

Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024

Report on Survey Findings

September 2021



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Introduction

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) for Essex is developing the Police and Crime Plan for the next three years. This is a strategic document that sets out the PFCC's vision and priorities for policing and crime reduction in Essex. The plan is the basis on which the PFCC holds the Chief Constable to account in terms of performance, provides funding for services such as Victim Support or Community Safety Partnerships and works with community organisations. Once agreed, the Chief Constable will use its vision and priorities to inform the force plan for Essex Police and wider objectives will be pursued through commissioning and partnership work.

Importantly, the Police and Crime Plan will focus on bringing to life the Commissioner's Manifesto, which was endorsed through the recent election, and delivering what people want from policing and community safety in Essex.

The PFCC's previous Police and Crime Plans have made a difference in Essex. A commitment to local, visible, accessible policing has led to an extra 500 police officers in Essex with 300 more to come, investment in policing teams for the town centres, rural and

business communities, and an increase in the Special Constabulary – which are just some examples.

The Plan has also informed funding decisions helping the PFCC to fund organisations, including many faith-based organisations, that deliver important projects focused on community safety, reducing violence and support our young people.

Residents in Essex were asked for their views on the proposed priorities in the Police and Crime Plan, and the 'We Will' statements that sit under each one, and whether residents think they are important. This was done via an online survey which was live between 6th and 19th September 2021. The total number of respondents to the survey was 1,515.

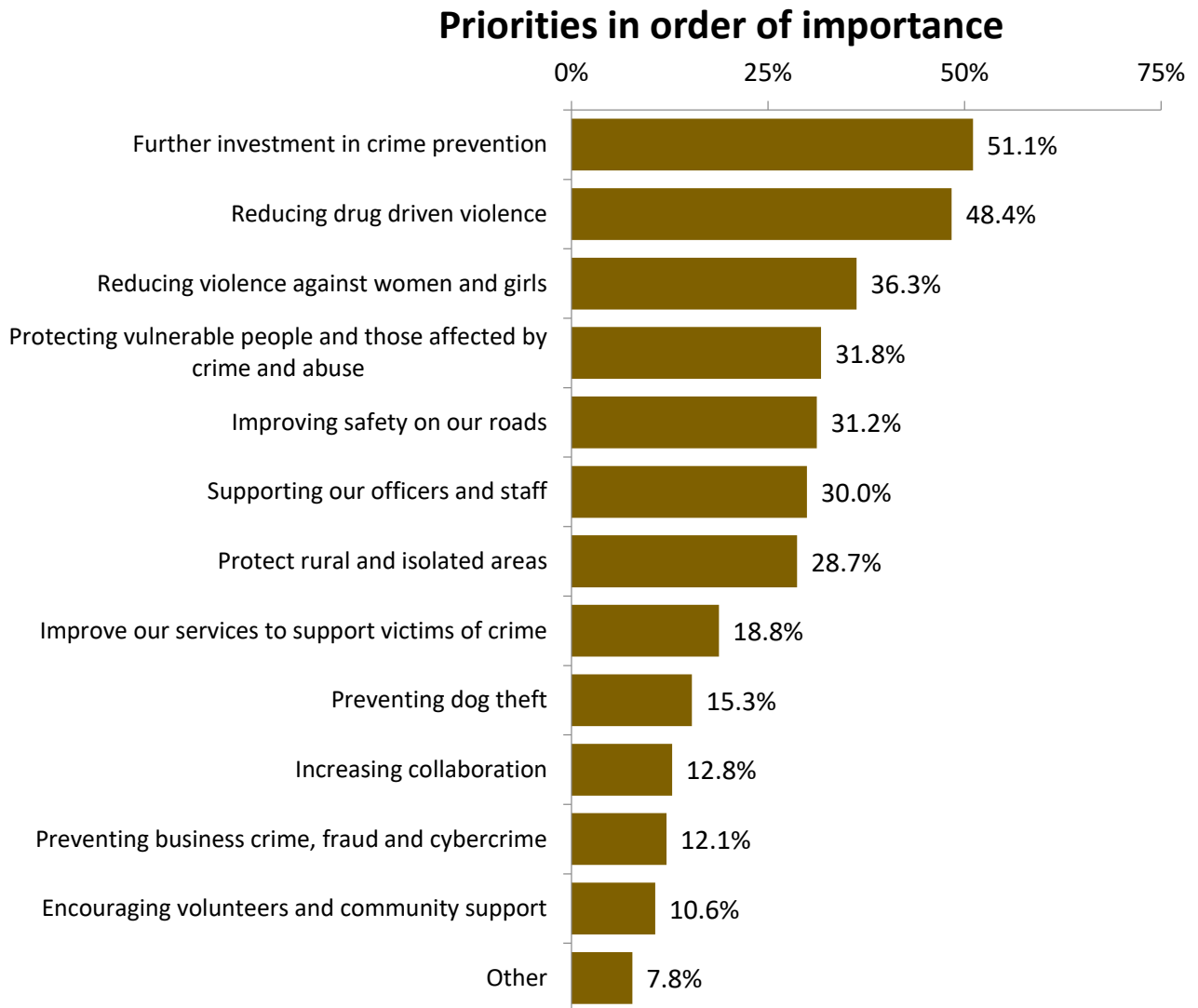
Key Findings

- The priorities given the highest order of importance by respondents were further investment in crime prevention and reducing drug driven violence, followed by reducing violence against women.
- The priorities with the highest level of agreement were supporting officers and staff, reducing violence against women and reducing drug driven violence where over 60% of respondents strongly agreed with the priority.
- The majority of respondents agreed with the We Will statements, although 10-15% disagreed with seven statements under improving safety on our roads, three under increasing collaboration, three under further investment in crime prevention, one under reducing drug driven violence, one under improving services to support victims of crime, one under encouraging volunteers and community support, and one under protecting rural areas (where in addition, 30% disagreed with the We Will “Support the development of a transit site for temporary accommodation for travellers”).
- A range of comments were made, mainly about specific points under each priority. However, across all of the priorities, there were a number of comments about the need for more police visibility or presence, more police officers, or the return of community/neighbourhood policing.

Detailed Findings

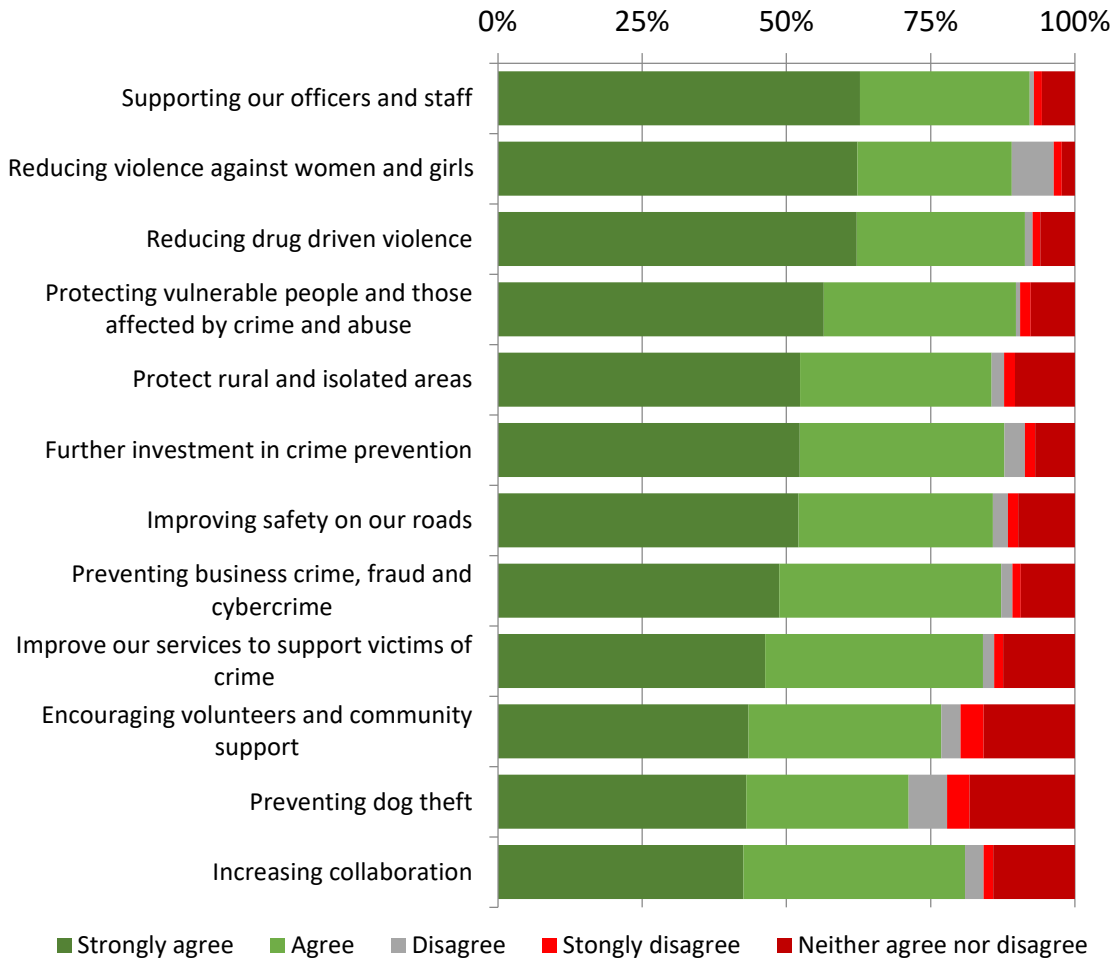
Importance of priorities

Respondents to the survey were asked which three of the 12 priorities are the most important to them. The priorities given the highest order of importance by respondents were further investment in crime prevention and reducing drug driven violence.



Agreement with overall priorities

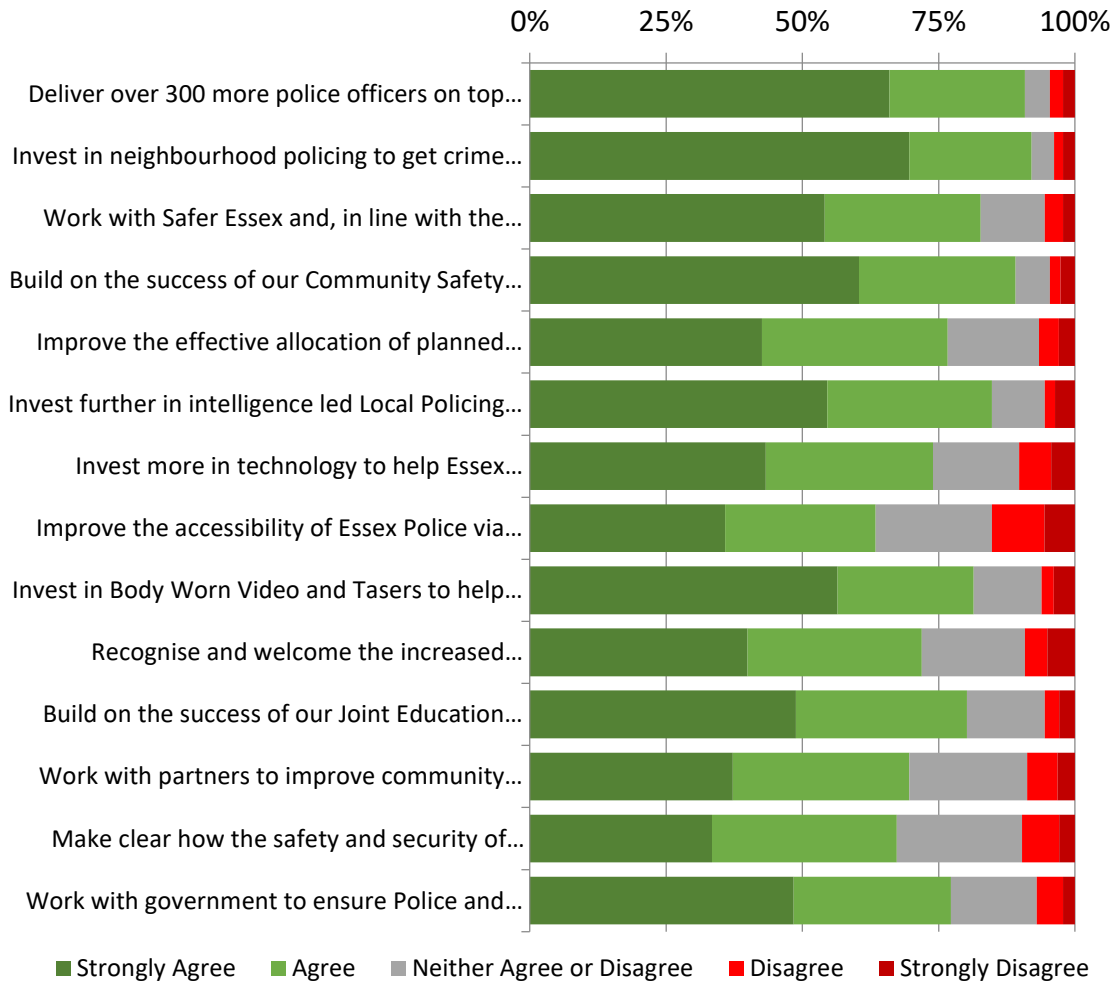
Respondents were asked whether they agree or disagree with each priority. The priorities with the highest level of agreement were supporting officers and staff, reducing violence against women, and reducing drug driven violence where over 60% of respondents strongly agreed with the priority.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Further investment in crime prevention	52%	35%	4%	2%	7%
Improve our services to support victims of crime	46%	38%	2%	2%	12%
Reducing drug driven violence	62%	29%	1%	1%	6%
Protect rural and isolated areas	52%	33%	2%	2%	10%
Improving safety on our roads	52%	34%	3%	2%	10%
Encouraging volunteers and community support	43%	33%	3%	4%	16%
Protecting vulnerable people and those affected by crime and abuse	56%	33%	1%	2%	8%
Reducing violence against women and girls	62%	27%	7%	1%	2%
Preventing dog theft	43%	28%	7%	4%	18%
Preventing business crime, fraud and cybercrime	49%	38%	2%	1%	9%
Supporting our officers and staff	63%	29%	1%	1%	6%
Increasing collaboration	43%	38%	3%	2%	14%
Total responses: 902					

Further investment in crime prevention

87% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority, although 15% disagreed with improving the accessibility of Essex Police via the internet and social media so they can give better feedback to communities and victims, 10% disagreed with Investing more in technology to help Essex Police be more visible in their communities including developing mobile applications and enabling better connectivity and 10% disagreed with making clear how the safety and security of new roads and developments can be improved.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Deliver over 300 more police officers on top of the 500 additional officers already delivered since 2016.	273	67	14	7	4
Invest in neighbourhood policing to get crime down.	289	66	9	5	4
Work with Safer Essex and, in line with the Crime Prevention Strategy, invest more in preventing crime in Essex.	225	85	32	10	4
Build on the success of our Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) by encouraging increased targeting of hotspots and known offenders to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB).	250	89	18	3	6
Improve the effective allocation of planned police resources by monitoring crime, All Crime Harm (crime severity) scores and ensuring Essex Police and partners bring down the level of harm in our communities.	175	94	50	11	5
Invest further in intelligence led Local Policing Teams, such as Town Centre Teams and Disruptor Teams, to adopt a problem-solving response to local issues.	226	86	27	6	9
Invest more in technology to help Essex Police be more visible in their communities including developing mobile applications and enabling better connectivity.	178	94	41	16	9
Improve the accessibility of Essex Police via the internet and social media so they can give better feedback to communities and victims.	148	80	65	27	15
Invest in Body Worn Video and Tasers to help keep officers and staff safe and be effective in their roles.	231	73	35	6	10
Recognise and welcome the increased diversity of Essex and invest in ways to work together with all communities to prevent crime by encouraging reporting, identifying problem areas and targeting prevention activity.	165	87	56	13	17
Build on the success of our Joint Education Teams by investing in work with schools and young people to develop a comprehensive education focused prevention programme delivering relevant messages, including those about healthy relationships and Child Sexual Exploitation, at the right time throughout a student's journey through education.	202	87	43	11	8
Work with partners to improve community safety by promoting and investing in designing out crime.	153	93	58	16	9
Make clear how the safety and security of new roads and developments can be improved.	138	98	64	20	6
Work with government to ensure Police and Fire and Rescue Services have a strong, statutory voice in the planning of new developments and roads; and work with developers, including through Essex Design Guide, to improve the safety and security of new developments.	200	88	43	13	5
Total responses: 416					

A total of 469 comments were made under this priority. 89 of these related to the need for more police visibility or presence while 38 wanted more police officers.

“Good priorities, but one missing, to prevent crime you need more police patrolling on foot and in cars. I cannot remember when I last saw a policeman or woman on the streets in Braintree, but I have seen druggies around St Michael’s church most days, leaving their filth on the ground, why isn’t there more patrols? Because you haven’t got the manpower!”

“The public overwhelmingly want safer streets and communities, more visible policing, quicker response times and when police do arrive, a professional and thorough performance. More often than not, my feedback from friends and neighbours is that they feel brushed aside, neglected and the outcome is generally disappointing.”

“In my opinion much crime prevention funding is wasted or focussed on very small groups of people. Although I agree with crime prevention investment, I would like this to be in the form of more frontline police officers which can be used to disrupt criminal activity. Currently officers are over worked and have no proactive capacity.”

37 people wanted community or neighbourhood policing to return.

“Having local 'Bobby's', who talk to the community and understand and know the area helps them recognise problem areas. Keep changing police officers makes it harder for people to approach them.”

“It is not just having more police, it is having them available in the community and speaking to people, something that has been lost . Of course they must feel safe in their job, but in the old days by being part of the community, they were more connected and not a them and us situation that you find today.”

(These three points were also made under many of the other priorities, in particular the rural policing priority, but were most prevalent here).

35 comments related to the importance of prevention activities, including education in schools and the community.

“Need to recognise that investment in crime prevention isn't necessarily the same as investment in the police. Investment in the things that underpin crime are likely to be more effective e.g. education, tackling drugs and alcohol, supporting and equipping parents.”

“I think more upfront Policing and working within schools to educate the younger people, spending on the young has a much more long term impact. Great ideas, we need to get people to see the police as an aid to our community and that they are there to stop crime, harassment and to make our lives better.”

29 respondents wanted criminals to be caught, prosecuted and sentenced adequately.

“Catch and prosecute more criminals. Don’t get distracted by 'nice to do' activities which distract from the 'must do' activities.”

31 people wanted more detail about how this priority will be measured, monitored and/or achieved.

"I would like to be told specifics rather than the broad headline. How is very important!"

"How can anybody disagree with this. However will "value for money" be achieved. What targets will be set to ensure crime prevention actually reduces crime."

13 comments were about using available technology, mainly making more use of CCTV and video evidence.

32 people highlighted something that they felt was missing from this priority, including 14 who mentioned anti-social behaviour. This included nuisance neighbours, unsociable driving and music, cars, quad bikes or motor cycles/scramblers with loud exhausts being driven at excessive speed, congregation of persons that are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs and exhibiting intimidating/ aggressive behaviour, littering in parks and nitrous oxide paraphernalia.

Another 7 people did not want rural areas to be forgotten or overlooked.

The other things felt to be missing are as follows:

- There is little mention of listening to communities, reaching out to hard to hear communities, improving community relations between different groups even though enshrined in statute. There is little about quality of service, standards, trust, confidence. An increasing no. of people do not trust Essex Police from comments I hear regularly. The unprofessional Twitter and Facebook messaging does little to reassure the public.
- Listening to general public.
- Listening to the problems youngsters and adults have to put up with on a daily basis and work to eliminate this asap .especially when women and their children are involved and being victimised .
- We will: be coached on how to speak and listen to each other and members of the community.
- We will listen to new areas of concern highlighted by the public and respond to these in the most appropriate way.
- We will listen to and ACT on the concerns of residents, even if they these concerns don't align with our woke driven agenda.
- We will invest in having visible policing through opening stations previously earmarked for closure and those sold we will re-invest in a new station with foot patrols by PCSOs and officers.
- We will not be solely reliant on technology to reach the public but actively engage through visible and approachable officers on targeted foot patrols that are based in areas of crime/ASB hot spots as we understand officers driving past is not engagement.
- In addition to the comment 'Improve the accessibility of Essex Police via the internet and social media etc.: To also Improve the 'Visibility' of the police regularly, what they are doing, and how the police are doing against all the priorities. (This gives a greater comfort to the residents of Essex, as very little visibility is seen at the moment of the great work I'm sure the police undertake every day). Also not just using social media as not everyone has or wants access to this medium.
- You seem to have overlooked response policing.
- We will institute regular patrols, unannounced and at different times, in known drug dealing areas etc. Even if few are caught, we, the totally cheesed off public, could do

with a bit of reassurance that you are doing something visible and positive. I come from a rough northern council estate, rated one of the 20 most deprived areas in the UK, but we had 2 regular patrol officers, who knew everyone, knew where to look, who to talk to etc. This has now gone, and all we have now are regular incidents, some very serious, as my friends still there tell me.

- No mention of burglary. These crimes cause great stress to the victims but there is a feeling that police action is limited so criminals feel it is unlikely they will be caught.
- More priority should be given to solving burglary, petty crime and anti-social behaviour, especially in villages.
- Greater surveillance of terrorists.
- No mention of drug prevention.
- Not enough emphasis on drug prevention.
- Actively encouraging a more diverse police force; complete transparency and zero tolerance of racism and sexism in the police.
- Why is there no mention of anti-corruption, see HMIC recommendations 2019. Whistle blowing and reports of corruption ignored/ covered up. Who holds the Force to account?
- There is no action included above to fight corruption within Colchester police. Such corruption has been evident for years and appears to be getting worse, but nothing is being done about it!
- The basic duty of the police force is to uphold the law of the land without fear or favour and to protect the law-abiding population.
- I would like to see something more explicit about investment in public belief and trust in the police force. I feel a lot of people (including myself) have lost faith in the police, particularly when it comes to being kept safe.

