



# RURAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Who are we and what do we do

# **THE TEAM HAS 2 SERGEANTS AND 10 CONSTABLES**

- Our delivery plan sets out that we will deal with
- Poaching offences
- Fly tipping and large scale waste
- Trespass and unauthorised encampments
- Provide quality policing to the Gypsy, Roma & Traveller & Rural Communities
- Theft of major equipment and plant



## POACHING WITH ADDED FOCUS ON HARE COURSING

- It is organized crime, often with large amounts of money bet on the outcome.
- Offenders drive across crops
- They will use or threaten violence
- The farming communities feel isolated, threatened and financially impacted.



# WHAT DO WE DO

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We work in partnership with policing colleagues in other forces to bring about a regional approach with good information sharing

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We use Community Protection Warnings and Notices as well as Criminal Behaviour Orders,

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As well as national operations such as OP Galileo, we have Essex days of action. Op Xray.

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We engage with the farming community to encourage the reporting of crime

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We provide a high visibility rural presence within hot-spot areas.

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# FLY TIPPING AND LARGE SCALE WASTE



# OP FUME

- ▶ We have arranged a joint working plan between the Rural Engagement Team, Local Authorities and the Environment Agency
- ▶ We have monthly operations to target waste carriers
- ▶ We share information with our partners to ensure an effective approach
- ▶ We provide crime prevention advice through social media, farm visits and partnership working with the National Farmers Union.
- ▶ We provide support to the Environment Agency when they wish to visit offenders to ensure compliance with their directives.
- ▶ We provide high visibility patrol to high risk areas





## Trespass and Unauthorised Encampments





# We will take ownership of all unauthorised encampments

- We will work in partnership with the Essex Countywide Traveller Unit & Local Authorities to bring about a prompt resolution
- We will engage with the Gypsy, Roma & Traveller communities to promote community cohesion
- We will deliver training to Community Policing Teams to ensure best practice is followed
- We will manage expectations and engage with community leaders
- We will ensure that any action by Essex Police is lawful, proportionate and necessary



# PROVIDE QUALITY POLICING TO GRT & RURAL COMMUNITIES

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We continually develop knowledge of policing needs of the Gypsy, Roma & Traveller and Rural Communities by meeting with partners who represent the needs of these communities, such as the Traveller Movement, Rural Community Council of Essex, Farm Watch and the PFCC's Rural Crime Forum.

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We visit hard to reach communities to raise awareness of domestic violence and vulnerability

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We provide regular patrols within those communities to improve access to Police and build trust and confidence in policing

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We work with stakeholders to increase engagement opportunities.



# **THEFT OF MAJOR EQUIPMENT AND PLANT**



## **THE RURAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM WILL...**

- Examine vehicles and caravans at every unauthorised encampment
- Conduct days of action, for example, OP Charlotte at Harwich Port in partnership with Border Force.
- Effectively use our intel system to identify offenders and ensure the recovery of stolen equipment
- Identify patterns of offending
- Provide crime prevention advice
- Support Community Policing Teams
- Perform quality assurance checks on athena



# WILDLIFE & HERITAGE CRIME

- Two of our officers are responsible for Wildlife and Heritage crime matters.
- They are a single point of contact for Government and non-Government organisations.
- They investigate complex or high priority offences
- They offer advice, guidance and training to staff in relation to all other Wildlife & Heritage matters.
- They provide national training to Police Forces & metal detectorists.
- They are involved in national and international forums.
- ACC Nolan (Essex Police) is the national lead on Heritage crime



# **OTHER OPERATIONS AND AREAS OF BUSINESS**

- OP chronos – unlawful metal detecting
- Spoc for the British Museum regarding Treasure Act matters
- Work with pro and anti Hunt groups to develop good working relationships with police
- Op Proud. Road safety operation in rural villages
- Op Ani – Domestic abuse and crime prevention within GRT communities
- Manage the recovery of stray horses for Essex.