service to the public. Operation ISOBAR, for example, utilises Special Constables who have been trained by the Children's Society to respond quickly to young missing persons.

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## Priority 1 - More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing

### We will:

*Boost community volunteering, encourage the Active Citizen Programme and grow the police family – doubling the Special Constabulary, with a Special Constable in every community – continued.*

- There are currently 100 Active Citizens/Police Support Volunteers. This is a slight decrease on the last period due to retirement or domestic circumstance. However, there has been an increase in volunteers taking on more than one role within Essex Police, with the average volunteer now performing two different volunteer roles.
- There are currently 297 Volunteer Police Cadets across the 10 Cadet Units. This is a slight decrease on the last period, due to cadets finding employment, moving into higher education or to other opportunities within Essex Police; several Cadets have become Cadet Leaders, Special Constables or full-time staff. New units are opening in early 2019 in Harwich, Uttlesford and Brentwood; this will increase the Cadet cohort to 350.
- A Volunteer Police Cadets scheme in Uttlesford has secured a venue and leaders. This starts in April 2019.
- The number of Active Citizen's in Southend has doubled in the past year (to 24).

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## Priority 1 - More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing

### We will:

*Support increased participation in Neighbourhood Watch, Street Pastors, Active Citizens and Volunteer Police Cadets.*

- Membership of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and other Watch groups continues to grow, with approximately 102,000 members currently registered. New schemes, such as Marine Watch (late Spring 2019) and Horse Watch (Summer 2019), are also being launched.
- NHW has been reinvigorated in Chelmsford & Maldon District. Moulsham now has almost 1,000 new members. Great Baddow and Writtle are also coming on line after the District secured support from local parish and city councillors. The District has reallocated four officers to the rural areas of Maldon and this has resulted in great engagement locally, especially with other support groups such as Horse and Farm Watch initiatives.
- Volunteer Police Cadets (VPCs) in Braintree & Uttlesford have visited Stisted to offer crime prevention advice following a spate of burglaries. They also conducted Vulnerable People, Place, Property & Vehicle checks (4VP) in Great Bardfield, where 24 unlocked vehicles were identified (suitable advice to was subsequently given to the owners of these vehicles).
- The Tendring VPC Unit is regarded as the leading Unit in the county with the lowest drop-out rate across Essex. Applications have recently been opened to create an additional Unit in the Harwich area; there are already 17 applicants for a potential Unit of 30 cadets.
- Operation ELBOW in Basildon utilises NHW, Active Citizens and Street Pastors for joint patrols with Police and partners, along with support for 'pop up' crime prevention events. This is an ongoing operation with times of intensification to support additional demand and anticipation of an increase in demand.
- During the winter period, Southend Special Constabulary completed 1,169 patrols over eight weeks as part of a targeted patrol plan due to increased ASB and acquisitive crime in the three central wards of Milton, Kursaal and Victoria. This led to a huge reduction in reported offences and positive feedback from the public at the central Local Community Meeting (LCM).
- West LPA combined a Volunteer Cadets awards evening with the Command Team Awards for our officers. This enabled the Volunteer Police Cadets to see the bravery and hard work that Police Officers exhibit, and furthered their inspiration to be involved with Police work. Their families were also present, which gave a sense of the 'Police Family' at its best.

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## Priority 1 - More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing

### We will:

*Make it easy to contact the police through 'Do It Online' and improvements to 101 ensuring that the public get a swift and responsive service from the police.*