There were 86 specific points raised:

- Everything sounds great for the public but what about the safety of our officers, double crewing is certainly the best way to maintain a level of safety for them how about we will always put our officers double crewed for their safety please?
- For serving officers, single patrolling is dangerous. There should be adequate numbers of officers in town centres, community policing should return to the community and not be used for wider issues/aid/large areas. There used to be good Team numbers but now, few officers have to do so much more.. even be responsible for their own case loads without admin support. Specialist areas have been removed and officers scramble to complete task driven directives: they should listen more to the lower ranks, not just police with the next hot idea which looks good for promotion; the leadership must support their officers more in ways which officers really need.
- Retention of officers and not just taking on officers who are either cadets or specials these only work part time and some just minimal hours. A fully qualified officer is a real officer and has a full time rota to work.
- The importance of supporting our police force cannot be over stated, i.e. remuneration/pension, training/professional development, continued investment in trusted links to and within the community to promote safe policing and community on all streets. Operationally - pro-active police to police back up, protective clothing, body cameras, CCTV, technology, etc..
- Police need to manage their effectiveness better, have proper, transparent plans when dealing with ongoing issues.
- Use the trained police officers to tackle crime and leave the admin tasks (such as compiling and distributing weekly crime statistics) to civilian employees or volunteers. Do not waste the scarce resources.
- I think that at a national level and not just in crime prevention worthy aims are frequently the cause of increased paperwork. There should be an aim to implement

the we will statements in a way that doesn't absorb the time of the new officers in pointless form filling.

- Get computer systems that make it easy for admin staff to use and that are compatible with other constabulary.
- Can I suggest you include an item to improve police training and support for front line officers? More officers means little if you haven't got the experience there to tutor them properly.
- With a loss of 388 police officers, 600 support and office staff and 100 police community support officers up to 2014, the number you are suggesting you deliver is pitiful.
- Divulge the number of officers who have left the "Job"? And stations closed? 500 since 2016 is 100 a year, how many have gone/left over that period?
- You state that you want to deliver more police officers, but I know for a FACT that you fudge your numbers, especially when it comes to diversity. You have female officers being kept on your books after they have resigned just to show that you still have an acceptable level of male to female proportion of officers. No one trusts the police anymore, so I do not agree with you having tasers. The police should have an anonymous whistle blowers hotline, that goes straight to an independent organisation to investigate internal failings. I know numerous officers who complain about their own force and their managers. Internal bullying is rife.
- Deliver over 300 more police officers on top of the 500 additional officers already delivered since 2016. These are not "new" police officers the numbers are similar to the amount of officers who have left Essex Police either through retirement or from transferring to other Forces. Even taking this into account the amount of "new" officers is still down. Take Detective Constables in 2015 there was 399, 2016 - 435, 2017 - 427, 2018 - 407, 2019 - 379, 2020 - 382. So from the published figures show a decline in Detective Constables.
- Police have been stripped back by a Tory government and have now made a career in the Police unappealing. The starting wages are abysmal and those that are in are being pulled from pillar to post unable to investigate crimes properly. A decade of Tory rule and they are still not achieved their slogan of being the party of law and order. The levels are not even up to what they were in 2009. Of course we need more Police but we need to attract decent, honest individuals to the career by paying them a decent wage.
- That depends on the 'further investment', will it just be an increase to look like and improvement when in fact it is just a sort of cost of living increase. Everything gets more expensive year on year, so an increase could just be a keep up option that sounds better than it really is. I hope that will not be the case.
- Your "How" - it all sound great but for example "deliver more police officers" - 800 in 5 years but what is the percentage compared to the increase of population to Essex?
- On 6th. September, the end of week 36 in 2021, there have been 1284 crimes of all types reported to the Police from throughout the Borough of Brentwood, a weekly average of 35.6 !! Brentwood High Street appears to be a favourite hunting ground of criminals, although one gets the feeling that numerous victims are somewhat casual in protecting their own valuables while shopping or thinking their vehicles are a safe haven. For example, I have drawn the attention to a few shoppers that putting their mobile in a rear trouser pocket is NOT the safest place. I don't suggest I know the answer to all of the crimes but I wonder whether the Police might at least draw attention to errors committed by High Street shoppers?
- Continuous training and development of officers and support staff. I have daily contact with Police Officers in my profession. Their knowledge of law & Court procedure is often woeful. Little if any understanding of how to present a case in

Court, how to address a Judge or even (yesterday), an officer with 14 years service, not knowing where to sit as OIC in a Crown Court case, attempting to sit alongside her Prosecution Counsel. Investigative techniques and training, regularly updated (and tested) on the law in practice and the law in action, is negligible and there is no point in taking steps to arrest more criminals if those criminals are wrong. It acquitted at trial after a half-baked investigation and a poorly-prepared case. Do not blame the CPS. Train your people.

- Technology is not always the only solution, especially when dealing with the elderly. People need to have confidence and speedy access to Police.
- There appears to be an over reliance on 'technology'. An Officer equipped with a camera and taser, of itself, does not make them safer. The interpersonal skills and intelligence of the individual officer makes them safe. As with most Government employers the constant mantra of 'diversity'. Diversity is a failed social experiment. It creates division, the rush to ensure quotas has failed. The focus MUST be on the most qualified for the role. This plan appears more focused on producing 'social workers' than effective, robust and intelligent Law enforcement officers.
- Ensure that all officers with Essex police and out of their probation are taser trained or have taser training offered to them.
- You have many weak areas of policing, will this improve or will additional officers just be deployed where incidents are highest? One could ask in Roydon, what is Community Policing? Other areas get regular visits to Parish meetings... Roydon seems to be a village totally out of the police radar.
- Like any police force there should absolutely be a focus on local level crime, and in Witham it's gotten got a level which should make Essex police ashamed, there are vehicle thefts every week. And no response or visible patrols to deter said criminals from doing such activities.
- Engage with government about giving the police more powers to stop /detail wrongdoers. I feel the police are unable to do their jobs at the moment because they are watching their back all the time and do not get enough support. This ability of people to stick cameras in people's faces seems unreasonable to me.
- I am concerned about the number of suspicious looking vehicles patrolling the streets slowly in residential areas obviously looking for things to steal immediately, for premises to burgle or vehicles to come back and steal later. The police could make sure the occupants of these vehicles have all their correct documentation and by showing an interest in why they are patrolling in a suspicious manner would reduce crime.
- Better partnership with ESSEX USAR. Maybe use police dogs as USAR search dogs like the met police. And get them helping Pols team.
- There are too many we wills - needs to be more focused to ensure delivering on key priorities, also some of these feel very much business as usual.
- Police need to be more visible. Rather than closing local policing units & stations, policing units should amalgamate into fire houses and/or ambulance stations.
- Open up local contact offices so people have the opportunity to report crime as not everyone is comfortable using the internet.
- If it includes the reopening of local police stations then yes.
- Have an obvious full time police station in every town above 5000 people. Have an obvious part time police station in every village above 1000 people.
- Would like to see re-opening of Police stations that have not already been sold off.
- Stop closing police stations.
- Look at managing your funds better. Sharing properties with schools hospitals and fire stations. Use a select few police K9 units as Fire/USAR dogs like the met. Use USAR teams to bolster your polsa teams and lowland search.

- This priority sounds brilliant, but my concern is the constant overturn of community officers as they move on to other things. Without a consistent and known face in the community for many years, I question whether the investment in more community officers will be worth it, as if they keep changing, they will never truly be able to integrate with the community.
- The 'further investment in crime prevention' notes using disrupter teams and better use of technology - local police have access to noise monitoring equipment to help crack down on noisy and anti-social vehicles but Essex police force don't use them due to lack of training and confidence in them. If you are investing in these kind of technologies they should be used.
- I believe the police should operate a zero tolerance for all crime specially young offenders & antisocial behaviour. I believe all police should be armed at least with tasers at all times.
- Although I agree Tasers are an effective tool for police officers, I am concerned that they are deemed necessary more frequently when a suspect is from an ethnic minority background. I would therefore like to see more and better training in the use of Tasers for officers.
- Invest in Body Worn Video and Tasers to help keep officers and staff safe and be effective in their roles.
- Agree with BWV but my concern is on tasers, the training and use.
- The overuse of police tasers is a waste of public funds.
- Abolish useless paperwork. More stop and search.
- I am a victim and survivor of rape, sexual violence and child sexual abuse. I would like to see these issues recognised and taken seriously and sympathetically by the police.
- I am a class 3 mobility scooter user insured and taxed. Over the past 5 years I have encountered discrimination from other road users and the general public be they pedestrians, cyclists and people using the dangerous e-scooters. Need to educate people about the law about the difference between the illegal e-scooters and class 2 and 3 mobility scooters. Refuse the ridiculous idea of legalising the dangerous e-scooters. Whilst using my class 3 mobility scooter I had a close encounter with an e-scooter illegally using the roads. Abusing disabled persons such as I for legal road use should be addressed especially when one also has mental health issues.
- More investment is needed in finding out perpetrators of grooming gangs. More investment is needed to make sure victims of these grooming gangs are supported quickly and safely.
- Make reference to the UNCRC in planning considerations.
- I understand there are differences in culture and community but this does not allow anyone to be violent and commit crimes so I don't think bringing the communities together to understand each other is helping the groups need to be told it's wrong.
- There is law protecting privacy which prevents the use of CCTV by private individuals. We have had fly tipping for years often with Asbestos products in our community. Can you drive a change in the law to allow CCTV to catch criminals in such circumstances, without advertising that its there?
- I have answered the above solely in relation to the needs of victims and survivors of sexual violence and vawg crimes. None of the above will have a substantive impact on these crimes or this need. There is a concern that work in schools will focus heavily on sexual exploitation and domestic abuse and not deal adequately with child sexual abuse and rape. The text above does not mention child sexual abuse and rape, the catchall 'consent' healthy relationships' are used, it would be helpful to state child sexual abuse and rape.

- I think you have lost the Crime Prevention Officers and Architectural Liaison experts these people were in every division and were highly trained to deal with Crime Prevention and designing out crime. They were the people who had the role in liaising with partners and general public.
- Crime prevention roadshows in towns and especially village halls in rural locations should increase now we are out of lock down. Older and more vulnerable persons may not get relevant advice, so working with partnership agencies, home carers and hairdressers would help and also meals on wheels. Wiltshire farm food delivers etc. - Produced in larger sized text if possible. More permanent signage near bike parks giving advice on cycle security. Actually permanent signage around Car Parks about thefts from vehicles, catalytic converters. Dog thefts at parks or outside shop signage and also a QR link on signage posters that automatically take you to advice on numerous crime reduction initiatives.
- Got to be worthwhile not wasting money on posters, leaflets and marking bikes.
- I agree with the above apart from: "Improve the accessibility of Essex Police via the internet and social media so they can give better feedback to communities and victims." I do not think this needs to be improved, it seems the police already have a very good accessibility to social media, rather more police doing policing might be better encouraged.
- Too much emphasis on gimmicks like apps and social media, this to me does not help prevent crime. Spend the money on physical resources for those actually trying to prevent crime.
- We need the police to become proactive and not afraid of tackling the Travelers issues that blight our lives with intimidation, crime, etc. we all get the impression that the Police are scared to take action, this need to change.
- How do some of these fit in with your 12 priorities e.g. ASB is no longer a priority, but your 4th bullet point talks about CSPs?
- Bring back the Crime Prevention Officer who were correctly trained instead of using people who have little or no knowledge.
- There used to be such items as Local Crime Prevention Panels but as usual they were abandoned. Try them again.
- Need to concentrate on real crime on the streets, not woke driven so called "hate crime" online.
- Anti-social behaviour should not be a top priority. Any funds spent on it is a waste of resources.
- Invest in mature and experienced probation officers working with the under 16's. They can provide role models and supervision as well as gaining an inside knowledge of family difficulties and social needs especially in the formation and structure of youthful "gangs" involved in crime.
- I can see some potential for conflict between educating young people on what a healthy relationship looks like in the eyes of the law, and recognising the diversity of Essex, as some cultures will have methods (such as physical chastisement) which don't fit with how the law sees healthy relationships.
- I support profiling. The facts are there for a reason!
- You are not actually highlighting any priorities that actually deal with the issues feeding the crimes most harming the community, you are just prioritising what is seen a visibility and tackling the low hanging fruit without investing a priority to tackle the root causes in this county.
- To achieve this you need to focus on communities and build stronger relationships and encourage trust in policing resources.
- If this means more money for the police ...then yes I agree. Prevention is surely the best way. In my opinion this includes looking at social exclusion, poverty, support for

young people (training, youth groups etc.), racism, ultimately reducing the gap between rich and poor.

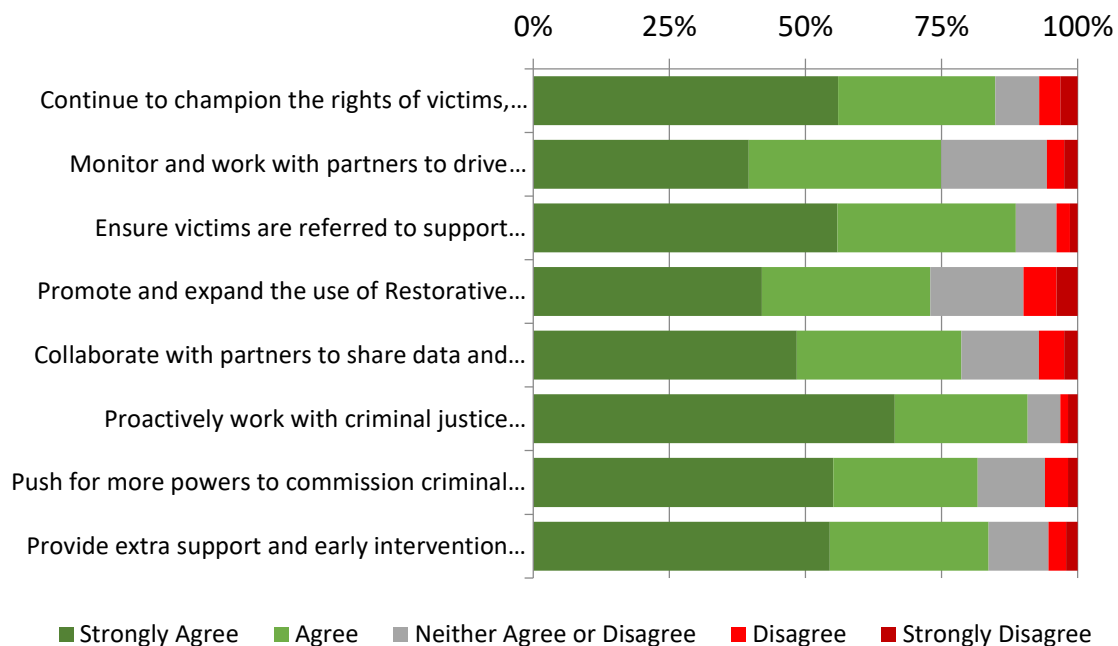
- Crime prevention MUST be a priority. BUT - the 14 issues you highlight above cannot all be the top priority. The trick is to priorities within the fourteen subjects those actions that will bring the most effective AND speedy improvements. Therein lies the major issue - seeking the most urgent priority.
- Remember that diversity also includes older white people and don't make every incident to do with racism.
- Money spent on poor selection of police officers, many of whom are in post now is a waste of public funds.
- Community safety is and never has been a policing priority. Essex police priority should be to uphold the law not act as enforcers of commercial interests. Essex police should not interfere with government planning of developments etc. This is not a policing function. Police officers or constables as they used to be called should not be equipped with tasers until their mental stability has been confirmed.
- I work in an organisation that provides specialist services to women and girls who have experienced or are experiencing sexual violence and violence against women and girls crimes, therefore my priority is to ensure that they have access to the services they need. I remain unclear about how crime prevention initiatives can impact the behaviour of sex offenders, consequently I would not agree that this is a top priority.
- You know who most of the criminals are. Tackle them swiftly and effectively before they commit further crimes.
- Too much emphasis on education and not enough on enforcement.
- Significant investments already made, please utilise these investments.
- Stop focusing on things that do very little harm such as cannabis
- Does this include street scene and environment?
- I think the community prevention work carried out by the fire service is amazing. The D of E, fire break courses, fire bike (I understand they have replaced bike safe in Essex - is this the only one in the country doing this?) and road safety and education officers should be at the forefront of any plan. I also note that the work the fire service do through firebreak with other services is often missed and this partnership working to reduce harm and support vulnerable members of our community should be developed further.
- Absolutely, working with communities to focus on the causes of crime should be a priority. I think there is also something here about "perceptions of crime" and supporting communities to improve connections, especially as we have seen increased isolation through COVID, bringing together diverse sectors of the community to help reduce "fear of the unknown" and focus on what connects communities together. Also more focus on "easy steps" to help reduce becoming a victim - recently saw the great work Essex Police have done to focus on dog theft for example.
- The emergency services have a very important role in having a greater understanding health and wellbeing and acting as a referring agent to the appropriate services where necessary. For example knowing how to relate to and support people living with dementia and those supporting people with dementia and the relevant referral pathways.
- We will use the best available evidence and research to inform our practices so that we can reduce crime and demand whilst doing the least amount of harm to the community, using resources in the most efficient and effective way.
- There is currently greater visibility on statistics and highlighting hot spots but not enough is being done to reduce and prevent issues. Look back at the root causes

such as reducing domestic abuse, education in schools and identifying vulnerable youngsters could help in reduction of drugs and county lines. More public awareness of the signs enables highlighting and support.

- Yes. In Scotland they have brought in individual mounted police which, as well as deterring youth crime, attracts people to go over for a chat. Thus better communication with the public. May be worth trying out here. Also they can go up bridleways and footpaths in rural areas where cars can't go.
- It would be helpful to promote the Joint Education Teams further through the CSP in order for the prevention programmes to complement each other and to avoid duplication.
- I'm currently a site manager for a shopping centre in Harlow and manage security. We work so hard to drive crime down and offer our help with our local police team but with resources being cut in the town centre we see a massive increase of ASB the town centre is the hub of the town we need to gain control. Of these areas as these areas are what face family's and visitors this is what leave the impression of crime etc.
- This is ok as long as all areas are treated the same in protection. Shoeburyness when having problems never got the immediate assistance with police attendance that Leigh have received when they started having problems.
- I would like to see Southend specific outcomes.

Improving our services to support victims of crime

84% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with all of the 'We Will' statements under this priority.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Continue to champion the rights of victims, encourage reporting and work with partners to ensure victims receive appropriate tailored support and are confident to report crime or, if they choose, to seek non-custodial resolutions and out of court disposals.	159	64	20	9	5
Monitor and work with partners to drive compliance with the Victim's Code.	112	78	45	6	6
Ensure victims are referred to support services tailored to their needs.	157	72	17	7	3
Promote and expand the use of Restorative Justice across the county as a proven method to aid recovery for victims and reduce reoffending.	118	72	38	9	9
Collaborate with partners to share data and identify those most vulnerable to becoming victims and then delivered tailored, multi-agency interventions to reduce the number of people becoming victims.	136	68	33	7	5
Proactively work with criminal justice partners to ensure that victims receive timely and appropriate justice.	188	59	15	2	4
Push for more powers to commission criminal justice services and bring together agencies to improve offender management.	156	61	26	8	4
Provide extra support and early intervention for people with additional needs or who are at increased risk.	153	62	27	7	5
Total responses: 284					

233 comments were made under this priority. 40 respondents just wanted criminals to be caught and effectively sentenced, or to have harsher sentences imposed.

“As long as the agencies concerned including the judicial system punishes offenders correctly and ensures the maximum sentences are passed thus making the victims of crime feel that justice has been done.”

“Nick criminals, be a visual deterrent, make sure our CJS hand out appropriate sentences. Keep criminals locked up. Victims will them be happy.”

34 people felt that it an areas where support services are needed, or need to be improved.

“Sadly all crime where there is a victim is important to the victim. Whether it be being scammed, home burgled or verbal threats that make you afraid. I understand that the police force is vastly understaffed and a choice has to be made about where the police are allocated and so they are sent where the most threat is but victims of minor crimes can still be left traumatised by what’s happened.”

27 respondents said that they felt that there is or has been a poor response to crimes happening, some of whom also suggesting that this stops people from reporting some crimes in the first place. A number gave specific examples of their experiences.

“I have been a victim of crime (burglary) where adequate evidence existed to identify the perpetrator but no action was taken and no evidence processed. Similarly I was the victim of an individual who let the scene of an accident then continued to perpetrate an insurance fraud. All this information was provided to Essex police with clear and irrefutable evidence yet the only action was to give me a crime number and to tell me it was not in the public interest to follow it up. There is no confidence or enough evidence of any care for victims of crime.”

18 comments were to the effect that victims should come before criminals.

“Victims often feel that the criminals have all the attention and rights. We all have a right to live safely and not in fear. I think more should be done to make criminals pay for their actions and the hideous amount of time and expense it takes to deal with them.”

12 people felt that this should not be something that the Police do while another 16 felt that this should be something for partners or specialist organisations.

“I feel that other agencies are better equipped to support the victims of crime and that police support should be minimal due to other priorities it has.”

Eight people felt there was something missing from this priority: following up complaints where victims have been let down; collaborating with partners to share data and identify those most vulnerable to becoming victims and then delivering tailored, multi-agency interventions to reduce the number of people becoming victims; recording every report, returning a reference, and updating progress online showing performance against SLAs; never not answering phones and if answered by voicemail registering the report from the

message; lack of focus on child victims; for Police, when approaching the victim, to treat them as a victim and show compassion; skilled officers to recognise and respond to coercive control; support for people who are subjected to road aggression; and sexual violence services needing additional investment.

