



6 June 2011

Essex Police Authority

Report of meeting held on 5 September 2011 (For information)

1. Chief Constable's Report

A full copy of the Chief Constable's Quarterly Report for the period 1 April to 30 June 2011 is contained in our meeting's agenda and further copies are available on our website at www.essex.police.uk/authority

The Chief Constable informed us that:

- Crime in Essex continues to fall. For the first three months of 2011/12, Essex Police recorded 784 fewer crimes compared to the same period in 2010/11. This represents a 2.9% reduction in total crime. There were fewer offences of vehicle crime, criminal damage, dwelling burglary, serious violence, assault with less serious injury and racially aggravated.
- In terms of solving crime, the force achieved a cumulative solved rate of 32.5% for the first three months of 2011/12. This represents a 1.1% point increase compared to the same period last year.
- There have also been 2,450 fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded in the first three months of 2011/12 compared to the same period in 2010/11 which represents a reduction of 12.5%.
- The force is ranked second in our Most Similar Forces (MSF) group¹ for crimes per head of population (i.e. the second lowest crime rate) for the period April to June 2011.
- Seven organised crime groups have either been disrupted or dismantled between April and June 2011 compared to four in the same period in 2010.
- Under the Proceeds of Crime Act the force has more than doubled the value of seizures this year from April to June - £577,203 compared to £266,568 for the same period last year.
- The number of suppliers of class A drugs who have been charged between April and June 2011 in Essex has increased by 121.1% compared to the same period 2010, from 19 to 42.
- April to June 2011 saw 62 fewer people being killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions when compared to the same period in 2010, which represents a 27.6% reduction.

¹ The 2010/11 MSF group for Essex includes Avon & Somerset, Cambridgeshire, Devon & Cornwall, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent and Leicestershire. The ranking refers to Essex position within the MSF group.

- Satisfaction results for ease of contact are also monitored and remain high. The end of quarter results show that 94.0% (margin of error +/- 2.3%) of respondents to the user satisfaction questionnaire stated they were satisfied.
- Force actual strength as of 30th June 2011 was:
 3523 Police Officers
 1912 Police Staff
 400 PCSOs
 584 Special Constables
- The Reform Programme continues to develop the new operational policing 'Blueprint' with a view to implementation by March 2012.

Cllr Anthony Jackson
 Chairman of the Authority and the person
 appointed by the Police Authority to answer
 questions at meetings of the County Council relating
 to the discharge of the Authority's functions.

Note:

The Essex Police Authority is an independent governing body whose job it is to support, oversee and constructively challenge the work of Essex Police. It is our responsibility to set strategy, provide funds for policing and oversee performance. We act as a link between the public and the police service, ensuring that anyone who may visit, live or work in Essex receives an efficient and effective police service.

We are a group of 17 local people who hold the police to account, making sure the chief constable delivers a police service which balances both national strategic priorities and the concerns of local people. We appoint the chief constable and other senior officers and check on complaints against the police.

We set the strategic direction of local policing and hold the police budget. We consult with local communities to find out what they want from local policing and set the police council tax to ensure they obtain value for money. We publish an annual plan based on public consultation, setting out services the force should deliver and targets it should achieve.

Essex Police Authority has one of the lowest Band D Council Tax precepts of the 35 English and Welsh 'shire forces'.

We have a legal duty to promote equalities and good relations between different groups of people and encourage representatives from all sections of the community to apply to become a member.