- In November 2018, a second Inspector (Oscar 2), was added to each team in the Force Control Room (FCR). Part of this officer's duties is to monitor call handling performance in the room. Since being put in place, our grade of service in respect of 101 calls (those calls that are answered within the 60 second target) has risen from 40% in November to 57% in January; the percentage of 101 calls abandoned by the caller has decreased from a little over 19% to 11%.
- During Summer 2019, along with 38 other forces nationally, Essex Police will be moving to the Single Online Home web page. This will introduce new ways that the public can interact with, and report, matters to the Police. One of the new functions will be the use of 'live chat', an online tool whereby members of the public communicate with a call taker by sending typed messages.
- National 999 call answering standards require that each 999 call be answered with 10 seconds of the call being presented by BT. In some cases 999 calls are represented to the call handlers by BT when the call is not answered within 10 seconds. The representation of the call is counted as abandoned when in fact the call has not been terminated. We continue to record an abandoned rate of only 2%.
- 101 calls come into Essex Police via our switchboard where the average wait time for a call to be answered is 5 seconds. These calls are triaged by switchboard staff; at this point, the caller is offered options to report matters online. Essex Police run regular social media campaigns to increase public awareness and encourage the use of our online reporting options.
- The vast majority of the 101 (non emergency) calls are transferred either to the FCR or Crime Bureau (CB). Although there is no national standard by which to measure this 'secondary call handling', Essex Police aim to answer calls into FCR within 60 seconds and CB within five minutes. During wait periods the IVR (Interactive Voice Response) message encourages callers to consider online options or calling back when lines are less busy. Therefore any abandoned calls during this period may be as a result of an alternative contact option being taken as opposed to people hanging up in frustration. Procedural improvements within CB meant that the grade of service (percentage of calls answered within the target time) for calls transferred to CB increased from 19.7% in September 2018 to 52.5% in January 2019.

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## Priority 2 – Crack Down on Anti-social Behaviour

### Working with partners we will:

*Target repeat and high harm anti-social behaviour to protect individuals and communities from distress and disruption.*

- Braintree District Council have recently secured £43,404 from the Department for Work and Pensions for a Prolific Offender Caseworker. This Caseworker will be employed for one year to work with a cohort of 10 individuals. The Community Policing Team (CPT) are already tied into this and work closely under the Community Safety Partnership. This Caseworker is part of Operation INTERACT (Homeless engagement); the Homeless Reduction Act 2017 does not take account of single persons or those with complex needs, so the Caseworker will fill this void.
- In Chelmsford & Maldon, Project ENLIGHTENMENT was established. 13 key school across the District now have nominated Community Partnership Team (CPT) Constables and Police Community Support Officers who are engaged in various programs within schools to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and gang related offending.
- The Haredi community on Canvey Island were targeted with persistent ASB by persons unknown. Police conduct regular visits to victims and synagogue; there is also joint working with the Community Security Trust (CST). Good working relationships have consequently been formed, and the problem has abated.
- An Essex Police Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, who worked closely with the Local Policing Team and the East of England Ambulance Service, has obtained the first five year Criminal Behaviour Order against a defendant for assaulting an Emergency Service Worker (a paramedic).
- In Southend, Essex Police worked with Southend Borough Council to conduct a highly successful pilot of six temporary Community Safety Officers, who are employed by the council. These officers are empowered to issue Community Protection Warnings and Notices, and deal with ASB in the High Street. They have now been made permanent, and work alongside the CPT in the Southend Community Safety Hub.
- In response to ongoing issues of vandalism, drugs and ASB reported by staff at Maitland House, a Community Action Group (CAG) set up a multi-agency task and finish group to agree an action plan. This resulted in new anti-vandal smoking bins being installed, and increased patrols. Personal safety training has also been provided for staff at the premises, and there is a plan to increase CCTV coverage and street lighting, as well as connecting Maitland Security to the town link radio system.
- Teams in Castle Point & Rochford have made effective use of Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) to effectively constrain local criminals after sentencing at Court. The team have successfully applied for six CBOs in the last 12 months, and enforce these as part of regular patrols.

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## Priority 3 – Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Abuse (DA)

**Working with and through the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board to deliver an ambitious programme of transformation we will:**

*Support victims and their families affected by domestic abuse to feel safe, cope and recover through targeted help and jointly commissioned services; and tackle offending behaviour through robust behaviour change programmes to break the cycle of domestic abuse.*