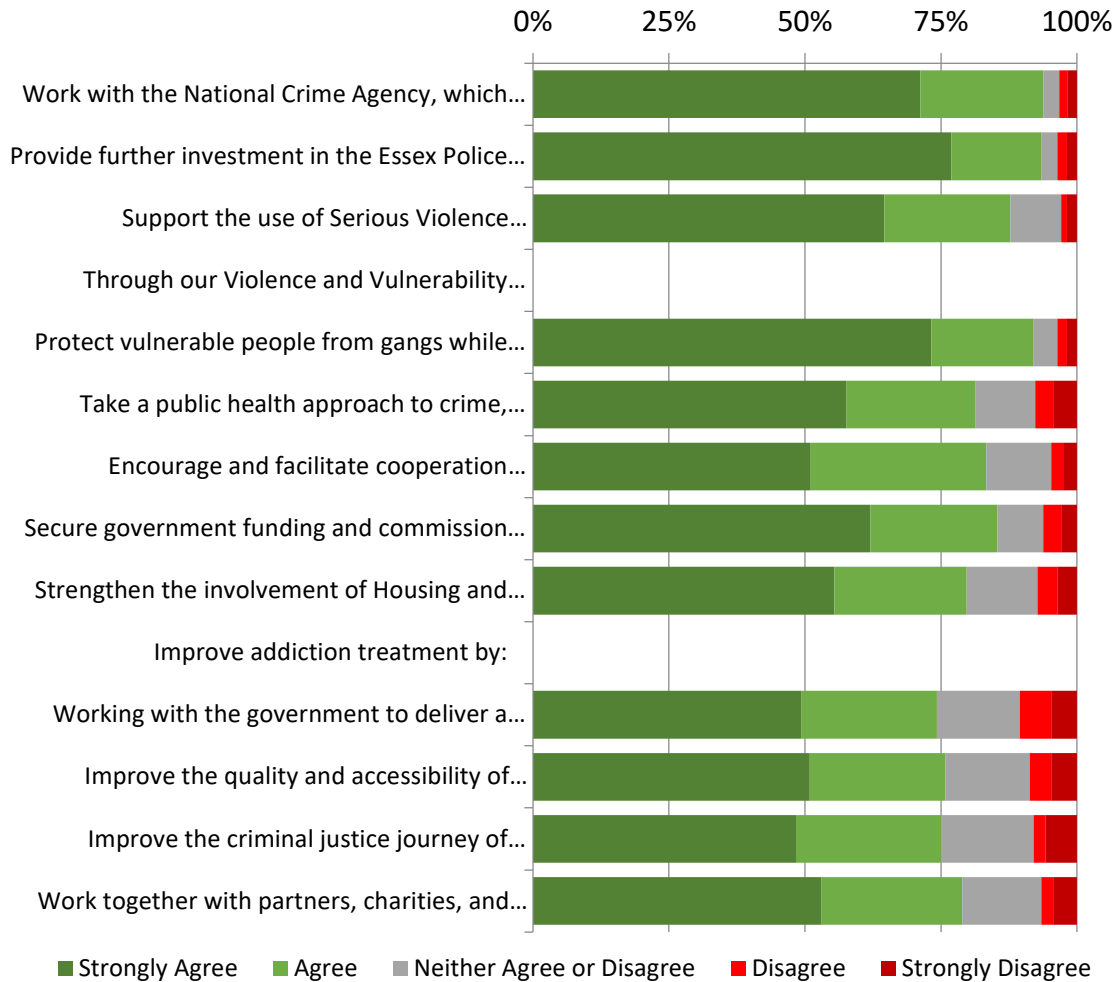
26 people raised specific points:

- RJ - still very low take up, in fact extraordinarily low take up. Why? If it can't be improved, and hasn't over the years, it might well be time to give up on this or significantly amend.
- Rather than expand RJ, use it more in context/situations where we know it is effective and produces worthwhile outcome. We can't be responsible for timeliness of criminal justice system. There are adequate powers for criminal justice agencies to improve offender management, they are just seldom used optimally or lead well.
- I don't think there is much evidence linked to restorative justice and reducing re-offending (although accept it is useful for victims).
- I would fully support restorative justice and strongly encourage additional support to victims of violent crime in particular.
- There needs to be some form of national campaign to explain to the public that Restorative Justice is not a soft option. The cost of imprisonments eats far too much into the justice budget. This money needs to be used to stop reoffending.
- If restorative justice will be promoted, which I fully support, then the non-custodial resolutions and out of court disposals will need to be recommended initially, rather than secondarily offered as an alternative, if the victim prefers.
- I strongly believe that those with additional needs are victims of the system whether as a "perpetrator" or a "victim" of crime. The criminal justice system needs to be a "Whole System" approach where those with additional needs are supported with communities to stay safe as well as keep others safe through correct support etc.
- I think this should include attending the crime scene and giving the victim a chance to express, and have recorded, the impact of the crime on them and their family. For example, theft of tools from a van may mean the person cannot work for a long time, until they get replacement tools, which may mean they get into debt to purchase the tools, and have to cancel family events, such as holidays and buying birthday gifts.
- If I was the victim of crime I do not want to see it dealt with as an out of court disposal. I have yet to be convinced that restorative justice significantly reduces re-offending.
- I do have one request, I am a single mother with two children with additional needs my youngest child has been diagnosed with ADHD, I have also been subjected to child to parental violence in the past, so have needed to call the police on a couple of occasions due to my child losing it. The officers that came round were brilliant the first time and said to call if I needed further assistance even if only after 5 minutes later. I called once again and the same officers refused to come out. I'm sure you can understand how distressing this was considering the circumstances, I had no where else to turn that day while in a desperate situation. I ask there is more patience and understanding in these matters and as well as making a referral to children's services to also include support for the parent as this can cause an almost PTSD state.
- The objective of improving services to support victims of crime is of course an agreeable one. It lacks specificity and detail however in some regards, e.g. ref VAWG, will Essex police work with partners to ensure; services accessed are single sex and therefore not a source of further trauma; officials involved in their cases are allocated according to the sex of the victim where requested and not the gender identity of the officer; rape and sexual offence victims are able to choose the sex and not the gender of their medical examiner? These things are imperative in reducing trauma suffered and preventing further harm to the Women and Girls.

- I have major reservations about the efficacy of victim support and, what I see as, its patronising tendencies. Never name anyone a victim. Name them a survivor! Focus more on restorative justice.
- Having recently experienced a family member with Cognitive, Mental and Behavioural challenges interacting with Essex Police, the level of support has often fallen short of what should be expected. There needs to be more structured and accessible support for those with disabilities who find themselves needing to navigate the criminal justice system. As an authority that help petition central government for changes within the system, I believe the Police themselves are in a position to push for this change. This need becomes increasingly important, as those with learning disabilities and Mental Ill Health are increasingly living within community settings, therefore resulting in an increased need for a clear support network from our statutory services, including the Police, to reflect the increased level of support these members of our community need.
- The way victims are treated is an absolute joke, you want to rip up the victim contract it doesn't work and wastes time. Make sure your officers are properly trained to deal with victims with compassion, common sense will dictate how much contact is needed and this can be dip checked to ensure it's being done properly. Most victims are totally dissatisfied with the service they receive apart from the ones who are victims of very serious crimes as they get the rolls Royce treatment. Have a look on Chelmsford community FB group you will see what people really experience!!
- Reflect PCC statutory obligations relating to the 2004 Children Act.
- Agree but also protect the rights of those accused of a crime, especially a sexual offence, until they're proven guilty (I'm female btw but I think it's disgusting how some female with a grudge can ruin an innocent guy's life just by accusing him).
- In this instance it would be useful to know who the partners are.
- We will be far more proactive than reactive to reduce crime.
- What does: "Push for more powers to commission criminal justice services and bring together agencies to improve offender management" actually mean? Very generic / bland statement.
- Reduce this list. I am not convinced that victim support for low level crime is best use of resource.
- I agree with the initiatives here. Too often victim-blame (both by individuals and institutions) both incentivises criminals and discourages victims from coming forwards. Restorative justice systems work well in other parts of the world - in the UK we are seeming wedded to retributive processes which fail to address the need to ensure perpetrators are made fully aware of the impacts of their crimes.
- Whether pre-crime victim identification is a long-term solution is questionable. Surely we should be making social changes which reduce vulnerabilities and labelling of victims in the first place.
- Will that include cyclists who are victims of road aggression?
- More protection of victims of domestic abuse is clearly required as anyone reporting should be believed without question given the level of courage required to take that step of reporting it.
- It's the engagement and re-engagement with the probation service that needs focus since it has been "de-privatised".
- Too much time could be spent on analytics and not doing the work.
- Needs to be objectives around naming and shaming criminals in the public domain.
- Realistically - what can this be? I don't think there is much for victims of petty crime that you can offer.

Reducing drug driven violence

91% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority except that 11% disagreed with working with the government to deliver a new, more effective, addiction strategy, so more people enter treatment and recover.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Work with the National Crime Agency, which is being strengthened by the government, to tackle gangs and criminals operating nationally.	198	63	8	4	5
Provide further investment in the Essex Police Serious Violence Unit to dismantle more County Lines drug gangs.	213	46	8	5	5
Support the use of Serious Violence Reduction Orders and the implementation of Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews.	179	64	26	3	5
Through our Violence and Vulnerability Partnership we will:					
Protect vulnerable people from gangs while we deal with the hardened criminals who prey on them.	203	52	12	5	5
Take a public health approach to crime, investing in activity proven to work and focusing on keeping young people free from crime and intervening early to help steer them to a successful life course.	158	65	30	9	12
Encourage and facilitate cooperation between public bodies in line with the government's proposed public sector duty to reduce serious violence.	141	89	33	6	7
Secure government funding and commission projects through the Partnership to work with people vulnerable to being groomed by gangs and county lines and to target gang members to help them step away from a criminal lifestyle, so as to reduce serious violence in Essex.	170	64	23	9	8
Strengthen the involvement of Housing and Mental Health Services so we can provide a stronger more coordinated response.	153	67	36	10	10
Improve addiction treatment by:					
Working with the government to deliver a new, more effective, addiction strategy, so more people enter treatment and recover.	136	69	42	16	13
Improve the quality and accessibility of addiction and substance misuse services and ensure we match services to local demand.	141	69	43	11	13
Improve the criminal justice journey of addicted offenders including those given drug-treatment by courts and those who receive prison-based treatment.	134	74	47	6	16
Work together with partners, charities, and providers to spot the early signs of addiction or vulnerability and intervene early and consistently.	146	71	40	6	12
Total responses: 278					

A total of 255 comments were made under this priority, with 12 people saying that it is an important one.

49 respondents felt that more needs to be done to catch and then sentence offenders.

"Improving the criminal justice journey of drug offenders" - how about improving the criminal justice journey of the victims! The offenders made a choice to offend, the victims did not make a choice to become victims! There is too much emphasis on helping and protecting the criminal, and not enough emphasis on protecting the law abiding citizens who have to contend with this scum!"

"Stop giving them a slapped wrist when caught. More police presence in areas needed where reports of drug dealing (especially in the open), drug runners, asb, smoking weed in public, driving vehicles whilst high on drugs and drink."

20 people highlighted the importance of prevention, awareness raising and education, especially of young people, while 12 mentioned the need for support services.

"The key parts here are not the actions and efforts of the police to tackle the criminality of drug offending (important as that is), the key is the intervention and actions of education/health to PREVENT people becoming involved in drugs, and SUPPORT those who want/need to be pulled out of addictions and the criminal lifestyle. Police can then focus on the organised and gang criminality who prey on the vulnerable, whilst appropriate support is provided to users (who are victims themselves)."

"There needs to be a much greater link between the criminal justice system and addiction services to prevent ongoing addiction and re offending."

14 respondents said that rehabilitation and support should not be the Police's role, and another 7 felt that there should be more collaboration or partnership working on this issue.

"Look, we only need you to arrest criminals, not carry out social care work."

11 comments mentioned that there is a poor response to reports of drug use and dealing.

"People often report drug dealing and see the police do nothing about it and are told - there is nothing the police can do for various reasons. Lack of perceived action is damaging to the police."

No one highlighted anything that was missing under this priority, but 55 people raised a specific point:

- Focus on the root causes.
- Some great work has been done and we really need to break the chains of drugs - hat about using the Portugal model which has vastly reduced issues with drugs.
- All of the above work is valuable, but I think there needs to be more focus on how we reduce the drugs market, rather than just dealing with the consequences (crime and/or addiction). The market for illegal drugs is what drives the violence.

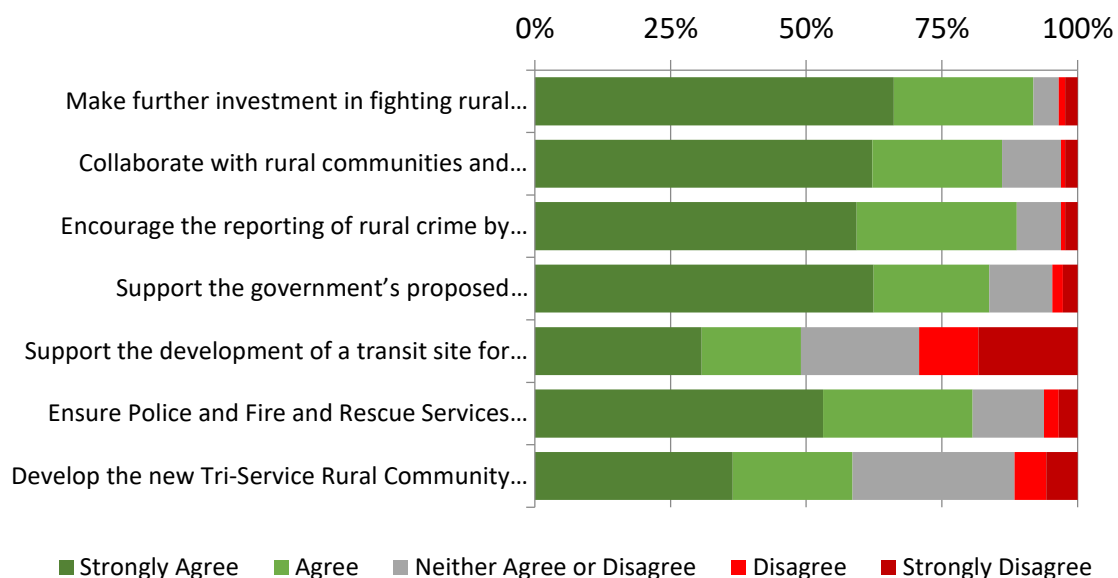
- All good points, but once again missing the point, if you take the money and prestige out of drugs and the people that supply them, the crime caused by addicts will dry up with the reduced supply.
- Drug dealing and use is often the root of much other crime (assaults, muggings, robberies, thefts) and anti-social behaviour.
- Sometimes you wonder if drugs were legalised might lose the appeal to try. If addicts were treated might take the crime bit out if it.
- More work seems to be needed nationally on stopping the imports of illegal drugs. We read of the occasional big hit but not often enough. Are we working together with others- Brexit or not- to tackle the problem? Is there sufficient cross border co-operation?
- It must be remembered that girls get caught up in gangs and that rape is used within gangs to gain compliance. Funding allocations should reflect this.
- Of course I would want to reduce all violence. Ideally I would also like to see a world where drugs are not misused, and that would include alcohol and tobacco. However the era of Prohibition in the US tells us that it is not as simple as that, and it could well be that legalising and controlling drug use could actually reduce a lot of crime, paradoxical though it may appear. Not only are crimes committed under the influence of drugs, but many petty burglaries are to gain money to buy illegal drugs. The authorities are simply not winning the war against illegal drugs, and that has to be recognised and addressed.
- But you only have to go to certain areas in Harlow and drugs are rife, stop the drugs at all levels.
- Drug crime will always increase while some people think it is ""good fun"" to take drugs. More focus on stopping drugs entering the country. More publication of the results of drug taking, let's have images of people dying from over doses and first time recreational drugs. More publication of the misery in causes, not just to the drug takers family, but also to the victims of crime where the drug takers mug people or steal their property to get drug money. Make dealing with drug overdoses a much lower priority for the NHS and keep the scarce resources for honest people.
- I agree that a public health approach should be taken towards drug use. Much of the need for police and other agencies' actions against drug gangs would be solved by decriminalising drug use, but I recognise this is an approach resisted culturally and by the authoritarian policies pursued by this government in this area. By making drug supply unprofitable the propensities to crime would reduce accordingly.
- The import of drugs should not have to be dealt with by County Police.
- Stop the drugs getting to young people in the first place. Come down hard on people dealing drugs and in possession of drugs.
- Cannabis use now seems as common as tobacco smoking amongst the under 35's.
- I recently had a case where a man received a lengthy custodial sentence for drug-dealing. His sentence was first adjourned to a date four weeks after the trial. Sitting in Court throughout the trial was a man who clearly and obviously had a link to the defendant and an illicit interest in the case. I pointed this out to the officer and suggested he have a colleague follow that individual back to any vehicle he might be associated with, as the intelligence opportunities were endless. I was ignored. When the case returned for sentence, two others in the public gallery were there for clearly the same reason and left with no interest shown in who they were or why they were there. You only make inroads into these people if you utilise the opportunities they present to you. Follow them to their cars, PNC check them, research their backgrounds and target them. It's no use having a plethora of civilian staff plotting crimes on computers and making pie charts if you don't make use of the information opportunities presented. Those three people were drug dealers. They had a clear and obvious link to the Defendant and whatever they were doing and whoever they were disappeared as they left the Court. What a waste.

- I would like to see more done to identify popular drug drop off points and action to taken to reduce this activity.
- Drug crime is usually driven from outside the area in which it is recorded, a lesson that has not been learned! Until you work on this you are just using a bandaid.
- Focus should be on the supply chain at all levels. Allowing the petty dealers and delivery kids to operate while you focus on the head of an organisation simply allows the next generation of hardcore criminals to develop whilst also creating the next load of addicts.
- Dig a bit deeper to see children and young people involved in gangs/county lines as victims themselves first.
- The gang mentality we see in our town centres and the grooming of younger kids to be runners is a major problem.
- What proven activities keep young people safe from crime?
- Set up training which teenagers can freely go to like boxing clubs, working on cars, hairdressing that could have mentors involved. It would need funding but would save money in the long run. Most of the young can't access sports training because it costs money. There are no Olympic sports people in swimming or tennis from working class families, only middle class because of the money needed to just get off the ground in those sports.
- You shouldn't need extra government funding to try and intervene to help younger people who are targeted by grooming gangs and county lines etc., you need funding for them to choose. Instead, they do it for one reason only and that's to earn money, more government apprenticeship programmes would be a start to help drive them in a different direction instead of direct intervention from Essex police.
- Drug abuse is such a serious issue in every area of our country. Do we need a separate force to deal with that issue alone?
- There is a huge disconnect between the NCA and local policing. Intel is often out of date. The NCA rarely become a useful asset.
- Work with BTP on the trains more. I see a lot of young lone boys and girls travelling from London to Colchester, and they are definitely not commuters.
- Stop the London gangs who use the railway routes to come down here rob people and get back on a train back to London with their goods.
- Instead of trying to deter persons from gangs or drugs or rehabilitating them the gangs need to be dealt with. Whilst the gangs still exist there will always be a steady flow of addicts. The current rehabilitation is good, this needs to be reinforced with a robust approach on the gangs.
- Get rid of the scooters so that drugs aren't moved around/supplied as quickly & easily & you'll be at least half way to reducing drug crime in Essex.
- Shoplifting and begging are often the symptoms of drug users, used to gain the money to purchase. Although your actions here are aimed at the higher level, what are you doing to deal with the lower level nuisance factors?
- The balance of specialist units to front line resources is wrong. There are too many warranted officers performing back office functions. Money would be better spent on less expensive police staff in greater numbers than additional officers to free up existing officers from back office to get back on the street. The very low numbers of stop and search, far less than 1 per officer per month in some areas is farcical.
- More stop and search.
- Improve facilities in prisons to detect drugs entering and support staff to stay safe, ensuring drug offenders are in the best possible place not to return to drug addiction when they leave prison. Aim to break the cycle.
- The courts should also be working to help prevent non-addicts becoming addicts by, when possible, not sending them to prison; where addiction often begins.
- Lobby for stop and search so there is zero tolerance of carrying a knife.

- Support for those victims of cuckooing - they are often too afraid to make reports but without reports they are left to pay the cost of repairs and arrears for their housing. There must be a way of getting some help without those people thinking they will be pointed out as a grass or that are too terrified take action to stop it.
- To work with local business to reintroduce Offenders back into a normal working Life with a work experience programme.
- It is important to include rural areas throughout the county, not just the built up areas that currently seem to be concentrated on.
- Do not ignore problems in small/rural communities by throwing nearly all the money available into the cities and large towns.
- The approach to all this work should be gendered. The experiences and needs of boys and girls will be different, this should be reflected in the work and the statements.
- I'd be keen to see the statistics of The 4 forces – Thames Valley, West Midlands, Merseyside and Sussex trial in connection with the introduction of Serious Violence Reduction Orders (SVROs) before Essex invests too deeply in to this measure.
- Drug dealing is hierarchical. Police are trying to deal with many dealers, very many users instead of stamping out supply. Clearly police don't REALLY want to tackle it to resolution. So be honest about that and let us vote for commissioners on that basis.
- We will stop having meetings with partners that achieve nothing !! We will be far more proactive with achieving meaningful outcomes at partnership meetings with people who are properly invested in the issues discussed. We will stop wasting time talking about the same initiatives which take forever to get off the ground and rarely have any impact. We will make sure that we make a difference without being tied down by individuals own agenda, we will remind ourselves at all times that we serve our communities and they are who we serve not our own career progressions !!!
- Instead of Violence Reduction Orders, focus should be to ensure that custodial sentences are longer and measures to target affluent drugs users who fund serious and organised criminality.
- The misuse of drugs both legal as well as illegal destroy lives and not just the person using them. People on high level pain management think it's alright to drive, but their reactions will be as hampered as alcohol. This needs to be publicised, not the police's problem as such. But needs to be taken into consideration.
- More CCTV is needed in local areas. Work with government and schools to help stop drug gangs using children to deliver drugs across county lines.
- Attention should be focused more on 'hard' drug trafficking and abuse rather than on marijuana.
- Anti-social behaviour in public places caused by drug abuse is making residents fearful of going out and about.
- I would like to know that victims are listened to, crimes investigated, wrongdoers punished effectively and given the opportunity to redeem themselves. Whilst accepting that some wrongdoers have mitigating circumstances as to why they have done wrong, please don't fall into the ""woke"" trap of making excuses for everyone.
- Any violence is a priority not just drug driven.
- Decriminalisation of drugs is the only route out of this mess.
- Drugs need to be legalised.
- Intensive work with drug users who are repeat offenders.
- Rehabilitation is the answer, perhaps national service for a minimum of two years might help.
- The dangerous illegal driving and drug use/driving by Hanningfield reservoir continues with no police action.
- Putting cameras in local park parking lots would help, we get cars suspicious parked in Black Notley playing fields.

