

## **Annex A**

### **People in Essex live in safe communities and are protected from harm**

#### **The story behind the strategy**

Our strategy to support this outcome gives us a clear opportunity to rethink how we respond to the challenge of safe communities whilst protecting the people from harm. We have identified three themes that will help us to deliver this goal, and to prevent problems by intervening earlier. The first theme will ensure vulnerable people are safe. Secondly, the next focus is to ensure that people live in safe communities. Finally, to ensure that people are safe on Essex roads. ECC will deliver services that address some of these issues. However, many of these issues require us to work in partnership with other public, private and voluntary sector organisations to ensure people and communities are safe.

#### Vulnerable people are safe

The Care Act 2014 widens the responsibility for safeguarding adults and children beyond the care system to wider ECC and public services, including the built environment, housing, health, employment, welfare, police and prison services and the wider community. It requires a joined up partnership response. ECC has made significant progress in reducing the number of children in care and subject to child protection plans in recent years. Due to our success, we have been able to target services at the harder to help and increasingly are able to undertake preventative work to reduce care needs. We will continue to deliver high quality and timely services to children in need.

#### People live in safe communities

We want to ensure that people live in safe communities. The level of crime and anti-social behaviour is low in Essex, which is among the top five safest local authority areas in the country. Despite this, many people do not feel safe (after dark). We need to understand why people do not feel safer in such a safe place. The Safer Essex Partnership is driving our shared response forward. We will work with partners to address the causes of crime and to develop innovative solutions to reduce offending and re-offending. Prevention activities could reduce hospital admissions.

Reducing domestic abuse is a key aim. This crime impacts on adults and children, but particularly women. ECC will continue to work with partners to develop a shared understanding of domestic abuse, to find new ways to make it easier for victims and residents to report abuse and neglect, and to develop services that prevent and reduce the incidents of domestic abuse in Essex. This will include education and support in schools on understanding and developing “healthy relationships”.

Trading Standards makes a significant contribution to reducing crime as well as keeping vulnerable people safe. We will do preventative work to reduce doorstep crime, which targets older people and vulnerable people repeatedly leading to significant financial losses.

### People are safe on Essex roads

Essex roads are getting safer, the number of people killed or seriously injured on Essex roads (KSI) has decreased significantly since 2006 to 572 in 2013. Through the Essex Casualty Reduction Board, we will continue to deliver targeted education and traffic enforcement activities that will enable us to meet our 2020 target five years early in 2015. We are keen to maintain this downward trend.

<b>Vulnerable people are safe (Children's Safeguarding)</b>		
<b>What are the issues we need to consider?</b>	<b>What is our ambition?</b>	<b>What are our plans for achieving this ambition?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic abuse, mental health and drink/drug abuse are a common risk factors leading to children being taken into care or becoming subject to a child protection plan.</li> <li>There is higher proportion of 10-15 and 16-17 year olds in care in Essex than other age groups, with an increase in entries at 14+.</li> </ul>	<p>We will keep children safe, by ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>care is available on the basis of need;</li> <li>children are supported with the right care at the right time;</li> <li>early intervention and prevention services will reduce the number of children requiring care services;</li> <li>families are supported to become more resilient;</li> <li>the time that children are in care is reduced through effective interventions; and</li> <li>sustainable and safe placements are achieved for more children in care.</li> </ul>	<p>We plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>work with families to address the causal factors that resulted in the issue of a child protection plan to ensure children can live in a safe and secure environment;</li> <li>work with partners and communities to facilitate safe and sustainable resettlement of children leaving care;</li> <li>accelerate the process of supporting children to leave care and (re-)integrate into families and society permanently and safely; and</li> <li>understand and identify why there is a higher proportion of 10-15 and 16-17 year olds in care in Essex and what interventions could be implemented once causality is identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Vulnerable people are safe (Adult Safeguarding)</b>		
<b>What are the issues we need to consider?</b>	<b>What is our ambition?</b>	<b>What are our plans for achieving this ambition?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Care Act 2014 introduces new statutory requirements, which require</li> </ul>	<p>We will keep adults safe, by ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all partners will take responsibility for safeguarding local people of all ages;</li> </ul>	<p>We plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>develop new overarching indicators that respond to the requirements of the</li> </ul>