- Crime & Public Protection (C&PP) Command continue work on the national Cross Criminal Justice System (CJS) Domestic Abuse (DA) Best Practice Framework, which involves a continued partnership approach to develop the DA Best Practice Implementation Plan. CPS have started working with the Essex Police College to deliver training to specialist DA investigators on Operation JUNO teams. This provides the opportunity to discuss best practice, legislation updates and the criminal justice process with the ultimate aim of improving prosecution outcomes. Monthly partnership meetings are held to discuss the plan and the development of an action matrix and risk register.
- Utilising the Stalking & Harassment Protocol, C&PP Command continue to develop an implementation plan. This has resulted in a review of the stalking training delivered to Operation JUNO teams, and the introduction of a SPOC for early consultation with CPS in stalking investigations; the aim is to achieve more consistent performance in the identification, investigation and prosecution of offences.
- C&PP Command are also working with the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board (SETDAB) to deliver partnership training events on Stalking & Harassment. Four events are arranged throughout April, May and June 2019. Essex Police will present on the barriers and issues identified when trying to bring charges and prosecutions. This is an opportunity for Essex Police to further build relationships with partners and increase awareness around the difficulties encountered during investigations.
- Essex Police officers and staff will attend the drop-in events for the single point of access to support victims of DA across Southend, Essex and Thurrock; these have been commissioned by Essex County Council and PFCC from 1 April 2019. Officers and staff will meet providers and obtain information on available services in their local area in order that victims can receive the most appropriate support.
- In January 2019, the Home Office published 'The economic and social costs of domestic abuse'. Officers in the Strategic Centre are members of the Employers Initiative on DA (EIDA), which is a network of companies and public sector organisations who provide information for employers and help them support employees subject to DA or those who are perpetrators. Essex Police has a policy on DA Involving Police Personnel including a 'Domestic Abuse Toolkit' to provide awareness and support to Essex Police employees. Essex Police are working to encourage partner agencies through SETDAB to also become members of the EIDA.



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- The co-location of Central Referral Unit (CRU) with Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) at County Hall has been agreed and estates are working towards achieving this before the end of 2019. Co-location will provide greater resilience and better opportunities for partnership working, including information sharing on victims of Domestic Abuse (DA) and Honour Based Abuse (HBA).
- Operation COLUMBUS will be launched in April 2019. This operation will focus on those cases discussed by Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Teams (MARAT) to divert or identify investigative opportunities to address offending.
- In North Local Policing Area (LPA), a new 'Victim Centric' approach has been introduced. DA teams have applied this, educating first responders and investigating officers about key issues including victim psychology, victim needs and alternative methods of support. This approach seeks to offer greater victim contact and support throughout the Criminal Justice Process.
- Operation ENCOMPASS will be piloted in Southend in September 2019. Under this operation, first responders will submit an 'Encompass' referral to schools on children directly or indirectly affected by domestic abuse. This will enable schools to monitor that child's behaviour and tailor their approach to any behavioural changes – disengagement in class, disruptive behaviour, tiredness, increased absenteeism – in order to support that child from a more informed position, thereby enabling them to receive the best education possible. The Southend District Commander has delivered a number of presentations to primary and secondary school Head Teachers, and almost 30 schools are willing to participate in the pilot.

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## Priority 4 – Reverse the Trend in Serious Violence

### Working with partners we will:

*Bring violent offenders to justice through targeted police enforcement, working closely with neighbouring forces such as the Metropolitan Police.*

- Operation CROMWELL is a murder investigation which took place in February in Colchester, whereby the known suspect fled Essex and travelled into London. The Metropolitan Police Service subsequently supported Essex Police in locating the suspect in London and arrested them. The suspect has been charged with Murder and is due to stand trial later this year.
- Operation CEDAR was an investigation into ATM attacks across the Eastern and South Eastern Regions which took place between 24 March 2018 and 5 March 2019. The Organised Crime Group (OCG) involved attacked Police when confronted and put members of the public at risk when driving at extremely high speeds during the commission of offences. It is estimated that this OCG caused over £1,000,000 worth of damage/thefts between these dates. On 5 March 2019, an arrest phase was completed in Essex and seven persons were arrested; these suspects have been charged and remanded for conspiracy to commit burglary other than a dwelling, conspiracy to commit burglary dwelling and conspiracy to commit theft of motor vehicles.
- Operational ALBATROSS involved making Tendring a hostile place for drug dealers by speaking to young people about the dangers of knives, gangs and county lines, searching more people, vehicles and houses for drugs and weapons, and quickly locking up the perpetrators of this violence.
- A 'Police Now' Graduate Scheme Officer '100 Day Impact Project' aims to reduce serious violent crime and improve engagement with young people on the Percy King Estate in Clacton-On-Sea. Work will be conducted with the Community Safer Partnership and other relevant stakeholders whilst utilising the wider policing family to bridge the gaps in local resourcing by working closely with other departments including Operation RAPTOR, the Intelligence Department and the Proactive Team.
- Chelmsford & Maldon C Shift have been recognised by the National Police Chief's Council with a national award for response team of the year. The District focus on hotspot areas and local intelligence, and regularly complete more than 150 stop searches per month.