Protect rural and isolated areas

85% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority, except that 29% disagreed with supporting the development of a transit site for temporary accommodation for travellers and 12% disagreed with developing the new Tri-Service Rural Community Officer pilot.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Make further investment in fighting rural crimes, such as hare coursing, wildlife crime, heritage crime, fuel theft, unauthorised encampments, and fly-tipping as well as the theft of major plant and equipment.	170	66	12	3	6
Collaborate with rural communities and partners to understand rural communities and their issues, prevent crime and feedback on police activities.	161	62	28	2	6
Encourage the reporting of rural crime by working with partners to promote ways to report and the positive impact this has on targeting offenders and crime hot spots.	153	76	21	2	6
Support the government's proposed legislation to make aggravated trespass a criminal offence.	161	55	30	5	7
Support the development of a transit site for temporary accommodation for travellers.	79	47	56	28	47
Ensure Police and Fire and Rescue Services work closely together to protect those in rural and isolated settings through joint advice and support	137	71	34	7	9
Develop the new Tri-Service Rural Community Officer pilot.	94	57	77	15	15
Total responses: 258					

221 comments were received under this priority, of which 11 were that it is important.

38 people commented on travellers, almost entirely negative views including that there is no need for transit sites or that they should not have rights that others do not but should obey the law as everyone else does.

"Travellers seem to be afforded more tolerance when then set up illegally than the normal public. They should be treated as per everyone with respect and dignity but also equally when it comes to illegal sites then they should be moved on and if damage or fly tipping has taken place then they should be held to account as all members of society should be."

"Would be good to discourage the "travellers" altogether. Yes there are good ones BUT most cause havoc and worse to the community they descend on."

37 respondents wanted a greater police presence in rural areas.

"What is missing is the police presence in rural areas. Criminals know that rural areas are easy pickings for crime as there are no nearby police stations or police presence to deter criminals. They know they have a free reign and plenty of time to perpetrate the crime before any police can get to the area due to the lack of presence. Get more police on the ground in all areas, not just rural areas albeit the rural areas are more vulnerable as the "pickings" in rural areas are generally "richer rewards" than in towns as the demographic of rural residences is generally more wealthy."

23 respondents felt that the response to reported crimes in rural areas is poor, and 10 asked how this would be achieved.

"There needs to be much better training of control room staff at Police Headquarters 999 desk. I tried to apprehend two burglars at my neighbour's premises as they came out of the garage. I had good sight of them from 5 feet away perhaps closer. They ran away when I tried to confront them and were carrying things in their arms. I phoned 999 and reported it and expected some sort of response that I might give a statement and description and being at a rural location there was only one road off the main road where the offender's vehicle could be parked. My neighbours were away on holiday for a month. After a week and no police officer had attended I rang 101 which took 22 minutes to get an operator and was told that only the aggrieved can report a crime and until my neighbours returned no action could taken !!!!!!! I am the Co-Ordinator for the Essex Volunteer(Water) Bailiff Service through the Angling Trust and Environment Agency - I found a large safe near the river bank of the River Chelmer - it had been opened with an oxyacetylene torch. I reported this to the police only to be told that it would be recorded as FOUND PROPERTY !!!!!!! Having been a police officer 38 years I found these incidents incredible."

19 comments related to the wish for community or neighbourhood policing in rural areas.

"Need to have locally based officers in rural areas like you used to. Remote centralised police stations are too far removed from communities. The buildings doesn't solve crime excuse doesn't wash anymore, that's about cost cutting. You can't patrol or be in the community starting and ending a shift miles away from where you meant to be policing."

13 people wanted offenders to be caught and sentenced adequately.

“As said it’s not just about giving people support after the crime, the priority is catching the criminal and not letting them off with a warning all the time. Maybe too much of a soft approach.”

8 people suggested something that is missing from this priority: fly tipping; vehicle abandonment; road safety in rural areas; addressing anti-social motorbikes, car noise and street racing through country roads; detail on the partners; and allowing wild camping.

49 comments were made about specific points. 11 respondents mentioned Tri Service officers, 3 negatively and 2 positively, while 1 person felt that a team is needed for Essex rather than just one officer and another felt it needs better collaboration. Five people asked what it is.

Nine respondents mentioned the new aggravated trespass laws, with 3 expressing concern about them or disagreeing with them and 6 being in favour.

Five people felt that more should be done to counteract fly tipping, including the use of covert CCTV at sites of repeat offending or seizing and scrapping any vehicle used.

The other specific points raised were:

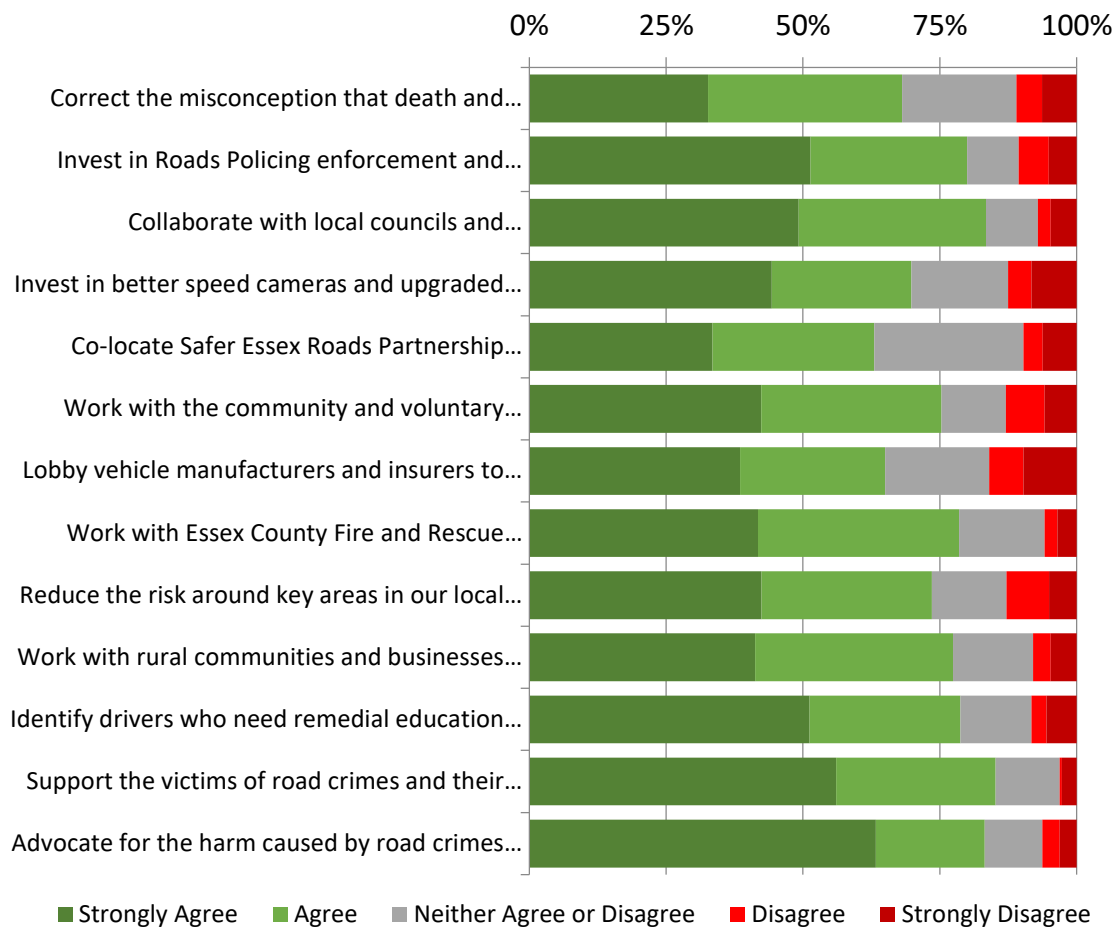
- Rural communities have some different but just as important crimes affecting them, and it is important that organisations such as the Police understand those difficulties so the right approaches are used to meet the needs.
- Improved support and feedback to rural victims of crime should also be considered since the impact in a rural area is far greater than in a suburban area.
- Add priority about recognising the effect of both the fear of crime and the effect of crime on the isolated feeling of rural communities including an identified and easily contactable person (civilian or officer) as long term single point of contact for rural issues in each police district to build public confidence over long term.
- You could repeat the "Neighbourhood Policing" statement from the Prevention of Crime Priority.
- Living within a rural community myself I think the potential of bringing communities into the prevention of crime is huge. Already connecting with social and digital channels - tapping into these existing networks is a great tool for encouraging crime prevention.
- All the above statements are meaningless unless you have the staff based in the areas they are policing. Why have closed many Police Stations? You need boots on the ground to respond quickly they need to be in the location they are looking after.
- Can we have our local police stations back? Rural areas need local police not someone from a town 10 miles away.
- As I said before use mounted police in rural areas so they can be seen to be around and about in areas around farms etc. where cars can't go. Makes the police more accessible & works in Scotland.
- Clamp down on rural locations being used for "dogging", "cruising" and related anti-social behaviour.
- More needs to be done to prevent anti-social behaviour (dogging) in rural areas. It is horrible for locals who feel they cannot enjoy the countryside around them due to others activities.
- Ensure speeding vehicles in rural areas are identified and penalised appropriately.

- Your approach to 'rural communities' actually means 'landowners' who receive a greatly enhanced service compared to other people who live rurally. This is very noticeable and causes tensions. The propaganda on Twitter and FB does little to reassure average members of rural communities. Priorities are skewed. The Rural engagement team do not need to be warranted officers and much of their work could be done by PCSOs. Look at the investigative workloads of those officers, not value for money.
- Heritage crime - really? Another area that has received national focus and is being imposed on us. I think those thousands of people who suffer burglaries every year are more important. How many heritage crimes a year do we have? Lest be realistic - fly tipping, dog theft and hare coursing - you only need to see the news to establish much of this is committed by travellers. Until the force is brave enough to look at this and not be afraid of being called racist et.c a lot of rural problems will persist.
- Hare coursing, wildlife crime, heritage crime, fuel theft, unauthorised encampments, and fly-tipping? Are these really a priority in a county over run with county lines, high murder rates and high levels of cocaine movement linked to organised crime. Also one of the highest areas for fraud victims?
- Hare coursing does clearly need further work.
- But it seems to me that your 'priority crimes' are wrong. The biggest issues in our rural area are motoring offences which seem to have a very low priority. Occasionally there are farm thefts but most reported theft is of relatively low cost items from garden sheds.
- Drug taking, anti-social behaviour and speeding affects more residents so must be a higher priority than hare coursing. We shouldn't have to employ private security firms to protect our villages.
- I question the lack of further funding and support for the Rural Crime Teams. These teams are a lifeline for the communities they serve, and I feel further funding would support them even further.
- I agree and welcome the intent to invest more in rural policing but the focus on "rural crimes" seems arbitrary. As a resident in a small village my concern is much more around the prevention and investigation of more run of the mill criminal activity (e.g. burglary, drug dealing and other more low level anti-social behaviour). Increased police presence in rural areas would be welcome regardless of whether the crime is classified as "rural" or not.
- Help fund "decoy" units to tempt criminals and then use forensic methods to mark them and arrest them later.
- If vehicles were picked up on the ANPR system some form of map of their movements could be created and patterns identified. If this then coincided with criminal activity a more targeted approach could be taken to tracking the traffickers and criminals.
- We are in the rural NW corner of the county, close to the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire borders. One of our biggest problems is that on every fine weekend, from around 8 in the morning to sunset, we have to put up with a constant stream of motorcyclists, keen to experience the ""challenging"" road between Haverhill, Finchingfield and Great Dunmow. Many of these bikes have modified exhausts and the noise is often horrendous, worse when a group of them stop on the village garage forecourt and sit there with their engines running. I estimate that, going through Steeple Bumpstead, around 70% of them are exceeding the 30 m.p.h. limit. We appreciate that on occasions, police motorcyclists have made their presence noticed in the area at the right times, but with modern communications, the number and speed of the bikes drops very quickly after this has been noticed. I realise that we are far from the centre of operations here, but a more routine patrol of the B1057, especially on Sundays, would be much appreciated. There also appears to be an increase in cars, either on their own or in convoy, which are intent on speeding through the village and appear to have either no exhaust or unnecessarily loud ones.

- Is there a traveller registration scheme? It seems to me over 55 years where ever I have lived ""travellers"" have been the blight of the area. Their ability to just move to another police area makes tracking their activity virtually impossible.
- Why do we spend millions moving travellers on when they have no sites to go to? Surely if some areas could be identified and have running water and electricity on hard standing it would be cheaper than taking action over and over again... The councils have an obligation to provide a certain number of sites and by the council not meeting their obligations the police once again are left to deal with very challenging and dangerous situations... Normal society do not understand or trust travellers but they are not going away so we should deal with the matter in a cost effective way and educate both sides.
- Police forces must be willing to enter traveller sites to recover stolen vehicles and farm equipment and stolen dogs. Trackers fitted to the equipment have shown it within traveller sites and Police have refused to go in as these very expensive items are insured.
- Essex Police is very fortunate to the Rural Engagement Team, however more should be carried out through full impact statements in relation to theft of plant / agricultural machinery as theft has a much bigger impact than just the cost of the plant etc. stolen. In addition all Parish Councils should be sent a copy of The Rural Engagement Team Newsletter - this could be sent out with and by working with the EALC. The link could also be shared within the social media network.
- With livestock increasing in parts of Essex and also being within or alongside some parks, more work and signage could carried out in relation to Responsible dog ownership in relation to sheep worrying and livestock being killed by dogs off lead. Also information on the new law in relation to dog thefts the team could work more closely with the Essex Police Dog Watch scheme, enabling the Essex Watch Liaison Officers to run more events independently therefore freeing up Officers of RET.
- Another rural road problem is the increasing habit of utilities companies of putting up road closed and diversion signs long before and not removing them until long after the actual works are in place. These signs are often placed in poorly thought-out locations: apex of blind bends in a 60 limit, for example, with diversions signed down completely unsuitable single-track roads. Complaining to the companies is futile: they blame Essex Highways and Essex Highways blames the utilities. Local people now routinely distrust these signs and I have heard of frustrated drivers moving barriers out of the way when there is clearly no work activity taking place. If there is anything that the police can do to liaise with Highways about this potentially dangerous problem, local road-users would be extremely grateful.
- Rural communities seem to often be overlooked and defined targets should be set in conjunction with relevant villagers, Parish Councils etc. and met.
- Many of these crimes are not limited to Rural Areas.

Improving safety on our roads

86% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority, except that 16% disagreed with lobbying vehicle manufacturers and insurers to roll out active safety technology to reduce driver error, keep pedestrians safe and improve public safety. Between 10% and 12% disagreed with: correcting the misconception that death and injury on our roads is inevitable by working through SERP to deliver Vision Zero; investing in Roads Policing enforcement and prevention activity with extra officers, administration support, more volunteers and increased engagement with the public; investing in better speed cameras and upgraded Automatic Number Plate Recognition tracking; co-locating Safer Essex Roads Partnership agencies to ensure a better service to the public; working with the community and voluntary sector providers to deliver behaviour change and support programmes for drivers caught drug driving and, through better use of intelligence, identify and educate those who are at risk of offending; and reducing the risk around key areas in our local communities and educate drivers by continuing to support Community Speed Watch.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Correct the misconception that death and injury on our roads is inevitable by working through SERP to deliver Vision Zero.	83	90	53	12	16
Invest in Roads Policing enforcement and prevention activity with extra officers, administration support, more volunteers and increased engagement with the public.	131	73	24	14	13
Collaborate with local councils and developers to advocate for new road networks to be safe and have safety technology built in when they are developed.	125	87	24	6	12
Invest in better speed cameras and upgraded Automatic Number Plate Recognition tracking.	113	65	45	11	21
Co-locate Safer Essex Roads Partnership agencies to ensure a better service to the public.	86	76	70	9	16
Work with the community and voluntary sector providers to deliver behaviour change and support programmes for drivers caught drug driving and, through better use of intelligence, identify and educate those who are at risk of offending.	108	84	30	18	15
Lobby vehicle manufacturers and insurers to roll out active safety technology to reduce driver error, keep pedestrians safe and improve public safety.	99	68	49	16	25
Work with Essex County Fire and Rescue Service and other agencies to educate and protect all road users, by activities such as expanding the Fire Bike Scheme and continued road safety awareness for children and young people through the Joint Education Team.	107	94	40	6	9
Reduce the risk around key areas in our local communities and educate drivers by continuing to support Community Speed Watch.	109	80	35	20	13
Work with rural communities and businesses to understand and improve rural road safety.	104	91	37	8	12
Identify drivers who need remedial education by investing in technology to enable the police to process the increasing volume of video evidence supplied from dash-cams through programmes such as Extra Eyes.	130	70	33	7	14
Support the victims of road crimes and their families.	144	75	30	1	7
Advocate for the harm caused by road crimes to be appropriately recognised including by supporting an increase in the maximum sentence for death by dangerous driving to life imprisonment set out in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill.	162	51	27	8	8
Total responses: 257					

244 comments were made about this priority, of which 9 were that it is an important priority and 38 were about the need for better enforcing of laws.

"This is vital. There is too little enforcer of traffic laws - speed, car (exhaust) noise, and parking on double yellows etc. I see police cars just drive a long and ignore minor offenders - what's wrong with just having a quiet word with someone or issuing a ticket? Speeding cars and aggressive drivers are major problems which must be tackled."

22 people highlighted the poor state of roads and infrastructure in Essex which was seen by some as a cause of road accidents and injuries.

"It would also promote greater road safety if the conditions of roads were improved / restored including pot holes repaired , road markings restored, signage fully visible (cutting back hedges etc.) which will all improve overall safety."

"One thing missing is putting pressure on and working more closely with Highways Essex who are failing badly to maintain signage, improve speed reduction equipment and road layouts, agree to speed limit changes when the volume of traffic from their own census data has increased considerably in recent years, especially in rural villages, which are plagued by speeding vehicles 24 hours a day. There are incredibly slow response times to repairing damaged or missing speed limit signs (at least 6 months!) and they ignore pleas for improvements from local residents in villages for road safety improvements. Their default is to use deaths and serious injuries stats as a justification for not taking any action, they are reactive rather than preventative and seem to wait for a a death before doing anything! You only have to drive though Suffolk villages to see a massive improvement in signage, road layouts and monitoring of speeding traffic to see what good looks like! Suffolk County Council are clearly more proactive when it comes to road safety."

21 comments related to the need for more technology, or more use of existing technology - mainly speed cameras but also ANPR, dash cams and the technology to process video evidence from them, vehicle safety technology and better technical capabilities for photographic recording.

15 comments related to the need for prevention and awareness raising on this issue or the need to re-educate drivers.

"Education is sadly missing from the traffic division at present, compared to say the dog section. Partly due to drastic cuts in the service. More emphasis needs to be applied to the public through interaction with visitors at car shows or large public gatherings like the Essex Young Farmers show to show how incidents are dealt with by police and who picks up the pieces! Government doesn't help by withdrawing resources from the 'Think' campaign and only dealing with road safety professionals. Road safety awareness does not end with children and young people. It should be aimed at everyone continually."

Eight people suggested something missing from the priority: policing the roads with Police personnel rather than Highways agency staff; no mention of drug and drink drivers; no mention of electric scooters (2 mentions) or cycles (2 mentions); no mention of supplementary driver training; consider speed limits associated with areas that accommodate housing, schools, shops, wild animals and pedestrians; the potential of

danger from silent, or near silent, electric cars to pedestrians who are blind or partially sighted or just texting.

81 people raised specific points. Eight felt that the standard of driving has deteriorated significantly. Five respondents criticised smart motorways and wanted them abolished. Five people wanted zero tolerance for drug and/or drink driving, with 2 also wanting motorists convicted of this to be banned for life. Five people wanted road laws to be imposed on or introduced for cyclists, e.g. going through red lights or cycling on footpaths. Two suggested focusing on those causing a nuisance and danger to themselves and others such as scooter riders, e-scooter riders and those on Pit-bikes. Three respondents wanted vehicle pavement parking to be illegal, or to be dealt with. Four people said that there are still too many drivers using mobile phones or texting.

There other specific points raised were:

- Educate and inform all road users, pedestrians and especially cyclists. The latter seem to have a privileged place as a road user as well as being a danger to pedestrians. How about recovering some costs by requiring cyclists to be registered and insured. Also to take a test to prove they are aware the rules of the Highway Code. Some seem oblivious to what a red traffic light means! Or that cycle lanes are for them to use.
- Bring back traffic officers and vehicles increase their presence on our roads and towns start issuing fines for those offences that continue to be made every day use of mobile phones and drink driving should be zero tolerance full stop be seen to be proactive in the area and enforce things like broken lights cracked windscreen dirty number plates etc. etc.
- Target poor driving generally and not focus solely on speeding as a cash cow.
- The issue of reckless (and illegal) parking causes tremendous problems in Billericay which I have reported to them but so far no response/action has been noted. This matter has also been reported to ECC with the same (non) result. As an example, traffic proceeding along Western Road towards the High St from about 1700 onwards is obstructed to the extent that movement is restricted to single file. The illegal parking often extends up to the Western Road surgery which means that traffic in both directions cannot see vehicles coming towards them over the brow of the hill (this part of the road has double white lines in the centre) which is an accident (or several even) just waiting to happen. This situation extends well into the evening but at least them oncoming vehicles can see the headlights of vehicles travelling in the opposite direction. This is just one example, we are in dire need of joined-up thinking from all the authorities involved - police, council, etc.
- Parking in disabled bays without a blue badge need to be fought and fined, this is so bad in Brentwood high street. And parking on the pavements along Brentwood High street should have double fines, I'm appalled that this has not been tightened up by giving out hefty fines to the offenders.
- Pavements also being used for parking and increasing number of bikes and mobility scooters being used without any form of signal to those who are hearing impaired.
- Crack down on antisocial road use caused by vehicles purposely modified to backfire through the exhaust system and driving round our roads waking our sleeping children . There appears to be no risk in individuals to do this at the moment as it is totally ignored. I understand that it is not a priority compared to other crimes but even a small amount of enforcement would make individuals think about it before they modify their cars.
- All of these make sense but this requires a specific objective on addressing anti-social motorbikes and cars using currently owned technology by Essex police in addressing. Specific parts of Essex have a huge problem with speeding motorbikes and cars that are often equipped with illegal exhausts making huge amounts of disruptive noise. The PFCC know this is a problem as they have had one meeting about it but there has, to my

understanding, been no follow up. This is an easy win to address consistently throughout the County with current technology and consistency of message.

