

## Rochford Public Meeting

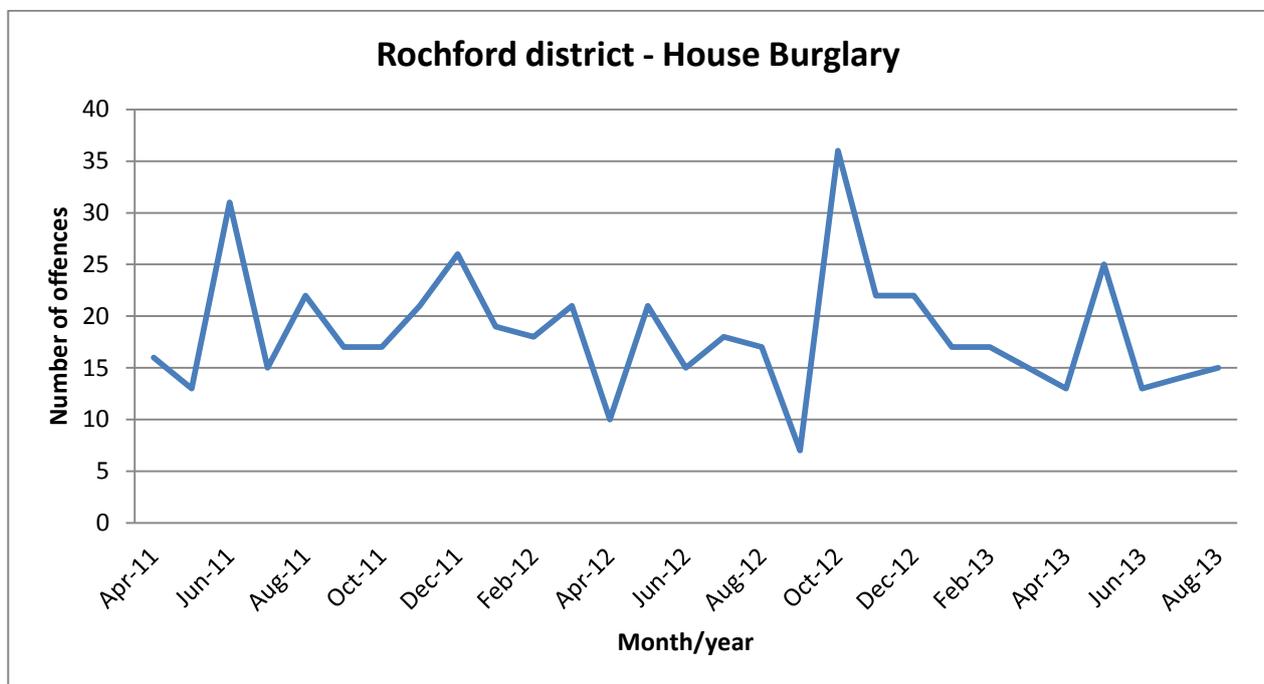
26<sup>th</sup> September 2013

### Briefing information

Rayleigh Police Station is open to the public between 0800hrs and midnight seven days a week. Officers also provide a drop-in facility at Rochford Council offices.

The response and patrol function that provides emergency response cover to the district is based at Southend Police Station. These officers are briefed and deployed from the police station to their patrol areas.

### House burglary update following last meeting



### Crime Data for Rochford

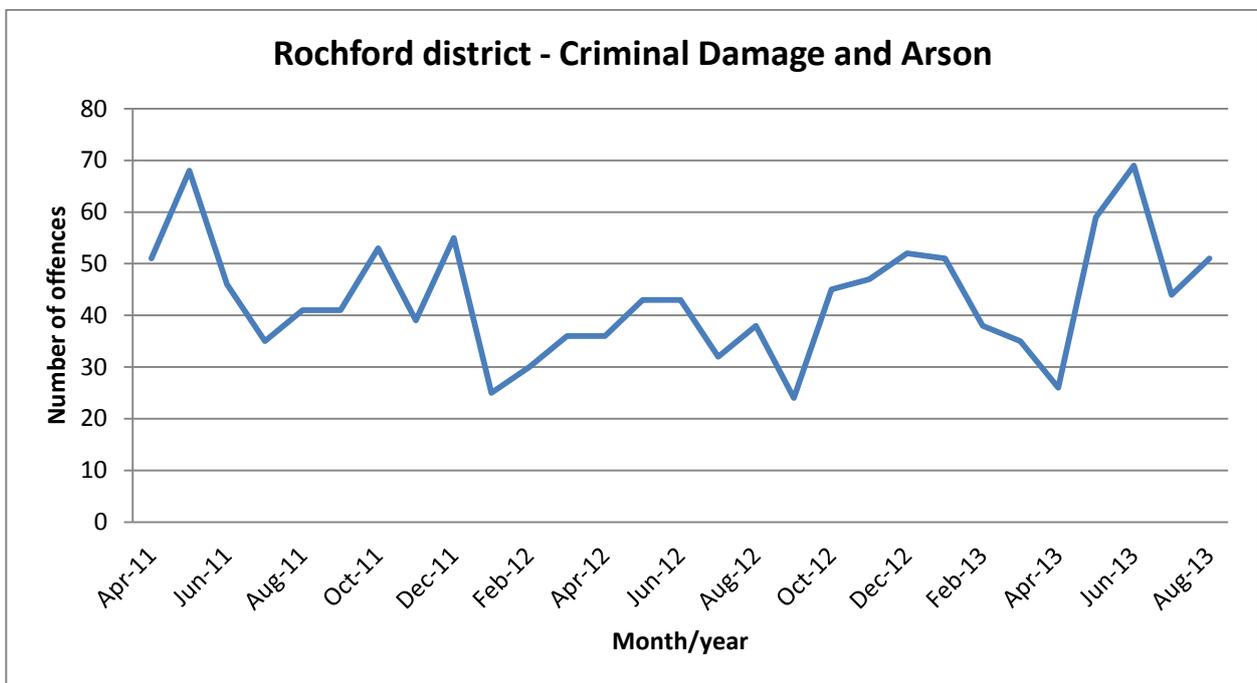
Comparing reports for 1st September 2012 to 31st August 2013 with those from 1st September 2011 to 31st August 2012.