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## Priority 4 – Reverse the Trend in Serious Violence

### Working with partners we will:

*Bring violent offenders to justice through targeted police enforcement, working closely with neighbouring forces such as the Metropolitan Police – continued.*

- In the North Local Policing Area (LPA), the Operation RAPTOR team worked with Serious Crime Directorate (SCD), Eastern Region Special Operations Unit and the Metropolitan Police Service to disrupt County Drug Lines (CDLs) and gangs, supporting the National Crime Agency intensification week in January. It was named Operation SURVEY. Three specific CDL identified as posing the highest risk of harm were targeted. A warrant was successfully executed with a key individual arrested, a CDL handset recovered and cash seized. The objective to disrupt and create a hostile environment to County Line organisers was therefore met.
- Operation SMUGGLER was a response to a murder and stabbing within Colchester and an increase of violent crimes in Tendring. Tactics included working with external partners, as well as internal directorates, such as SCD, Operational Policing Command (OPC) and the LPAs to maximise proactive capability over a dedicated period. In a three week period, 54 people were arrested, 13 search warrants were executed and 600 residents were spoken to; this resulted in more than 160 pieces of information. 136 stop and searches were also conducted; this resulted in 46 people being dealt with for offences including possession of knives and drugs.
- A Violence & Vulnerability Perpetrator Management Group has been created by the Southend District Commander. This group is an information sharing meeting that brings Criminal Justice agencies – HM Prisons, Youth Offending Service, Probation, Community Rehabilitation Company, Essex Police – together to review all information held on the agencies' data systems in relation to gangs, CDLs and DA offenders. This is in order that the group can then identify the highest harm suspects and vulnerable victims, and then decide on which of the group's resources and activity should focus.

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## Priority 4 – Reverse the Trend in Serious Violence

### Working with partners we will:

*Ensure victims of rape and sexual violence receive the help and support they need, and work with criminal justice partners to ensure that perpetrators are convicted.*

- The Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVAs) are now in place. Every victim of rape will speak to an ISVA within 24 hrs of reporting. Essex is the only force in the UK doing this. The aim is to provide the victim with appropriate support at the outset of an investigation and to support victims' continued engagement throughout the investigation process.
- Essex Police is creating a public-facing webpage to provide information for victims detailing the service they will receive from Essex Police in terms of investigation, safeguarding and welfare, as well as police processes. Partners will also be able to signpost their services users to this resource. It is hoped this will improve victim attrition in rape cases.
- Detective Chief Inspectors will be completing monthly dip sampling of sexual offence investigations with particular focus on the frequency and quality of updates to victims. This activity will ensure consistency of victim support and provide compliance with the Victims Code.
- Meetings have been arranged between Essex Police, CPS East and the Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) Unit to discuss and agree a way forward to increase the number of charges for rape and sexual violence.
- Operation CENSOR is a fortnightly multi-agency meeting to identify children most at risk of criminal exploitation. A business case was approved for an additional sergeant post in Southend Community Policing Team (CPT) to enable a 'vulnerability team' to be formed. This team attend Operation CENSOR meetings and have bespoke 4P plans on each identified child to support, engage and safeguard them.

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## Priority 5 – Tackle Gangs and Organised Crime

### Working with partners we will:

*Support victims of human trafficking and modern slavery including sexual exploitation working closely with UK Border Agency (UKBA), National Crime Agency (NCA) and national and regional partners to bring perpetrators to justice*