- We will tackle excessive noisy cars by lobbying the government and manufacturers and by stopping cars which have modified exhausts that are loud and disturb local communities - Epping is a real victim of this problem - so many cars the Rev through streets especially near the station. Noise is the next big issue to tackle - it used to be data but noise is the future.
- I live at the edge of the town driver's use the road to show off their hi performance vehicles Noise etc. etc. (can be very annoying/dangerous) so I do support any effort to help curb this but I would like to see more efforts to save police from having to chase them.
- Must hit hard speeding and dangerous driving around homes and schools.
- If we are serious about reducing dangerous driving on our roads we simply need all cars to have speed limit devices fitted and everyone over 70 years old to retake a driving test... More devices that capture numbers plates and a system to weed out the cars on the road with no mot /insurance /tax. Sadly we all know people driving under the influence and or without correct documentation.
- Our village has a speed request of 20mph by our school and 30mph yet it cannot be enforced by speed cameras unless we find the funds. We experience several crashes per year, even one through the school wall and a fatality just outside the village. All Police vehicles put on sirens and blue lights to pass through the village at excess speed despite the bends and concealed entrances along the main road. Lead by example, I'm sure not every journey through our village is a "shout".
- Speeding in rural 30mph limits is a real challenge for many communities. Establishing a "whole system" approach with local rural communities, working with Parish Councils, to offer a co-ordinated approach, including community speed watch, fixed and mobile cameras and SID. As a Parish Council Chairman - the challenge of navigating the system to try and support a local community to address this issue indicates a need to reform so communities can take a pro-active lead in supporting the statutory sector to address speeding in rural communities.
- Please pay special attention to problems for blind and disabled members of the public, including electric cars with regards to lack of engine sounds, and electric scooters rider by incompetent people.
- 1. No Driving Licences issued under the age of 21; 2. No night time driving for 12 months after passing a driving test & a limit on the number of passengers carried; 3. Immediate and unconditional revocation of driving licence for driving without insurance and a bar on retesting for a minimum of 12 months; 4. Vehicle confiscated permanently for driving without insurance; 5. Minimum two-year disqualification AND retest for drink or drug driving; 6. Retesting at age 75 and every three years thereafter.
- Campaign to have planning laws changed so that ALL new developments have sufficient "off street" parking and ALL new developments have pavements on BOTH sides of the road.
- Having a strong voice with regard to inappropriate planning applications that cause/contribute to road safety issues is very important, and local issues and concerns should be taken account of.
- Vehicles that are not taxed or insured should be a priority.
- Target aggressive dangerous driving. Not simply minor infringements. 35 vs. 55 often same outcome. 35 on main road limited risk. Estate roads high risk. Same penalty.
- Separate safe bike lanes... It would help if people had a safe alternative to driving. Buses are not reliable. Cycling on roads is dangerous. Could we look at the roads we have and make a network for bikes to travel safely? We have far too many cars on the roads..

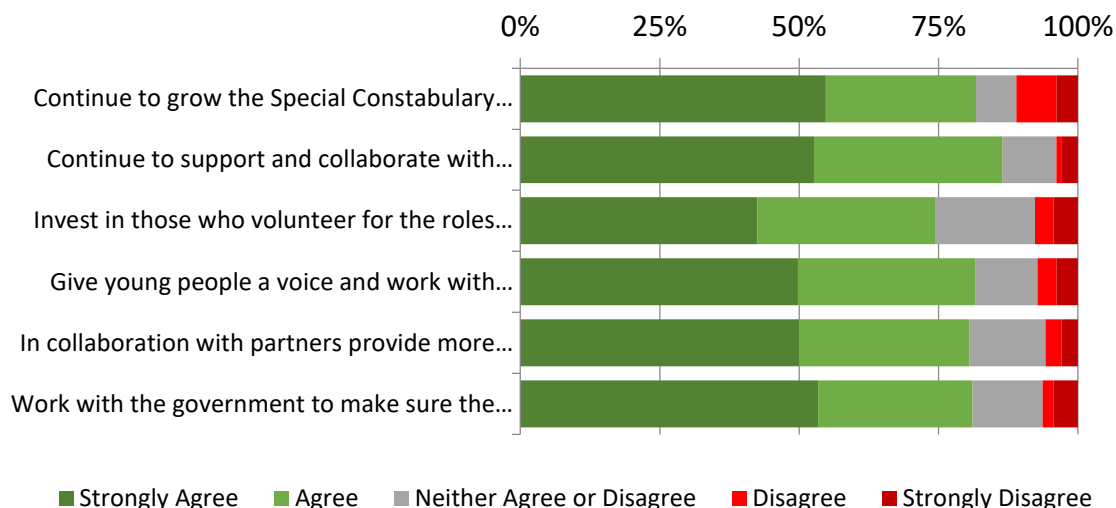
- I am a community speed watch volunteer. I would like to see included a process to more efficiently include other speeding hotspots. Also improve the technology on the equipment capability i.e. photographic recording the vehicle registration number. On CSW sessions too many offences could not be correctly recorded. Also poor feedback on log reports.
- You haven't even got enough traffic officers now so nothing has changed u haven't even given Speedwatch groups better equipment or signs like other areas in the country do.
- As a volunteer for local Speedwatch, it is imperative that we occasionally have Police backing up the volunteers with their presence and obviously there is a massive need for average speed check cameras installed, which would pay for themselves and reduce the need for volunteers like myself.
- This whole statement relies on volunteers to inform the police of wrongdoing there are no extra officers , any officers on enforcement will be doing this on overtime and it's just not feasible at all that there will be no deaths on roads it's just total pie in the sky
- Police will have to improve their attitude to volunteers to make this viable.
- I heavily promote the Extra Eyes scheme and think that it would be great idea to have interior roundels created, like the old tax disc holders with the Extra eyes link upon for easy access to see and send, this could assist the Police in a more speedily way to gain information from drivers.
- Extra Eyes needs to be easier to access. Is there even a direct link via the Essex. Police.uk website?
- Significantly increase fines for offences such as using a mobile phone while driving.
- Something needs to be done to address drivers with no insurance, especially when they cause damage to someone else.
- Advocate for drivers who have accrued 12 points on their licences to not be able to use the hardship code is exemption (they've had 12 points to learn) to have their privileges revoked for a meaningful time and to have to retest before they are able to drive again.
- Police 20mph zones.
- Support of 20mph initiatives.
- Road humps penalise those driving within the limit, as well as waste fuel and cause more noise and pollution. As do chicanes, and gates across half the road. The aim should be to target those in excess of the limit, and to get the traffic through as smoothly as possible.
- Don't know what vision zero is. There should be much more emphasis on rural road safety and speeding through villages.
- What is SERP and Vision Zero?
- A lot of jargon here. SERP, Vision Zero might mean something to you but sadly it means nothing to me.
- This was in your first term pledge, this is the responsibility of SERP!, if SERP is not working find out why !
- Co-locating SERPS to give better service to public, how? They were at Billericay Police station pre-CoVid and that worked fine. Since then it is now Zoom/Teams. Service to public has not got any better or worse. My understanding is that Drug Driving cannot be dealt with like Drink Drive with an offer of 25% reduction if attending a rehabilitation course, as it requires a legislation change.
- I know that speeding can be dangerous, but continually reducing the limits and providing a forest of speed cameras sends the wrong message to me. Why not do something a little more proactive and target drivers that are driving too slowly, 30mph down to 25 mph on each gentle curve in roads with 40/50 or no restriction only encourages people to pass them which is probably more dangerous. Ridiculous speed limits around schools when they are closed for holidays or in the evenings.

- You need to work with the pedestrians as well as they are quite happy no wonder about not paying attention to their surroundings.
- Have a sensible rule regarding roundabouts. Probably 99% of all roundabouts are a one way road with no possibility to turn right, you'd end up in the middle with nowhere to go! So stop the silly idea of indicating right when driving round a roundabout, and encourage people to only indicate left when they are leaving, with right indication only as a warning if they find themselves in a 'wrong lane'. The two way roundabouts need special instructions which in effect should be little different from normal.
- Greater use of technology to stop and prevent convicted or unlicensed drivers from getting back behind the wheel. They are a menace and there seems to be little that is done to stop them re offending multiple times.
- Work with manufacturers to reduce vehicles ability to travel faster than 70mph (except emergency services vehicles of course).
- When working with vehicle manufacturers has the installation of forward to rear facing cameras in all new vehicles been considered.
- More 20mph around schools, greater use of ANPR. Less speed cameras more traffic light cameras .
- I think I would prioritise the improvement of ANPR. Make it mandatory for vehicle manufacturers to provide all vehicles with dash cams. Make it mandatory for Cyclists to take a test and carry insurance. Take more action to ensure disqualified drivers do not drive.
- Focus on offences/behaviour that leads to deaths i.e. Fatal Four. Traffic officers need the right objectives and priorities to have the most impact. Some traffic officers go for easy option and target minor RTA offences that are not key drivers to death and serious injury.
- You've literally proved my point in your questions. Overwhelming bias towards speed enforcement. Don't you realise you're killing people with this evil, one size fits all enforcement?
- More work and information could be given to members of the public about ANPR and the amazing results regarding picking up stolen vehicles or interest to the Police. This would make great publicity for the Police as one of the most useful tools the Police have.
- Why not: we will aim to reduce deaths on Essex road by x% by 202x. We will do this by: working with... supporting... lobbying etc., etc. We will seek to reduce serious accidents by y% by 202y. We will do this by: see above.
- Target safety around schools.
- There is little evidence of the targeting of poor/dangerous drivers other than endless enforcement of 30mph speed limits which is not reassuring. Local officers have little interest or expertise in road traffic offences, although huge resources are committed to motorcycles on byways! ANPR is a moot point if there are not enough frontline resources to respond to activations, if you want a case study look at the number of activations of cameras at Carver barracks and Great Chesterford that are never even circulated by Control as they get no response from local units. Look at the data that exists.
- Speed limits are haphazard. There is no logic. The A120 at Stansted is 70mph max speed then the slip road off to the roundabout is 50mph but just when you get to the roundabout it becomes 70 again!! Many country roads like Panfield Road CM7 5BJ have a 60mph limit with houses one side of the road. Other places it s 40 mph.
- Once again a lot of resource spent discussing and little additional enforcement. Why are we looking to work vehicle manufacturers at a county level, surely that should be a national effort?
- Essex road safety is one of the best in the country already. No extra funding required in this area. Maybe an increase with inflation.
- Victim support should not be a police matter.

- Lorry drivers need to be targeted - so many incidences are with lorry drivers who are aggressive on motor ways, seen to be on phones whilst driving, driving when tired.
- Would Essex County Council spearhead law change, (e.g. start in rural villages) that all 30 mph speed limits be reduced to 20 mph limit? Many rural villages have no street lighting, pavements, off road parking. Seeing an increase in walking families, cycling families, dog walkers, horse riders, online vehicles deliveries, etc., we desperately need to legislate to retain the lower pace on our roads which were the norm during the pandemic. Rural/side roads through villages are not a convenience for vehicle users/abusers. We need to use what the pandemic has taught us and re-set to 20 mph speed limit.
- Bring back the min 100mph speed limit on motorways and do away with traffic cops.
- I generally agree with the initiatives, although I think spend on some is misplaced. For instance, aspiring to zero deaths/injuries on our roads is fanciful - we live in a risk-based society, and therefore have to accept that some activities will remain hazardous, even though the level of risk can be mitigated. Also, simply increasing penalties for certain motor offences is unlikely to act as a deterrent to those who drive dangerously - unfortunately people will continue to drive as they do notwithstanding the consequences (which usually become apparent only after the event). An analogy is the use of the death penalty in some societies - this doesn't stop killings taking places.
- Speeding and travelling too close, (especially by HGVs) are major issues. Even though a driver may think he is competent to drive at speed, he does not know what is around the next corner. Many people have drives which have restricted visibility.
- Prioritise the really dangerous drivers - drink/drugs/very high speeding (not 3 miles over the speed limit) /dangerous driving. Encourage appropriate speeds on single track roads and drivers not to drive over the middle white line.
- There is no point introducing traffic calming measures unless the areas are policed or have traffic cameras.
- HGV illegally parking in residential areas.
- Your "Road safety" is TOTALLY reliant on speed enforcement. It's evil and your actions are killing people by you ignoring the most dangerous of actions by drivers and other road users. Every death is on your hands as you choose to just focus on speeding. Just compare for example speeding violations detected per month to ANY OTHER TRAFFIC VIOLATION. It's sick.
- Concentration should be given to driving in rural locations. I have also noted in other areas of the UK using signage on country roads which depict single user warning, indicating adult and children walking in the road, cyclists and horses etc.
- More action in regards to street racing on Roscommon Way, Canvey Island.
- Lead by example , the other day I saw a police car tearing out of McDonald's /BP at the Boreham interchange , I thought he must be going to a job until I followed him and he shot off up the road breaking the speed limit flying into the Costa /KFC drive through!!!

Encouraging volunteers and community support

76% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with all of the 'We Will' statements under this priority except that 11% disagreed with continuing to grow the Special Constabulary with the aim to have a Special Constable in every town and parish, growing the Community Special programme, and one supported by every major business through the Employer Supported Policing Scheme.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Continue to grow the Special Constabulary with the aim to have a Special Constable in every town and parish, growing the Community Special programme, and one supported by every major business through the Employer Supported Policing Scheme.	114	56	15	15	8
Continue to support and collaborate with Neighbourhood Watch and look to develop other watch schemes such as Farm and Rural Watch, and Pub Watch as well as supporting CrimeStoppers.	109	70	20	2	6
Invest in those who volunteer for the roles embedded in the PFCC's Office including Restorative Justice Volunteers, Independent Custody Visitors and Dog Welfare Visitors to ensure they are skilled and feel valued and appreciated.	88	66	37	7	9
Give young people a voice and work with them to understand the particular risks and challenges they face and use this insight to develop how Essex Police and Partners work with them to prevent and tackle crime.	103	66	23	7	8
In collaboration with partners provide more opportunities for young people to make a positive contribution to their communities through engaging in positive activity such as the Firebreak Scheme and Police and Fire Cadets.	103	63	28	6	6
Work with the government to make sure the pledged £500m investment in youth services delivers for young people in Essex.	110	57	26	4	9
Total responses: 208					

There were 199 comments under this priority, of which 47 were to the effect that this should not be necessary and/or should not replace paid police.

“Special Constables were created at the start of WW1 as an ‘emergency measure’ rather like the now defunct Licensing Laws. They are an out dated organisation past their sell by date. They serve to undermine the professionalism of regular officers, as do PCSO’s. Both should be disbanded and the money used to Increase Regular police numbers.”

“Having been a volunteer with the service, I believe we are used a "cheap labour" as the responsibilities are enormous and the training can be difficult. Although I always felt appreciated by my paid bosses, I still think using volunteers is policing on the cheap!”

23 people said that volunteers need resourcing and to have support from officers or training.

“Those supporting the community and policing should be fully trained, paid and have the same powers whether deemed ‘special’ constables or actual police officers.”

18 people made positive comments about having volunteers and community support.

“A special constable for our village would be great. When we had our own PCSO, it was appreciated and I believe it was effective.”

“I agree with encouraging greater levels of community engagement but, as regards, Special Constables specifically I hope that they will be in addition to rather than in place of regular police officers.”

Four respondents felt that something is missing: encouraging volunteers and community support from other areas e.g. BAME, LGBTQ, travellers etc.; no mention of Business Watch/business against crime schemes; and no mention of Community Speedwatch.

There were 36 specific points raised:

- Recognition of the volunteer work Special Constables do. Public perception is that PCSO’s are the volunteers. Specials have powers of arrest etc. and take same risks as regular police officers. This message needs to be clearer in the public. Also consider small reward for specials such as reduced council tax.
- I would just like to point out that, in relation to the first statement about the special constabulary and parish constables, this was trialled in the late 1990's. I was part of a scheme whereby we tried to get one parish constable for each parish on the Dengie. We managed to recruit, as far as I remember, around 8 people who did this. It did start to work well, but like most things fell by the wayside, as nothing was ever done to support it. We got our own radios and worked from home really, in that we were able to book on with FIR at the time. I had a Police issue bicycle which gave me a wider scope on my parish as it was quite spread out. It could work well but would need a lot of support from the CPT. Neighbourhood watch was very active in my parish, but again this seems to have fallen by the wayside as no one person is there as a liaison between Police and the coordinators. We, as a force, need to invest in staff to support the volunteers out there or they just drift away.
- I think the current pledge of £500ml is woefully inadequate. Politicians must be persuaded to support all voluntary groups and invest in training and support for all young people.

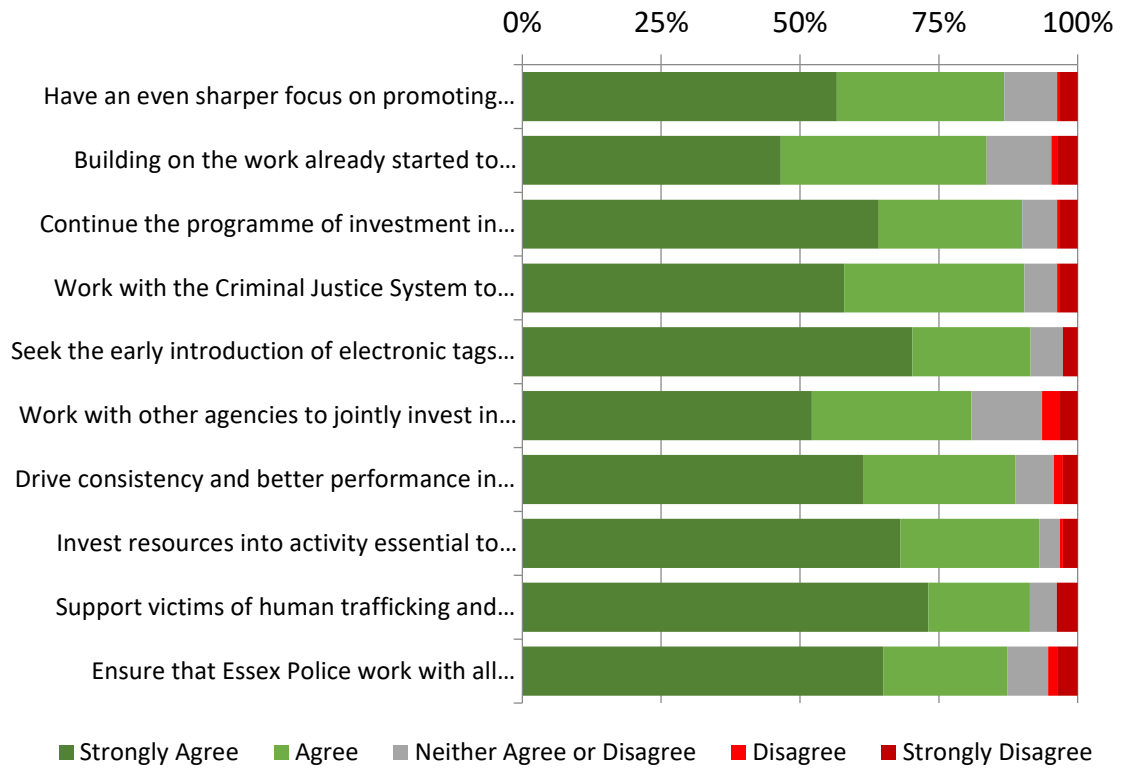
- Special Constabulary will only be provided if Town and Parish Councils pay for this service. This survey does not make this clear.
- There is a real and pressing need to streamline the volunteer-recruitment process with various organisations where it is held up by vetting processes. Vetting processes are important but need to be timely - my personal example was over 18 months to vet me to become a Restorative Justice (RJ) volunteer, during which time I had moved on to other and different volunteer roles, despite having done the RJ training at the start of the volunteer recruitment activity. A dreadful waste of time, effort and resources, to no end.
- Concerned that the cost of continuing to grow the Special Constabulary outweighs the benefits returned. A strength of 500 officers seems appropriate for the force and it will require considerable work to maintain that. Further growth seems unrealistic and unnecessary.
- You are just going back to how things were done. The idea of special constables is another way for rural communities to pay for their policing. In the district area where I live we pay extra on our council tax to pay for 2 police officers, yet the rural areas never see them.
- Encourage community support yes but should invest and employ rather than looking for cheap options.
- More must be done to get SPC's access to local facilities so that it become easier for them to go from civil job to special after work.
- I always felt the neighbourhood action panel was a good initiative.
- Use civilians, not Police for these jobs.
- Above are tick box statements you want to increase the size of the SC as many are leaving monthly as are being recruited. A lot use this as a stepping stone into the job at a vast expense to EP to train and equip them.
- The Specials and Cadets continue to grow. Neighbourhood Watch is already heavily supported, however they over quote their membership numbers and Co-ordinators only share information if the individual contact feels that it is relevant to them or their area. Criminals travel and therefore information should be shared with all members as it may prevent them becoming a victim of such crime. The EWLO's run very effective watch schemes with the Farm What members providing more information / intelligence than any other Watch group.
- We have a so-called "Neighbourhood Watch" scheme which has degenerated into a "Neighbourhood Slugging Off" space on Facebook. I don't have the bandwidth to address that but I expect some of the older schemes would benefit from a reboot.
- Neighbourhood Watch is an independent organisation responsible for their own actions and finance and activity - Essex Police can sign post to Neighbourhood Watch.
- Dog Watch could be enhanced to encourage being more of the eyes, ears in their communities and receive updates on crimes within their area and be encouraged to sign up for Essex Police Social Media notices and also the Rural Policing team Social media, as there are the ones out and about more at various hours and may be more pivotal in providing information on their local area and beyond both urban and rurally.
- Pub Watch is not administered by the Essex Watch Liaison Officers, it needs to be administered by a Police Officer or part of Police Team as this is a near 24 hour scheme.
- Give the kids back their youth clubs, off-road biking and make it a statutory obligation to provide a centre for young people to learn and have fun.
- Get the kids involved in speed watch, and looking out for problems in their neighbourhoods. Empower them so they grow up hopeful or a better standards in public life.
- Lots of fine words here but we need Action, especially regarding youth provision. It's not just about punishing wrong doers but in making youngsters proud of themselves, their skills and attributes... We need a massive youth worker programme.