- All Crime has increased by 3.9% (105 more offences);
- Shoplifting has increased by 69.2% (119 more offences);
- Criminal Damage has increased by 16.1% (75 more offences);
- Anti-Social Behaviour has increased by 18.1% (262 more incidents);
- Dwelling (house) burglary has remained static (a total of 218 offences in both time periods)
- Robbery has decreased by 42.3% (11 less offences);
- Other Theft and Handling has decreased by 2.3% (7 less offences);
- Serious Violent Crime has decreased by 57.1% (16 less offences).

## 1) Criminal damage and nuisance behaviour

Nuisance behaviour in the Rochford district has increased during the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 when compared with the same period the previous year. This includes a broad range of incidents, such as noise, abandoned vehicles, stray animals, graffiti and anti-social behaviour (ASB) that is intentionally directed towards the person.

The police and council each have a dedicated ASB co-ordinator. Neighbourhood Policing Teams and youth Officers work closely with the Community Safety Partnership to reduce incidents of ASB. Individuals who have been identified as regularly causing ASB are challenged about their unacceptable behaviour and monitored by Neighbourhood Officers.



Offences of criminal damage increased by 16.1% (75 more offences) during the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 compared with the same period the previous year.

This rise was largely attributed to two separate spates of criminal damage during May 2013, which involved large numbers of wing mirrors being kicked off cars. A high visibility policing operation was put into place in response, which halted this spate of incidents. A perpetrator was identified and the Crown Prosecution Service is supporting a prosecution.

## 2) Shoplifting and Business Crime

During the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013, Rochford district experienced a 69.2% increase in reported shoplifting (119 more offences) when compared with the same period the previous year.



Essex Police and the Community Safety Partnership are committed to promoting closer partnership working between retailers, the council and local officers to combat this crime.

Activities currently undertaken to address retail crime include:

- Retail Action Panels (RAP) for shop managers and staff to meet regularly with local police officers to share their concerns and information, and to co-operate in initiatives to tackle crime.
- Images of known prolific shoplifters are shared between participating stores according to best practice and principles of the Essex Retail against Crime partnership.
- Reported crimes are monitored on a daily basis. Any patterns or issues are identified at an early stage and contribute to intelligence-led directed patrols.
- The most prolific shoplifters in the district are actively targeted by the police on a daily basis. They are visited at home by officers and robustly challenged that whilst they continue to offend the police will seek to disrupt them in every legitimate way possible.
- Community Safety Partnership funded cardboard cut-outs of police officers, which have a strong deterrent effect, are being placed in key stores.

### **3) Building Safe Communities**

Although Rochford is a relatively low crime area, community concerns include visible local policing and emergency response times.

Maintaining public confidence in effective community policing remains a challenge for the small Neighbourhood Policing Team based at Rayleigh in the light of competing demands. The public remain sensitive to any perceived or real increases in crime or ASB.

A good working relationship exists between the police and the media and regular meetings are held with them. Positive messages regarding policing activity, results and good news articles are regularly released, with the aim of promoting public confidence.

Local officers and PCSOs regularly attend Neighbourhood Action Panels and Retail Action Panels to engage with members of the public and, together with partners, seek solutions to local problems.

#### **Your feedback is most welcome.**

Should you wish to contact the PCC about this meeting or any other matter please e-mail: [pcc@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:pcc@essex.pnn.police.uk) or write to:

Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex  
3 Hoffmanns Way  
Chelmsford, CM1 1GU

News alerts will usually be tweeted via the Essex PCC Twitter account:  
<https://twitter.com/essexpcc>

You can learn more about the PCC's work at:  
[www.essex.pcc.police.uk](http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk)

The neighbourhood policing teams will always act on intelligence received from the community. If you have information regarding any criminal activity please either call your local team or contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers is an anonymous line where you can report any criminal activity.