- Significant modelling work has been undertaken during the scoping phase of the Serious Crime Directorate (SCD) review programme, the results of which were approved at a Joint Chief Officer Group meeting. The proposals included the restructuring of many elements within the Directorate. As a result, a dedicated Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking team were commissioned and now form part of the Serious Organised Crime Unit. SCD have conducted a recruitment process for the staff to fill the posts and are now working with the Force Resourcing Panel to secure the early release of these staff. Additional resources have also been requested to supplement this team via the precept growth for the 2019/2020 financial year.
- Operation AIDANT is a regional focus on a variety of facets of exploitation. Essex Police conducted a week of action between 28 January and 1 February 2019, whereby several joint agency visits (Essex Police, Child Protection teams and Immigration officers) were conducted at addresses across Essex. This week of action resulted in the identification of 11 potential victims and nine arrests for immigration offences, trafficking offences and criminal exploitation offences.
- Between 1 January 2019 and 27 March 2019, 84 modern slavery / human trafficking offences were reported in Essex, with 64 referrals being submitted in to the National Referral Model for safeguarding. The investigations this calendar year have led to five arrests.

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## Priority 5 – Tackle Gangs and Organised Crime

### Working with partners we will:

*Disrupt and prevent organised drug distribution through improved intelligence shared between the police, partners and local communities to limit the harm drugs cause.*

- Operation SURVEY was a multi-force operation (Essex Police, Kent Police and the Metropolitan Police Service) focussing on the targeting of County Drug Lines (CDLs). In January 2019, nine warrants were executed across Essex against four CDLs; this resulted in 10 arrests. Two drug line phones and a quantity of cash and drugs were seized during the strike phase.
- Operation SAND was a joint Essex and Metropolitan Police Service operation whereby warrants were executed in Aveley, Essex overnight on 26 March 2019. 70 containers were searched, and this resulted in the recovery of three AK47 assault rifles, a sub machine gun, two shotguns, one revolver, one self-loading pistol, hundreds of rounds of ammunition and twenty two grenades. A large number of stolen cars, several kilos of Class A drugs and a Cannabis farm were also seized.
- In Southend, Operation RAPTOR are co-located within the Community Safety Hub as part of a pilot initiative. The team consists of one sergeant and four Constables. The benefits of this pilot are evident with timely sharing of information and increased level of partnership working. RAPTOR working closely with South Essex Homes and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council Community Safety Team have, for example, achieved a number of partial closure orders protecting vulnerable individuals from CDLs.
- The Castle Point & Rochford Proactive Team have made multiple arrests, seized large quantities of Cannabis and Cocaine, and seized over £4,000 in criminally acquired cash in the past 12 months. These results have come from both criminals living within the Districts and individuals who visit from elsewhere to deal drugs.
- The C17 gang injunction continues to be used to great effect in Thurrock with new members of the gang being added to the injunction when appropriate. Enforcement of the injunction has seen a number of arrests.
- A recent operation against an OCG in Harlow saw nine arrests for serious offences across Kent, Essex, and Hertfordshire.
- West LPA has had an Intelligence Officer from Hertfordshire Police embedded alongside the Harlow Intelligence Team to ensure closer working and intelligence-sharing to help us bring offenders to justice swiftly and efficiently.

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## Priority 6 – Protecting Children and Vulnerable People

**Working with safeguarding partners and the Southend, Thurrock and Essex Safeguarding Boards we will:**

*Bring more perpetrators of rape and sexual abuse to justice.*

- Essex Police is launching a DRINK AWARE initiative to deliver vulnerability training to night time economy venues in Essex. Funding has been obtained from the NHS and Office for the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to support this. Rollout will begin Essex-wide in May 2019. The initiative is designed to support those who work in the night time economy with training to help them identify vulnerability and respond appropriately and effectively in such situations.
- Essex Police is developing a new Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) team to work with partners around child exploitation. The new team will be a dedicated resource, and it is hoped they will become operational in April 2019.
- The Quest team have now been implemented. This specialist team will deal with non-recent offences of child sexual abuse.