- Youth Services and Youth Provision needs to be the top priority.
- You encourage youth crime by the force's treatment of the youth.
- The engagement of youth is not police work. It is youth services which are presumably part of social services. Policemen should be scary not best mates as they were back in the day. They have often a nasty job to do and playing Mr Nice Guy to unruly youngsters is not part of the brief.
- Due to public money being cut, lots of children are just hanging around as they have nothing to do and nowhere to go. Most families cannot afford out of school activities or groups. So they hang around in big groups and then they start to be anti-social and cause mischief by egging each other on.
- What's missing is an understanding those who join the Police Cadets or the FRS equivalent were never destined to be troublesome in the first place. It is absurd to believe such young people have or even might have been diverted from any potential wrongdoing. They were ALWAYS going to be the good guys, with or without hand-wringing, well-meaning partnership approaches. Consider young people with gun licences. Some ill-informed individuals throw up their hands in horror at the idea, but grant a gun licence to a young person who embraces shooting and he/she can never get into any trouble with the police, since to do so risks near-certain revocation of the licence. In short, we don't need to target the good. They were already good!
- No one respects the uniform! Officers need to earn their respect, it's not just given anymore. Times have changed the uniform means nothing. Until you understand that you'll never make improvement for the young.
- Investment for older residents who do not use social media and feel isolated and frightened.
- Regular checks on how each organisation is spending grants given.
- The advertising costs in association with reaching out for volunteers often sits with local Town & Parish Councils, whilst this is not 'Missed' I feel it is under-funded and therefore lacks the gravitas needed to be fully functioning.
- Encouraging the public to assist where possible to prevent crimes should be taken up. I would offer help for free. I think a regular monthly lost online for volunteer vacancies would be a good idea. Hopefully leading to permanent paid employment for some younger ones.
- What about neighbourhood watch proactive support? Will Essex police publish the numbers of fire arm certificates held in each parish, town city and county? That's a great potential for crime.
- Are neighbourhood watch schemes in decline?
- The Essex Community Messaging system is now defunct and was such a waste of money, when there are so many other free ways to gain access on crimes and advice through Essex Police Social Media or on the website. It appears that some Policing teams across Essex produce fantastic activity updates. There is an Organised crime Newsletter, a Business Crime newsletter, Rural Policing Team Newsletter more could be done to send these out to groups and continual Social media updates give instant info on Missing persons, traffic, wanteds and crimes and requests for information.
- Link in with established volunteer groups in community to increase diversity in volunteering.
- Volunteers is not the way forward and the plans for policing degrees will lose many capable people taking up a career in the police.
- Volunteers only offer limited support in limited time periods.
- Help to keep volunteers safe from abuse.
- Volunteers hides the true cost of the fight against crime and creates a underpowered response to crime.

- Use volunteers to do some of the admin that police offices now have to do. You will be surprised how many people step up when asked.
- Volunteer definitions seem narrow as does identifying investment for Volunteers in PFCC's office.

Protecting vulnerable people and those affected by crime and abuse

89% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Have an even sharper focus on promoting awareness of domestic abuse, protecting, and supporting victims and survivors, and their dependents, investing further to strengthen the support available to them.	107	49	17	1	5
Building on the work already started to further develop our understanding of the specific nature and impact of domestic abuse in rural communities and invest in initiatives to prevent and tackle it.	88	62	20	2	6
Continue the programme of investment in dedicated officers working in collaboration with other partners to support high volume repeat victims and tackle repeat perpetrators and break the cycle of domestic abuse.	122	44	10	1	5
Work with the Criminal Justice System to monitor the use and effectiveness of legislation in managing offenders, such as Domestic Violence Protection Orders, Domestic Abuse Protection Orders and Stalking Protection Orders.	109	54	10	1	5
Seek the early introduction of electronic tags for perpetrators of domestic abuse and related offences, such as stalking, harassment, physical abuse, and coercive control, upon release from prison to better protect victims and address the behaviours of offenders.	132	37	9	0	4
Work with other agencies to jointly invest in behavioural change programmes for perpetrators to break the cycle of domestic abuse.	98	51	21	5	5
Drive consistency and better performance in the response to domestic abuse across all agencies to bring more perpetrators to justice and reduce repeat offending.	115	45	13	3	4
Invest resources into activity essential to preventing the harm caused by high-risk sexual offenders.	128	42	7	1	4
Support victims of human trafficking and modern slavery including sexual exploitation and continue to promote close working with the UK Border Agency, National Crime Agency, and national and regional partners to support victims and bring perpetrators to justice.	136	27	8	0	6
Ensure that Essex Police work with all communities across Essex to hold the confidence of those communities and work together to effectively challenge discrimination and tackle crime.	123	37	13	3	6
Total responses: 190					

There were just 102 comments about this priority, 10 of which were about its importance. 14 people wanted offenders to be caught and sentenced appropriately.

“The perpetrators of domestic violence are not just the problem of their partners... They are societies problem.. They can be extremely violent individuals and we need

to give the police the power to deal with them before they damage people mentally and physically... “

“Lobby government for appropriate sentences for these crimes should be on the list. All the "investment" in all these areas is wasted if the sentence does not fit the crime (as is so often the case) and the support of VICTIMS (here we are again) who have consequently been let down, is lost.”

Seven respondents felt that this is not a role for the Police while 8 felt that it is a role for other agencies. A further 6 said that support services in this area are needed.

“What about 'we will implement the law' Police are not social workers and all the above should be passed to the appropriate service. Police job should be to solve crime which will result in less crime being committed as they will know that they will be caught.”

“Again, prevention is key to reducing demand on all agencies, but especially the police, prevention has to be led by education, health and social services, not left to the police to lead through crime prevention investments after the fact. Whilst the police have and are making significant investments in preventative activities, more needs to be done in the wider agency settings.”

16 people identified something that is missing under this priority, mainly that there is no mention of sexual violence or child sexual abuse, or sexual abuse within the home. Also not mentioned were: overseas agencies or police forces; older people and others who are vulnerable or have protected characteristics; male victims of domestic abuse; victims of false claims of abuse; and tackling the causes of domestic abuse.

The 30 specific other points raised are as follows:

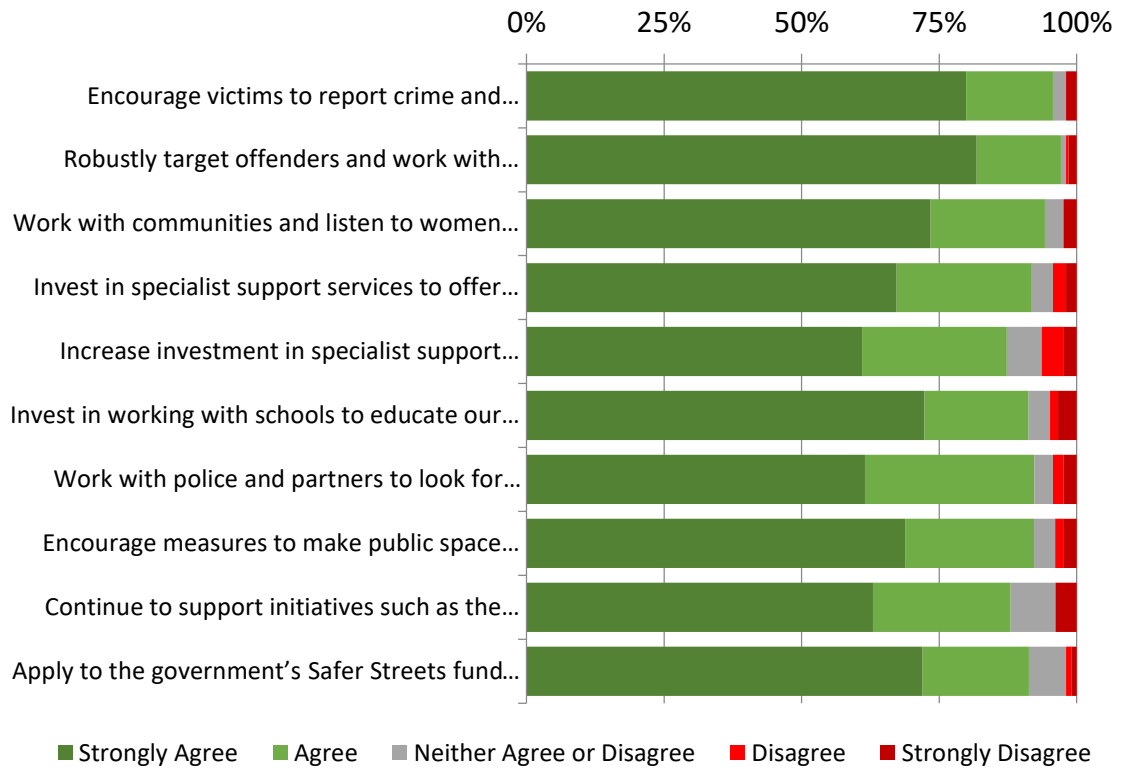
- Get some good training for your officers to better understand coercive control. I would also recommend some training on the impact of Trauma. How an officer responds and the language they use determines the subsequent relationship they have with the victim and their trust in the police. These things are vital for the Police to support victims appropriately. This goes for the Courts too. So much to learn. Only 2-5% of domestic abuse cases have violence in them. Call it domestic abuse, not domestic violence.
- Sex offenders should not be living in the community causing stress to others and may be harm. Secure mental health facilities should be in place to safe guard children and young adults and people these sex offenders do not change they become worse and they have no boundaries and sadly more people become victims also with rape victims needs to have a safe environment to live a normal life without fear and worry.
- Children need to have a safe channel at school to be able to report abuse and domestic violence, even at the primary level.
- Listen to people and you will see what concerned them and how you can help. Rather than the I know best approach that is current.
- Please just listen to victims and their families.
- Not sure orders work against most extreme perpetrators. There should be better protection for victims.
- Will you inform victims when abusers are released?
- Encourage and increase the use of Victim impact statements.
- The PFCC should arrange an activity analysis/ time and motion study as used to take place, it may make startling reading in respect of frontline officers time spent purely on

Domestic Abuse and Athena tasks. This is no exaggeration, supervisors can no longer supervise due to the burden of Athena ! Again, rural communities receive little service.

- Onus regarding modern slavery etc should be dealt with by NCA / border force, this is usually left to local forces which they do not have capacity for. If the courts dealt with suspects properly then this would also reduce reoffending and protect vulnerable people. Maybe the PFCC should be more vocal about this issue?
- The police are currently doing too much for DA incidents. Arresting every DA suspect puts victims at risk, particularly if there is no support for prosecution. We should investigate the crime as we do all crimes but not to the extent where we actively seek to arrest and prosecute all offenders regardless of the circumstances/ offence.
- You need to put officers /staff co-located with partners if you don't it is always going to be ineffective. Most agencies have their own agenda but if you place together you can properly safeguard victims and work as one team to achieve the best possible outcome for victims. Cut the bureaucracy around this and make it happen.
- To have a sharper focus on these issues will require extensive training and commitment.
- I feel that the Police should take a low profile in some of this to make it easier for victims to report.
- Electronic tags would be a great idea for all criminals. Show the public who the criminals are. Bring back the orange volunteer waistcoats for criminals who do community work.
- I strongly agree with all above and wish the Government would make ID cards mandatory as they do on the continent .
- Abuse is not always physical, and not just women that suffer.
- Mental health and disability vulnerable people young and old and lone people who live alone practically everyone and victims of crime abuse, rape and violence .
- Not all vulnerable people can seem that way, education and upbringing is no protection. Hopefully police know this when assessing the vulnerability of an individual.
- Seek the early introduction of electronic tags for perpetrators of domestic abuse and related offences, such as stalking, harassment, physical abuse, and coercive control, upon release from prison to better protect victims and address the behaviours of offenders.
- Ensure that the ethnicity and/or religion of perpetrators does not compromise the willingness to investigate and prosecute.
- Please stop acknowledging honour killings as such and stop pandering to an acceptance of domestic abuse in certain cultures. Yes all faiths, creeds and colour are capable of abuse but again make sure true equality exists as per U.K. laws without exception or tolerance. There is a woman locally who is IC4 who walks around all day knocking on doors saying can she come in and that she is depressed. She is well known as suffering mental health issues but the suspicion is that of domestic abuse, we tried to signpost her to get help, but why again are some communities more protected and shielded than others? Equality is not working, because people are frightened to challenge minority groups yet again.
- Listen to teachers and shopkeepers. The locals know who the offenders are, so why aren't they monitored?
- The police should be the initial protectors but the long term care should be with the appropriate authorities or services.
- Encourage more reporting of domestic abuse.
- The establishment of refuge centres is becoming increasingly important. May redundant building stock in the Essex police (and fire service) portfolios be brought forward to satisfy this initiative?
- Further investment into perpetrator programmes is welcomed. Community awareness through the continued support of the J9 initiative is important.

Reducing violence against women and girls

89% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Encourage victims to report crime and support them through the criminal justice system.	167	33	5	0	4
Robustly target offenders and work with Essex Police and partners to develop stronger investigations that lead to more successful prosecutions.	171	32	2	1	3
Work with communities and listen to women and girls directly affected by violence and harassment to discuss and understand what we can do differently and use this feedback to inform our future work.	152	43	7	0	5
Invest in specialist support services to offer the support and help that victims need to move on.	140	51	8	5	4
Increase investment in specialist support services such as counselling, advocacy, and therapeutic support and Independent Sexual Violence Advisors.	125	54	13	8	5
Invest in working with schools to educate our children on healthy relationships and create a culture where male violence against women and girls is unacceptable.	149	39	8	3	7
Work with police and partners to look for ways to reduce the fear women feel in their communities.	128	64	7	4	5
Encourage measures to make public space free from abuse and harassment.	142	48	8	3	5
Continue to support initiatives such as the SOS Bus, Ask for Angela, Purple Flag and Best Bar None to help women be safer in the night-time economy.	131	52	17	0	8
Apply to the government's Safer Streets fund to improve lighting, CCTV and safety in town centres and key hotspots.	149	40	14	2	2
Total responses: 209					

181 comments were made under this priority, of which 44 reflected views that men and boys should also be included here, not just women and girls. Another 19 people said that this should apply to all people.

“The whole of this is discriminative. There should be no difference between men and women or boys and girls. The same level of care should be offered to all.”

“Women and girls are far less likely to suffer violence than men and boys, yet because it happens rarely it makes headlines and as usual there is a knee jerk reaction to it. Men suffer domestic abuse too but it is an unseen abuse. Prevent violence against all and not single out groups.”

17 people said that this is a very important priority and 8 highlighted that support services are needed in this area.

"I strongly agree with all of these statements. As a father of 3 girls, and violence against women and sexual harassment against all people is something that concerns me greatly."

Ten respondents felt that offenders should be detained and prosecuted with more severe sentences.

"These offenders should not be given no penalties. If more was done to protect women and girls from repeat acts of abuse would be the answer. We let them go to repeat what they are doing. Send the message out these offenders will Not be tolerated. Punishment should be high so offenders will think twice."

Ten comments were about the absence of street lighting. Five people felt that awareness raising and support services should not be a role for the Police.

Nine people suggested that the priority should refer to reducing all violence or reducing violence against all people.

"100% agree that the objective is to support a cultural change within society and provide strong, consistent, and vocal support for the safety of women and girls whether they report crimes against them or not. But should the police force not be striving to support a cultural change within society and provide strong, consistent, and vocal support for the safety of ALL the community if they report crimes against them or not?"

14 respondents highlighted something that is missing from this priority, mostly rape/sexual violence, child sexual abuse and abuse within other cultures. One person suggested that the phrase "We will not tolerate offenders" is missing, another that it is important to continue pursuing older sexual abuse crimes, a third that advising women on how to protect themselves from sexual violence would be useful.

There were 29 other specific points made:

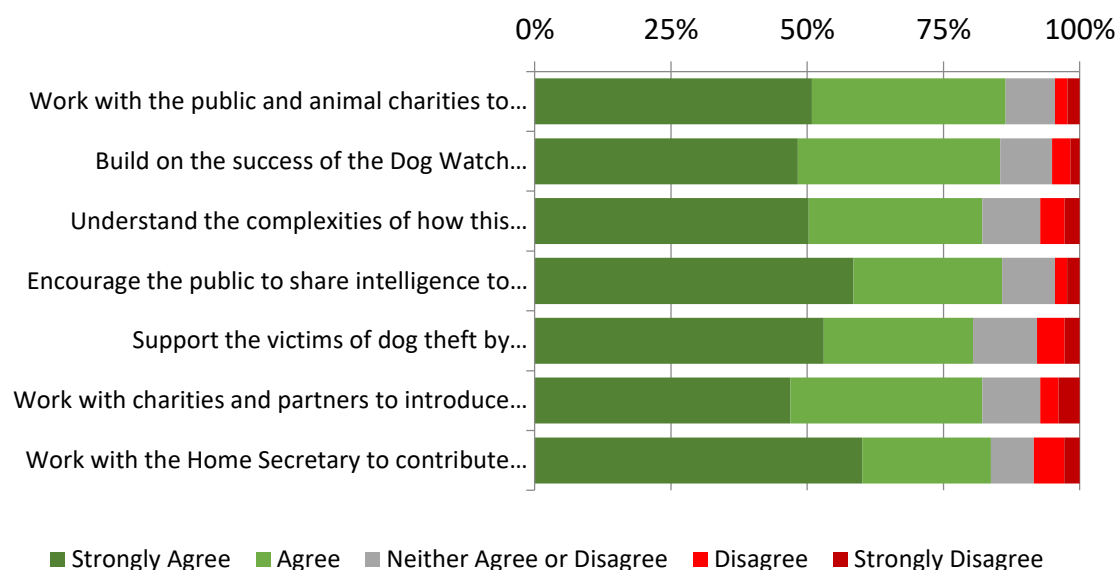
- Women must feel they are able to report e.g. rape and to be able to see a female police officer.
- There should be more Female officers allocated to the safety of females.
- Therefore more women in the police force.
- Provide more education and training for police officers in order to support female victims of crime as well as possible.
- Educating police officers around victim blaming and asking women to make big changes to their lives in order to avoid male violence. They should instead be looking at educating the perpetrator, referring for restorative justice and more preventative work around male violence.
- An understanding that encouraging reporting will only bear fruit if those tasked with investigating have the nous to be able to do so effectively. A failed prosecution can do more harm than no prosecution at all, hence, again, I refer to TRAINING and upgrading/monitoring. Sergeants need to 'sarge', Inspectors need to 'inspect' and that matters every bit as much on the streets as it does in monitoring officer actions AFTER the event. I don't want to see a PS and an Inspector together in a Police vehicle. I want to see each in the company of a Junior Constable, testing how the officer talks to people and how he/she reacts to situations.

- Ensure that the police themselves do not discriminate against women, nor bully them within or outside the force.
- Just listen to victims about what they see as problem.
- Women & girls have been shouting for a very long time about what needs to happen to keep them safe & what needs to be done differently next time. YOU MUST LISTEN & SHOULD ALREADY HAVE IMPLEMENTED BETTER PRACTICE.
- It is not about reducing the fear women & girls feel - it MUST be about reducing threats to women & girls. This is akin to victim-blaming. Change the language, change the mindset - how can you expect things to improve if your language is inappropriate?!
- I strongly agree with stopping violence against women and girls, but it has to be able to spot women and girls that claim violence against them to punish an ex partner that is totally innocent.
- Ensure that allegations are comprehensively investigated to ensure that innocent suspected perpetrators are not adversely affected by false claims.
- Will these measures improve prosecution rates rape?
- Make women take some personal responsibility! (I'm female!)
- We women have campaigned to be equal with men. We seem to no longer want to be treated with courtesy or given special consideration. That is until we something goes wrong, then we expect to get special consideration. Just as much violence and harassment of men occurs and, yes, a growing number of women are violent or harass men. Whilst all violence and harassment is wrong we women need to decide whether we want equality or to be treated differently as we must bear the consequences.
- Charities in Essex already provide services for victims of vawg, but these need further investment to sustain services.
- You definitely need to treat domestic violence like the speeding program they get to do a day education or get the points why is this not implemented for DV Perpetrators?
- Working with the Community Groups and Local authority to help women who sell sex minimise harm caused from pimps/ drug dealers/ buyers and safety exit the profession
- People in each community know what problems are in THAT AREA there is not a one area plan each area has its own issues.
- We would like to see a Safe Spaces initiative rolled out across Essex and supported by the PFCC. Investment into upskilling public guardians such as night time economy staff is key to the success of this being deliverable.
- One way to reduce the fear of crime in woman is to remove the areas at night where homeless males on drink / drugs hang out around town and the ways out of town.
- I would like to see an end to people drinking alcohol in the street. I do not mean people partaking of a picnic or a barbecue. I mean the people who prevent others from resting on a bench!
- Useful and could be improved by advising businesses of the right to provide single sex spaces per the exceptions given in the Schedule 3 Part 7 Equality Act 2010.
- There needs to be a zero tolerance to catcalling and low level harassment to be rid of the culture of 'what do you expect' and it's 'just boys being boys', that starts in our schools but is prevalent in our high streets
- Closing venues at reasonable times so that women can get home easily. Women should also bear some responsibility for alcohol intake and dress when "out on the town" as it could be said that they contribute to their own misfortune. That said nobody should be made to feel unsafe especially women in our culture.
- Needed 24hr so women can feel safe.
- Very difficult to change human nature - Cannot see that public spaces etc. can ever be free from abuse/harassment/comments. Improvements to CCTV, Street lighting should be of a more general nature. Not confined to select areas that may already have some improved coverage.

- More cctv and lightning is definitely needed not only to feel safer but the increase in knife crime and youth gangs. There is nothing for youths to do which is not a police issue but if youth clubs were brought back it would give kids purpose somewhere and to go
- This feels like an overlapping set with the previous priority. Is it best to keep them separate?
- Why is this different to the previous section?

Preventing dog theft

71% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Work with the public and animal charities to understand the extent of dog theft in the county and how we can prevent it.	90	63	16	4	4
Build on the success of the Dog Watch Scheme and work together to support owners and their pets.	86	66	17	6	3
Understand the complexities of how this crime is recorded and how we can get a more accurate picture of dog theft in our county.	90	57	19	8	5
Encourage the public to share intelligence to inform targeted enforcement activity, by making it easier to report.	103	48	17	4	4
Support the victims of dog theft by recognising the misery caused to families by this crime, reuniting them with their animals wherever possible and reducing their risk of becoming victims of further criminal activity, such as fraud.	95	49	21	9	5
Work with charities and partners to introduce campaigns and promotional activity to increase awareness of dog theft and promote prevention activity so people know how to keep their dog safe.	84	63	19	6	7
Work with the Home Secretary to contribute to the national review of dog thefts, improving how dog theft is recorded, explore initiatives such as a national dog database and work to strengthen the law to introduce tougher sentences.	107	42	14	10	5
Total responses: 179					

A total of 149 comments were made about this priority. 16 respondents felt that this is important and 17 said that penalties and sentencing should be increased for this crime.