<p>proactive, holistic, partnership based responses from all services, not just the care system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to support the development of a sustainable care market; and deliver best value and social value in commissioning services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the commissioning of all local services will consider how to protect vulnerable people and how to contribute to community wellbeing;</li> <li>we consider social value as well as best value in the commissioning of services for vulnerable people; and</li> <li>to create a fully functioning care market, integrating health and social care, that ensures that vulnerable people are protected.</li> </ul>	<p>Care Act;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>work closely through the Safeguarding Adults Board to develop the partnership's commissioning response to the Care Act emphasising early intervention and prevention; and</li> <li>improve market development to deliver sustainable solutions.</li> </ul>
<b>People live in Safe Communities</b>		
<b>What are the issues we need to consider?</b>	<b>What is our ambition?</b>	<b>What are our plans for achieving this ambition?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local people want low levels of crime</li> <li>Victims of crime do not receive the support they need.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic abuse is a key problem and needs to be reduced. Abuse and</li> </ul>	<p>To ensure people live in safe communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essex will continue to have low levels of crime;</li> <li>Essex will reduce and support the victims of crime;</li> </ul>	<p>We plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an integrated approach to commissioning to support the delivery of our outcomes;</li> <li>Support and influence partners and communities to deliver services that: tackle the causes of crime rather than simply focus on types of crime; support victims of crime; tackle the causes of anti-social behaviour through diversionary activities, education &amp; outreach to young people &amp; adults;</li> </ul>

<p>neglect of adults and children is under-reported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of people who don't feel safe after dark in Essex is higher than our low crime levels would suggest.</li> <li>• Deprivation, unemployment, drug and alcohol misuse, and low skills and aspirations can contribute to offending and re-offending. What can we do to enable offenders to become productive members of society, whilst delivering wider societal benefits.</li> <li>• We are keen to reduce hospital admissions of adults and children and young people related to crime, anti-social behaviour and road safety.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex residents will feel able to report domestic abuse leading to early intervention and prevention. Essex will reduce the incidence of domestic abuse. Young people will be educated and supported to understand and develop "healthy relationships";</li> <li>• Essex residents will be more aware of Essex's low crime rate and will feel safer after dark.</li> <li>• we need to understand the causes of crime and re-offending better;</li> <li>• Essex will have reduced re-offending and will be seen as an innovator in transforming rehabilitation;</li> <li>• Essex residents will be more engaged in finding solutions to crime and disorder problems, they will engage in volunteering and will be supportive neighbours; and</li> <li>• with regard to this outcome, Essex will understand the causes of hospital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve services to prevent and reduce domestic abuse by identifying risk early, a single point of contact, prevention through education and support to young people on "healthy relationships", and improved services for victims;</li> <li>• Understand why people and communities do not feel safe and develop targeted interventions with partners and communities to address this goal;</li> <li>• Re-assure Essex communities in relation to Crime Reduction and Community Safety;</li> <li>• Research the causal factors driving offending and re-offending to inform our commissioning intentions;</li> <li>• Transform rehabilitation and resettlement services;</li> <li>• Consider the feasibility of using social finance/invest to save models to support interventions to reduce offending and re-offending;</li> <li>• Engage people to increase volunteering, participation and active citizenship around the community safety agenda (eg through Safer Essex); and</li> <li>• Improve data collection to understand the pattern of hospital admissions to</li> </ul>
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	admissions, will work with the NHS to prevent hospital admissions, and will reinvest savings to the NHS in further prevention interventions.	inform the reinvestment of savings into preventative initiatives; to tackle the causes rather than the symptoms.
<b>People are safe on Essex roads</b>		
<b>What are the issues we need to consider?</b>	<b>What is our ambition?</b>	<b>What are our plans for achieving this ambition?</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A significant number of people are killed and seriously injured on Essex Roads.</li> <li>• The number of people that are slightly injured on Essex roads remains is twice as high as we would like it to be.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some residents do not feel that Essex roads are safe.</li> </ul>	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• continue to have safe roads by minimising the number of people killed or seriously injured;</li> <li>• reduce the number of people who are slightly injured on Essex roads; and</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure that Essex residents will feel safer on Essex roads.</li> </ul>	<p>We plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• further develop the proactive preventative approach to road safety through education, enforcement, outreach &amp; local community action focusing on the main causal factors of people who are killed or seriously injured (e.g. seatbelt wearing, mobile phone use, careless driving, speed, inexperience, inattention, etc.);</li> <li>• deliver data led priorities to reactively reduce serious collisions, by influencing decisions and spend of Essex Casualty Reduction Board partners to maximise collective impact;</li> <li>• through the Essex Casualty Reduction Board, we will deliver a joint communications strategy and will aim to raise the profile of road safety activity and the new road safety partnership;</li> <li>• undertake research to understand why people and communities do not feel that Essex roads are safe and develop targeted interventions with partners and communities to address this.</li> </ul>
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