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## Priority 6 – Protecting Children and Vulnerable People

**Working with safeguarding partners and the Southend, Thurrock and Essex Safeguarding Boards we will:**

*Improve reporting of hate incidents through improved community engagement and greater use of Hate Incident Reporting Centres.*

- Essex Police have introduced a form HC5 for use by partners and police to refer high risk cases (or repeat and vulnerable victims who are not high risk) to a Multi-Agency Risk Management Conference (MARAC). This will allow for a co-ordinated multi-agency response to ensure a wider range of options are considered to meet the needs of victims.
- A Hate Crime Strategy for Essex has now been published, having been agreed by all members of the Strategic Hate Crime Partnership (SHCP). This strategy will run from 2018 - 2021 and includes an action plan with one of the key strategic themes to increase the reporting of hate crime. Essex Police has seen an increase in reporting of hate crime by 464 reports (21.7%) in 2018/19 compared with 2017/18. The increase includes reporting of disability hate crime by 98 reports (44%) in 2018/19 compared with 2017/18.
- Essex Police, as members of the Strategic Hate Crime Partnership (SHCP), are working to deliver improved hate crime training to officers and staff. Continual Professional Development training events are planned for 2019 and will include inputs from victims, the Crown Prosecution Service, support groups and hate crime experts.
- North Local Policing Area (LPA) have now appointed a Hate Crime Officer (HCO) to provide oversight and consistency to the response to hate crime in the area.
- A new HIRC in Tendring is due to be set up in the Town Hall, Clacton in the next few months.
- Basildon District, along with Basildon Council, have initiated training to Council agency workers to identify and recognise hate incidents in order to provide support and greater reporting for victims.
- Community Action Group (CAG) is chaired every six weeks by the Southend District Commander and involves all key statutory agencies and stakeholders from the Voluntary Sector. Hate Crime is an agenda item, and is an example of where a task & finish group, led by Health, was set up in order to put in place a support & care plan for a vulnerable hate crime victim with mental health problems.



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## Priority 6 – Protecting Children and Vulnerable People

**Working with safeguarding partners and the Southend, Thurrock and Essex Safeguarding Boards we will:**

*Improve reporting of hate incidents through improved community engagement and greater use of Hate Incident Reporting Centres – continued.*

- Castle Point & Rochford have a dedicated arrangement in place with Rochford Mental Health Unit whereby the police can respond swiftly and proportionately to arising issues. Similarly, the police's close relationship with the local Voluntary Sector ensures anyone who shows signs of vulnerability (such as drug use, alcohol issues, behavioural factors, or other issues within the home environment) can be adopted and they can access the long term help they need.
- Police station open days in Harlow and Grays have seen members from a range of communities come into stations to gain a better understanding of what we do and how we can support them. This has included members of the Polish community in Harlow and BME communities in Thurrock.

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## Priority 7 – Improve Safety on our Roads

**Working with Safer Essex Roads Partnership we will:**

*Reduce the numbers of people killed or seriously injured on our roads through the work of the multi-agency Safer Essex Roads Partnership on enforcement, engagement and education.*

- In the last quarter it is estimated that there was a slight decrease in the number of Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) casualties, while fatalities have gone up. Due to upgrades being made to the national CRASH system operated by the Department for Transport (DfT), however, we are currently unable to provide exact figures. It is expected that we will have access to this data within the next month.
- During this quarter, Safer Essex Roads Partnership has delivered 11 Surround a Town Road safety operations; these involve a combination of enforcement and education to target road safety issues. Further extensive planning work has been completed for the 2019/20 financial year, including 48 Surround the Town days. There will also be a further 80 designated road safety road checks throughout the year.
- There has been a continued proportional increase in the number of drug driving arrests in this quarter. Since December, Essex Police have arrested more drug drivers than drink drivers each month; this has also been seen nationally by those forces who are actively drug-wiping individuals suspected of driving under the influence of cannabis/cocaine. In the last quarter, 376 drink drivers have been arrested compared to 445 drug drivers, with a further 93 people failing to provide for drink/drug driving.
- During this quarter there have been 96 deployments to improve road safety and tackle criminality using our roads. This has resulted in 3,841 vehicles stopped, 156 arrests and 43 vehicle seizures. This activity has further led to 19,431 road safety educational courses delivered to offenders.
- Safer Essex Roads Partnership volunteers received training from Road Safety Support around the use of mobile speed detection to enable them to enforce on behalf of Essex Police. This is believed to be the first project of its kind in the country. This will go live operationally in the next quarter.
- Operation NUCLEUS, which aims to tackle the significant rise in KSIs on the M11 corridor, has been developed. This operation has been part-funded by Highways England, and will involve a mixture intelligence-led overt and unmarked patrols. It is forecast to run for six months with a three month review.