"Dog thieves have been getting away with these crimes for too long. Laws should be passed and local council and police work with the home secretary to review and introduce tough sentences ."

However, 26 said that it should not be a priority or a role for the Police and another 15 said that people should come before dogs.

"Dog theft is a very serious matter but I do feel the public need to be educated to look after their own dogs before we spend a huge amount of time and money trying to reunite them... The cost of dogs has dramatically increased so you are now walking a valuable pet in a lot of cases... Despite the law many are not chipped. I have seen on social media reports of a dog theft only to see later the dog escaped from the garden or ran off... Secure the garden if you leave your pet outside and make sure it's not on display to passers-by... Once again the police have to spend resources... Could this not be out sourced to dog wardens to investigate and collate information then only true crimes being reported."

Six people said that more could be done to educate owners and raise awareness of preventative measures that could be taken.

15 respondents highlighted something missing from this priority, with almost all of the comments suggesting that the same protections should be extended to all pets or animals such as cats and horses (one person suggested including a statement relating to collaboration with organisations such as the National Animal Welfare Trust could be included).

"This should not just apply to dogs, but to all domestic pets and to livestock more generally, if it does not already do so."

38 people raised a specific point, of which 18 mentioned the need to chip dogs and/or have some form of dog licence or database.

"The system of installing an electronic identifying 'tag' under the skin of animals should be made standard throughout the nation so that any Vet can identify any animal."

"Reintroduce Dog license so the Police have proper funding to combat Dog crime."

Four people suggested that more should be done about dog on dog attacks and 3 people said that this is now something that gangs are involved in so the solution is to tackle gangs.

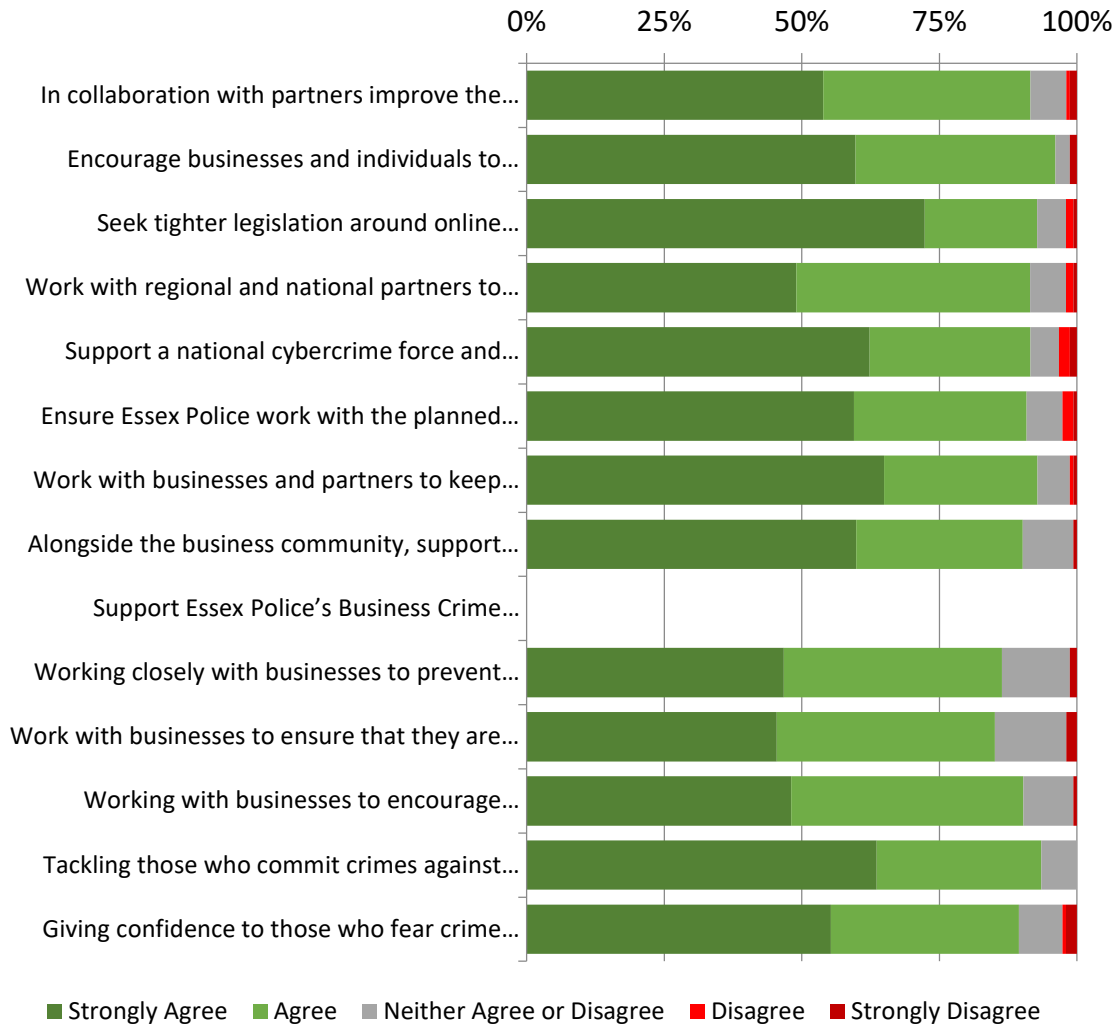
The other specific points raised are as follows:

- It has to stop, the receipt of a stolen dog has to be a criminal offence and also the offspring.
- Outside bodies like charities may have their own motivations and messages (e.g. RSPCA, RSPB, etc.) and care needs to be exercised that the Police Service is not seen as endorsing these.

- We will work to identify puppy breeders in Essex.....
- I don't think this should be a priority but working to improve detection of illegal dog imports from Europe maybe should be considered.
- Dogs are not property and shouldn't be classed as so.
- You need to react quickly to this if you have a crime in action drop everything and get to it . You also need to expand the policing around travellers as let's be honest it's mainly this group that are committing the theft of dogs. Set up a proper team for travellers with its own Intel and researchers this is crucial as local officers will never be able to keep track as travellers operate across county lines. This unit would then have a proper knowledge of all sites within Essex, families would be identified as would vehicles, modern day slavery would be captured as well.
- Surely disrupting organised wildlife crime such as dog-fighting, hare coursing and puppy smuggling would reduce dog thefts as it would address the causes instead of symptoms.
- This area should be treated in a similar way to livestock theft.
- Recording and data in Essex is grossly inaccurate as will unlikely take account of crimes where pets are stolen but are recorded as robbery/ attempts, dwelling burglary, non-dwell burglary, Theft from vehicle , lost dogs etc. The recording mechanisms for lost dogs now is completely inadequate hindering intelligence picture or chances of ID.
- How the Crime is recorded could be simplified by have a Crime type of the Police system listed as Dog theft and or attempted dog theft.
- On occasion a dog is stolen during a dwelling burglary so there could be linked incident / crime number to Dog theft.
- Make selling animals illegal and the crime disappears.
- More police use of social media. Local WhatsApp groups then share issued intel.
- I am pleased that the Essex PFCC took on the creating the survey Dog Theft Survey and as a result that the law has changed, which fantastic news.
- Dog Watch in Essex Police works in Collaboration with Doglost UK.
- I would suggest that the Essex Police EWLO Dog Watch lead, Kevin Blake reinvigorates the meetings with Doglost, The Dogs Trust, the RSPCA, local councils and the Rural Engagement team and encourages an Officer or PCSO for each District to work in collaboration with each other and share information / intelligence gained from Dog Watch members.
- Signage regarding Dog theft could be displayed in local independent shops and at Parks within Essex, working also with local safer partnerships etc.
- Dog owners must take their own responsibility for their dogs it's only a trend at the moment.
- All crime should be a priority not just dog theft. It sounds like a political gimmick.
- I agree with stopping all theft.

Preventing business crime, fraud and cybercrime

87% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with all of the 'We Will' statements under this priority, with less than 3% disagreeing with any statement. NB: Fewer respondents replied to this section than for other priorities, with just 154 responses.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
In collaboration with partners improve the reporting of fraud and reduce the number of people and businesses who become victims by raising awareness of the risks, through promotion of fraud alerts, and how to stay safe both on and offline.	83	58	10	1	2
Encourage businesses and individuals to report incidents of fraud, online crime and cybercrime and provide the support to recover.	92	56	4	0	2
Seek tighter legislation around online platforms and publishers and invest in cutting edge technology to track and eradicate online and cyber-crime.	110	31	8	2	1
Work with regional and national partners to improve the ways to report fraud, receive updates and feedback and promote public confidence.	75	65	10	2	1
Support a national cybercrime force and utilise appropriate new technology including the safe and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence and biometrics in pursuit of justice.	96	45	8	3	2
Ensure Essex Police work with the planned National Crime Lab to develop the evidence base for effective interventions.	91	48	10	3	1
Work with businesses and partners to keep shop workers safe and reduce violence against them.	100	43	9	1	1
Alongside the business community, support initiatives to tackle other forms of crime that affects businesses and their staff such as Human Trafficking, Hate Crime and Domestic Abuse.	91	46	14	0	1
Support Essex Police's Business Crime Strategy and promote awareness of the Business Crime Team by:					
Working closely with businesses to prevent crime, identifying and prioritising resources to tackle it.	72	61	19	0	2
Work with businesses to ensure that they are aware of best practice and are empowered to reduce the risk of crime to their business.	70	61	20	0	3
Working with businesses to encourage reporting of crime to gain an accurate picture of business crime in our county.	74	65	14	0	1
Tackling those who commit crimes against businesses.	98	46	10	0	0
Giving confidence to those who fear crime and support to businesses who have been the victim of crime.	84	52	12	1	3
Total responses: 154					

Just 99 respondents commented on this priority, of whom 16 felt that cyber-crime and online fraud should be dealt with at a national (or even international) level by a national agency and/or with national funding.

“Business and cyber crime is a national issue and (from my experience) international - I wouldn't expect the individual police services to be trying to tackle this individually -

yes support the national campaigns but does it make any sense to run around to businesses? Doesn't make sense to me."

Ten people said that their experiences of reporting this kind of crime previously have been poor, including 8 who singled out Action Fraud for criticism.

"For many years now Colchester police have refused to accept or follow up on any fraudulent activity I have reported to them. Regarding scams they have told me to stop reporting them. If they are at long-last responding to the cries of victims, that can only be a good thing, but years late!"

"I broadly agree with this, however, far too many frauds and attempted frauds are recorded via Action Fraud and never investigated when strong lines of enquiry exist. This impacts on trust, confidence and repeat victimisation. "

Eight comments were queries about how this would be achieved and 8 were about the need to raise more awareness of the issue with the public in order to keep people safe from scams and online fraud.

Three people felt that there is something missing from the statements: there should be more said about fraud including business facilitated identity fraud; shoplifting (e.g. reducing the theft value from £200 before the police get involved); and there is no mention of business against crime schemes.

There were 26 specific points raised, of which 5 were about people or businesses taking responsibility for their own protection.

"Just don't bail out stupid people who fall for scams. We all know enough now. Personal accountability!"

"Businesses have their part to play in ensuring they and their customers are kept safe."

The other points made are as follows:

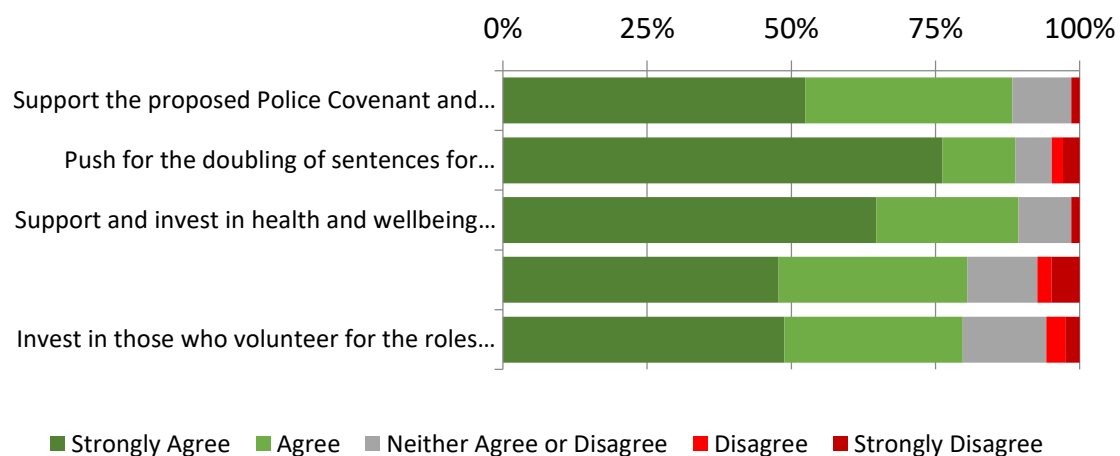
- I do not think that all businesses are aware that there is an Essex Police Business newsletter, this is easy to share once relevant email addresses have been obtained.
- Do the police do anything about the scammers who try to con vulnerable people out of thousands of pounds for stuff they do not need?
- You also need to educate Officers working on Cybercrime as they seem totally in some cases to have any idea what does what. As an example a Police Officer thought a Joy Stick was able to store information. I am not tech experienced but even I know this is completely wrong.
- Make banks give up details of customers and accounts that are used for fraud purposes by prosecuting those banks who do not comply with money laundering rules and facilitate "dodgy" transfers of funds.
- Recognise that spam emails etc, are becoming harder to recognise as spam.
- Yes I was a victim on face book I reported it and to police as well, people should be vetted out especially on social media.
- I had been involved with the recording of business crime for many years, some time ago. I managed via the FSB to get Business Crime actually recorded separately from general theft. It took many years and surveys before it was accepted there was a problem of under reporting and around 50% of cases were not. Why does it take so

long to react, get a face to face call to see the victim? The systems are in place but staff move on and the systems collapse and forgotten about.

- Get the top of the range equipment software and operators.
- There should be a total ban on cold calling with service providers required to enforce such a ban. The technology for facilitating this has to be improved and simplified with providers fined for every infringement. The selling on of contact information, history and interests must also be outlawed. These types of practices undermine our values, common decency and business integrity. They are not, in my view, legitimate business but rather an infringement of personal liberty. The opportunity to select types of cookies does not go anywhere near far enough. The practices have to be outlawed. This is a matter for law enforcement. If businesses want protection from crime they themselves must promote higher standards. Come on Commissioner!
- Fraud & cybercrime happens to residents as well as businesses.
- You could start with an address we can forward scams to which you actually investigate. For example email scams can quickly be traced to their source. The ISPs should fear having scams via their networks.
- Cybercrime should be a priority and the funds to deal with this should be raised from the online platforms which facilitate this.
- Anything that can be done counter phishing emails. Despite reporting these to the companies being represented, they continue to come.
- That's where you can use some Neighbourhood Watch volunteers with business or security experience.
- Scammers work on ideas that they are untraceable. If problems in each area listed and not pushed under the carpet, would work better. More advice on internet than from government or police.
- Report case studies on crime types, cases against businesses and individuals through all communication avenues - Consider spear heading county council led TV series in support of businesses post pandemic by exposing fraudsters.
- This is an area of crime which has gone 'under the radar' for too long. In particular, law enforcement agencies need to attract the levels of expertise to combat these offences. In that respect, having the funding to be able to 'compete' effectively with cyber criminals is imperative. Historically, the lack of funding has meant that cyber experts have not been attracted to public sector roles - this needs to be addressed.
- I have read that the number of police officers addressing fraud is inverse proportion to the number of fraudulent crimes reported. Maybe that's not the exact balance in Essex but I don't understand why fraud seems to get so little attention. On reporting anything to Action Fraud you are immediately told nothing will be done. So we need local police to act here - relying on the Action Fraud system is a dead loss. If a person suffers from a fraud, and they can provide all the paperwork to show it, and the criminal's full contact details - etc - it should be treated as a crime by the police, who would know how to progress it. The onus shouldn't be on the victim to try to putting it through the chaotic and error-riddled small claims court, where they will get confused, lost, and - in the case of crime against the elderly - probably die before it's resolved.
- How about a Cybercrime TV reporting channel/Radio channel or similar?

Supporting our officers and staff

92% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with every 'We Will' under this priority.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Support the proposed Police Covenant and ensure this works for our officers, staff and volunteers in Essex.	108	74	21	0	3
Push for the doubling of sentences for assaults on Emergency Service Workers.	157	26	13	4	6
Support and invest in health and wellbeing services, acknowledging the difficult and challenging situations that officers and staff may experience in the course of their duties.	134	51	19	0	3
Foster a supportive culture within Essex Police and the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's office with an increase in diversity and an inclusive recruitment and development strategy so that people from all segments of our community can aspire to serve the public through these services.	98	67	25	5	10
Invest in those who volunteer for the roles within the PFCC's office including Restorative Justice, Independent Custody Visitors and Dog Welfare Visitors to ensure they feel skilled, valued and appreciated.	101	64	30	7	5
Total responses: 207					

A total of 127 people provided a comment under this priority, of which 41 were to agree that support is needed and/or that this is very important.

“Police officers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic. They are overworked, often working overtime and not given breaks, often going 10 hours or more without food. Support is needed for vicarious trauma and the nature of their work which has led many officers to develop mental health problems. There needs to be a culture shift for the welfare of officers which is still overlooked.”

“The overall success of a policing strategy is dependent on the people who implement it, they are vital, key and need the full support of all.”

25 respondents said that there should be harsh penalties for anyone assaulting or injuring a police officer or other member of the emergency response services (although 3 people felt that crimes against emergency workers should not be treated differently to general members of the public).

“Doubling of sentences for assaults on Emergency Service workers??? NO! Throw away the key. Who in their right mind thinks it is EVER right to harm those who are there to help? Adequate deterrence does not exist so the penalties need to be genuinely punitive.”

There were 46 specific points raised, of which 13 of them related to staffing and recruitment issues, mainly about the need to employ staff on merit rather than to meet a quota.

“Just don’t let the “supportive culture” allow inappropriate people being promoted or employed over others who are minorities. The right person for the right job should be the mantra, not “let’s employ x% who are from this or that background.”

“I feel that people should be treated equally, discrimination whether for a good intention or not is discrimination and leads to resentment.”

Four people did not know what the Police covenant is.

The other specific points raised were as follows:

- Front line resourcing needs to be prioritised so workloads are distributed more fairly in the workplace. Too many warranted officers do not need a warrant card and carry no investigative workload.
- There are insufficient police and individual officer have too many cases to be effective.
- Less paper work would help keep more police on the street and more time to be supportive.
- You need to address the rotten culture first. You have a promotion process that encourages horrible behaviour where individuals of rank prioritise themselves above the public they are paid to serve. There is such talent in EP however it is undiscovered. You need to change the way you promote you have a very weak leadership team who are not respected. If you have strong leaders who inspire and are respected then those around them will aspire to be better and emulate them. You only have to look on Twitter to see the self-serving behaviour of some individuals it’s an embarrassment to EP. You need to look after officers that are exposed to trauma and particularly some supervisors who are often overlooked or are too proud to accept help. You need to address the huge no of restricted officers who are draining the life out of EP. Give the management the support to deal with them and put robust systems in place to properly identify what they can realistically offer to day to day policing. The cohort of restricted officers could help release your frontline officers with cctv, statements, interviews and file preparation.....USE THEM. They are a small army that at present is virtually redundant!!!!
- You will need to get your house in order if you wish to do all the above. Your vetting system is beyond a joke and has been for years and yet nothing seems to be done about it. I worked for Essex police for 15 years and during that time it took so long to

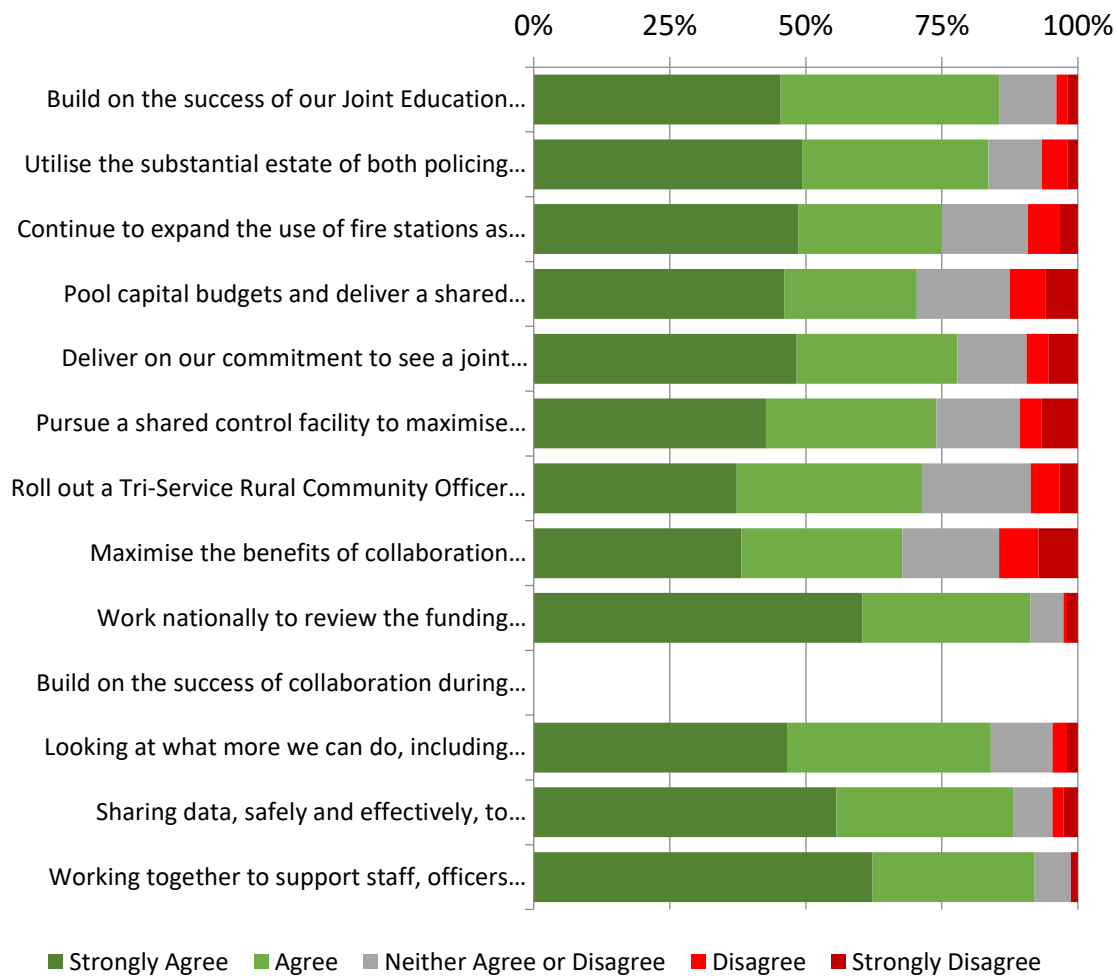
vet staff candidates for roles within the force that some found employment elsewhere as they could not wait months for an answer to their application. To this day it still happens my friend applied for a part time position and was told he was successful but would have to wait for vetting to clear him to start. This person had only just finished 30 years' service as an officer, now I don't know what your criteria is for vetting applicants but if you can't fix this I can't see you being able to carry out your statements. You seriously have to look within the force to iron out the problems.

- Reduce the time taken to vet volunteers for various roles, with a set target of, say, one month, unless exceptional circumstances.
- Push for legislation to allow officers to call a warning for an (e.g.) 2-3 metre free zone where any aggressive person who transgresses may be warned of infringing the "taser zone" then get tasered without further warning at the officer's discretion without fear of a police "Spanish Inquisition" after deployment.
- Protection of officers from convictions for doing their job (such as dangerous driving). The IOPC to be reviewed as they are unfit for purpose.
- Ensure police are among key workers to receive Covid vaccine and boosters.
- Encouraging and supporting officers to be more physically active to help their mental and physical wellbeing.
- Ensure supportive pathways for staff wanting to report others for inappropriate language/behaviour (e.g. victim blaming/rape myths used).
- What function does a dog welfare visitor perform. Are they visiting the dog, criminal or the owner?
- Ensure police officers have proper breaks and the opportunity to get meals when on shift.
- Lobby for fair salaries for police officers (including annual salary reviews/increases).
- Support your officer with a decent wage for the job they do, KFC are paying 24000 at present....what do you pay your new officers?
- Far more needs to be done to robustly deal with bullying in the workplace and analyse trends in grievances etc where there may be multiple victims but no joined up intel, picture or investigation. Why are outcomes/ sanctions against senior officers of Chief Insp and above so low? There is a serious problem in Essex with bullying and corruption.
- Restorative Justice reduces re-offending and achieves answers for victims they would otherwise not get. It is vitally important to invest in volunteer roles and to criminal justice agencies are trained sufficiently to understand its value.
- Reform is needed to reflect public opinion, wokery and inequality must be stamped out. The judiciary needs reform, fear of policing with a firm hand needs to be stamped out, red tape needs to be reduced to allow for more effective time management.
- There should be recognition of officers who have lost their lives serving the public by naming police vehicles after them. So their name and work lives on.
- Stop them looking like the thugs they should be catching, i.e., tribal tattoos, long beards. Where's the dress code?
- Colchester police need to inform victims who they are and exactly what they are doing. Too often they behave in a high handed manner, not carrying the population with them. It is not for the population to show more support for the police. It is for the police to show more support for the population.
- I think it important that any serving member of staff who commits crime, especially that which attempts to counter the general action against crime and criminals e.g. passes intelligence or warnings to criminals for personal gain, should face the full force of the appropriate Law; and Courts should sentence appropriately by acknowledging the extra debt of duty officers must perform under their joining oath. No officer should be allowed to resign to avoid criminal or disciplinary hearings.

- What about the violence committed by the police, that should be equally unacceptable.
- Have never heard about the volunteers - needs to be better publicised.
- Also to support volunteers who support the police.
- Not at the expense of community victims.
- They should be allowed guns like America maybe then idiots from gangs will be scared. Rather than making police officers go out without any weapons.
- You carry enough defence in your favour already and all too often innocent demonstrators have been arrested with unnecessary force using batons and handcuffs and these people were no threat. You're using unnecessary force in many circumstances now.

Increasing collaboration

81% of respondents agreed with this priority overall. The majority of respondents agreed with each 'We Will' under this priority, except that 14% disagreed with maximising the benefits of collaboration between Essex and Kent Police and explore opportunities for a shared service model across the East of England with other willing partners in police and fire and rescue and possibly other agencies, 13% disagreed with pooling capital budgets and deliver a shared long-term capital investment strategy to help the services embrace demographic, environmental and technological changes and improve public safety and 11% disagreed with pursuing a shared control facility to maximise capacity, capability, and resilience. NB: Fewer respondents replied to this section than for other priorities, with just 152 responses.



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Build on the success of our Joint Education Team and deliver more joined up prevention and community safety work.	69	61	16	3	3
Utilise the substantial estate of both policing and the fire & rescue service to help deliver a better, more accessible service to the public and improve operational effectiveness.	75	52	15	7	3
Continue to expand the use of fire stations as drop-in centres for policing colleagues and invest in the co-location of a new build police station alongside the existing fire station in Harwich and Dovercourt.	74	40	24	9	5
Pool capital budgets and deliver a shared long-term capital investment strategy to help the services embrace demographic, environmental and technological changes and improve public safety.	70	37	26	10	9
Deliver on our commitment to see a joint fleet workshop to bring together skills and experience and ensure that our people have fit for purpose facilities.	72	44	19	6	8
Pursue a shared control facility to maximise capacity, capability, and resilience.	64	47	23	6	10
Roll out a Tri-Service Rural Community Officer model to prevent harm and reduce vulnerability in our rural communities.	56	51	30	8	5
Maximise the benefits of collaboration between Essex and Kent Police and explore opportunities for a shared service model across the East of England with other willing partners in police and fire and rescue and possibly other agencies.	58	45	27	11	11
Work nationally to review the funding formula and get a fairer deal for Essex.	90	46	9	1	3
Build on the success of collaboration during the response to the COVID 19 pandemic including:					
Looking at what more we can do, including with the East of England Ambulance Service, around joint strategic planning, management of strategic risks and improved operational efficiency	70	56	17	4	3
Sharing data, safely and effectively, to identify and support the vulnerable	84	49	11	3	4
Working together to support staff, officers and fire fighters	94	45	10	0	2
Total responses: 152					

Just 86 people commented on this priority, 19 of whom were positive about partnership and collaboration and 13 of whom were negative about it.

“Whilst the policing estate needs to be modernised and reduced, this causes a pressure with the continual increase in officer numbers. More collaboration around colocation of emergency services provision is a positive, however cross county collaboration needs to be balanced to ensure an equitable division of cost and resources which do not disadvantage the public of Essex.”

“You risk making the other services be seen as part of the police. Whilst they need to emergency plan at a high level, at a community level they need to be independent otherwise they become targets in times of crisis.”

There were also a number of specific issues mentioned in relation to collaboration:

- Pooling budgets won't work. It ends up being split 50/50 whereas the police need more funding!
- Not too sure about pooling together. Sounds like a cost cutting exercise. Find them both well and no need to pool resources. Classic Cameron tactic.
- Too much collaboration will ultimately lead to fewer staff. If anything, numbers need increasing. Perhaps multi skilling is the answer.
- Agree, but collaboration doesn't mean taking on partners' responsibilities and thereby reducing resources to deal with police core demand.
- Done carefully collaboration is good but moving existing police services into a fire station could make front counter facilities less accessible and make Essex's force more detached from communities they serve.
- Joint ventures are sometimes a good idea. But that is not always the case. For example a single joint control facility is very vulnerable to attack by terrorists, protesters, etc. It could also be subject to weather, environmental events, accidents and many other situations.
- How may the combined police fire and ambulance control centres be combined? Surely there remains a danger that resources are not joined up?
- Not sure sharing a control room would work though splitting staff from both services across two sites so they can cope with demand or staffing issues during a future pandemic seems sensible.
- If a 999 call handler answers both police and fire emergencies regularly I'd be concerned about how well they can master each specialism.
- Sharing fleet workshops looks more sensible to me as long as there's enough room made for both!
- Building ambulance /fire stations with workshops sharing and fleet sharing facilities eg all departments buying and using vehicles from a limited number of manufacturers therefore keeping costs down and getting vehicles back on the road quickly sharing resources make sense you will never find out if you don't try this.
- Drop in at a fire station is of little value, it might be worth looking at who attends these and what value it has for the police, or victims of crime.
- There's a reason police stations were built separately to fire stations as they're completely different roles.
- If you really want to “collaborate” why not break down the historical County hierarchy and look towards a Country hierarchy. A National police force with central buying power for all uniforms; equipment; technology. How many computer systems have been set up in each county only to fail at great expense ?? Then you can give LPT and CPT for each County as proper “Bobbies on the Beat”. You could have just one National Chief Constable with North, South, South East, Midlands, West Deputy Chief Constable. Then you'd have to look at all the Area Commanders, Chief Inspectors, Inspectors and see how they can fit in to the Area/County set-up. Then have specialist area teams e.g. East Anglia Rural Team, Specialist Fraud/Counter Terrorism/County Lines/Drugs Squads/Online Fraud/Human Trafficking Teams could all be spread around the Areas in pockets to act both Nationally and locally. Road Policing Teams could be County but deployed as and when in Areas.
- We don't even collaborate with FRS, and we won't, the services are too different now, police are under-funded and over worked whereas the FRS are the opposite, this

causes friction. police do whatever they're told, the FRS don't do anything unless it's in their contracts and signed off by their union.

- As the Thames is a natural regional barrier and with poor road links between Kent and Essex, sharing resources between these two areas seems a bit strange. I would have thought that collaboration with East Anglian services would be a better fit.
- Why are working with Kent Police? It is not a natural fit and there is a great river between the two! A more natural and logical fit would be to work with other East Anglia forces.

Two people mentioned something they felt was missing: looking at Coastguard and Lifeboat services in our area, there is no reference to support/combo of marine and diving, mounted sections of the Essex police service going forward; joined up working that respects the expertise of other agencies is vital to addressing crime - the specialist expertise found in the voluntary sector is often unrecognised and this should be included.

32 respondents provided a specific comment under this priority, as follows:

- Whilst much good practice has come from collaboration during the current Covid outbreak it has been hard for new initiatives such as the Tri-Service pilot to make its mark and show its potential in rural areas.
- What is a tri-service rural community officer? I have a vision of a one man band.
- Explain Tri Service pilot?
- Especially interested in seeing the Tri-service Rural Community Officer role develop.
- Joint Education Team - never heard of this so guess it's not that important.
- The initiative 'Work nationally to review the funding formula and get a fairer deal for Essex' implies that the current county funding is unfair, which begs the question of how this has been allowed to happen.
- The community does get a mention, but given it's who you serve I would have thought community liaison was a higher priority.
- Work with the local community.
- If listening not telling.
- Collaboration, intelligence gathering locally/cross county must be continually improved. Funding must never be at issue.
- Fire fighter retention issues: average person only stays for four or less years after three years of training?
- However you need to make sure that closer collaboration doesn't reduce public assistance as some people won't want to pass info to the police but might be willing to pass it onto the Ambulance Service or the Fire & Rescue Service.
- The local police links with the North Essex Parking Partnership are disjointed and not supported, there is regular illegal parking in popular villages that NEPP won't address for fear of retaliation (understandable) they need police support and consistency in being able to address these issues.
- As there is a considerable amount of violence in hospitals, (A&E) in particular. Make security guards on duty with the NHS up to Special Constables.
- Train up public on benefits to become frontline workers.
- Stop having all vehicles being at one station. A vehicle has to go in for a service or damage and 2 officers have to go with 2 vehicles so one of the officers can be brought back from the workshop. Consider having a system whereby there is a replacement vehicle ready for the officer when he drops off the vehicle he is driving then only one officer can do both and get back to being on duty. When Essex was selling off its buildings it was a shambles the amount of equipment and furniture that was smashed up and skipped was terrible. Some of the facilities officers worked in were not fit for purpose, you can't expect officers to feel valued if you have them

working from dilapidated buildings Harwich is a prime example both the Police station and Special Branch at the Terminal. I am not saying they need a palace but at least get the buildings sorted to make them more welcoming.

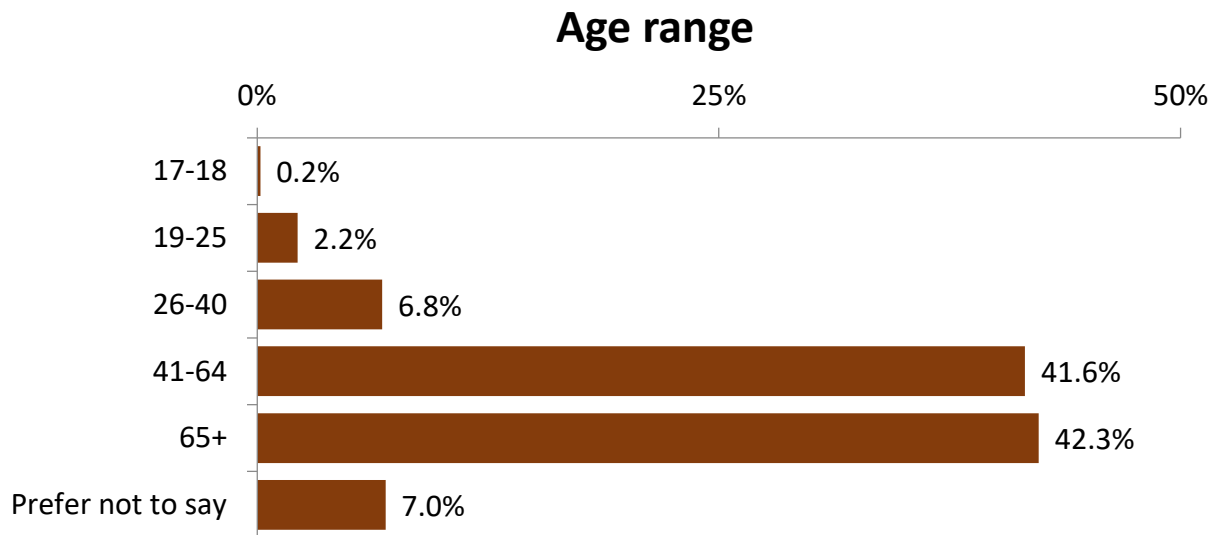
- Police should use Fire stations to have a base where no Police station exists in a Town.
- What about a Police Station back on Mersea Island? If the tide is over the Strood we are isolated and abandoned!
- Halstead could do with a police station as well, along with coppers on the beat.
- Please open up Rayleigh Police Station to the public.
- Building a new police station in Harwich, good luck with that, after closing two police stations one in Pitsea and one in Laindon.
- Concerns raised locally around the rumours of Frinton Fire Station closing as part of your future plans.

Who gave their views?

A total of respondents answered the survey, of who 56% were male and 38% female (the remainder preferred not to say or self-described).

89% of respondents described their ethnic group as English/Welsh/Scottish/ Northern Irish/British.

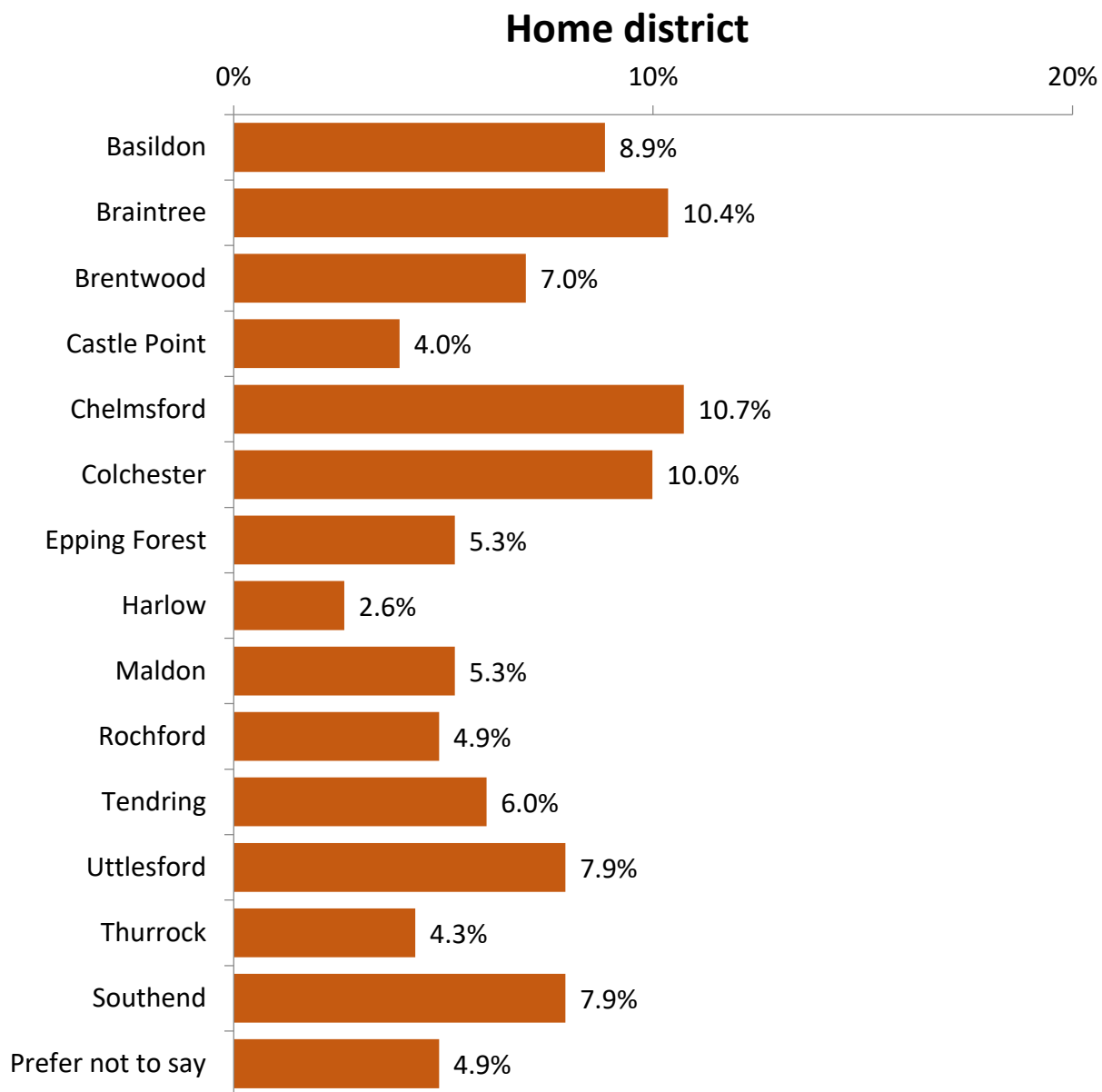
The age range is shown in the chart below.



68% of respondents said they had no impairment, while 8.5% said they had a hearing impairment or were deaf and 1% said they had a visual impairment or were blind. 12% said they had a physical impairment.

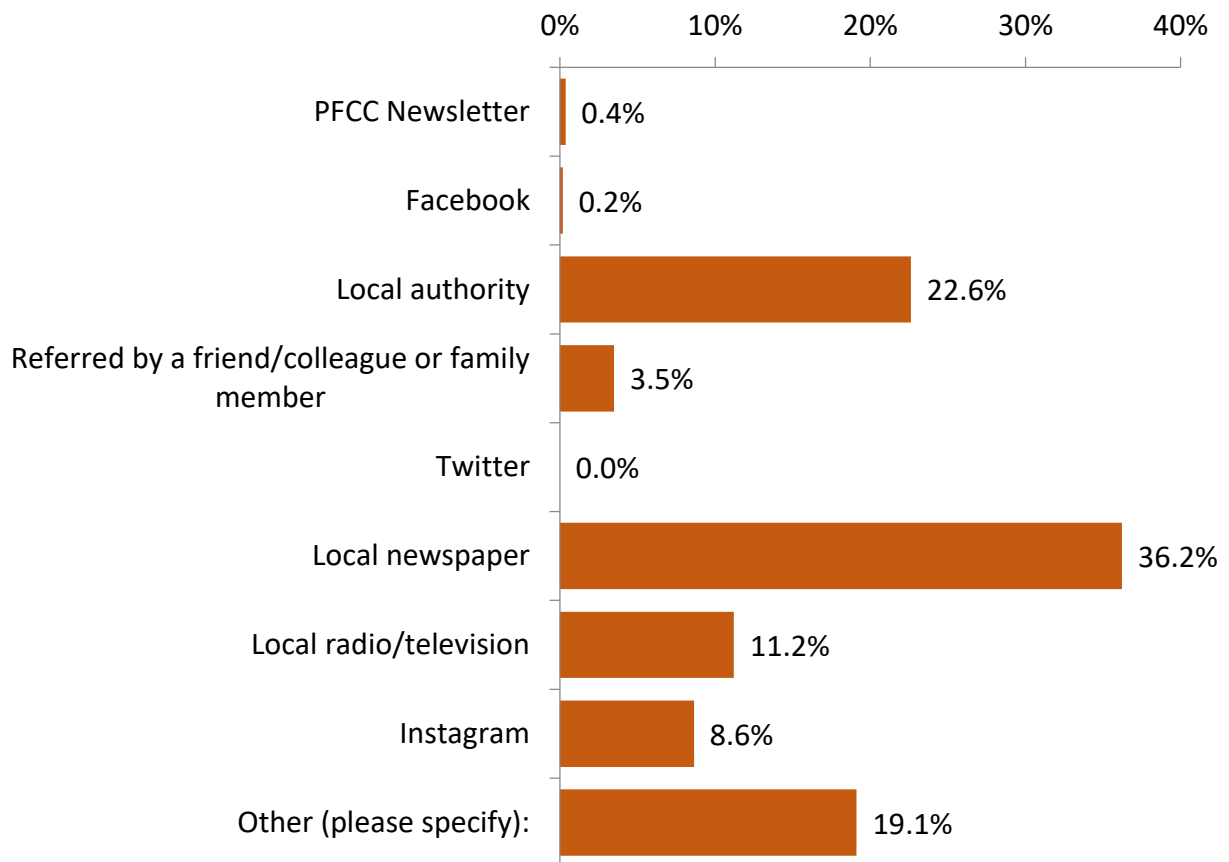
10% of respondents said they are employed by an emergency service in a paid for or voluntary role, mainly working for Essex Police.

The home district of respondents is shown in the chart below.



37% of respondents had heard about the survey from the PFCC newsletter and 23% had heard about it from Facebook.

Where did you hear about this survey?



This report produced in September 2021.

The information contained in this document can be translated, and/or made available in alternative formats, on request.