

Braintree Public Meeting

5th December 2013

Briefing information

Three police stations within the Braintree district are currently open to the public. Braintree Police Station is open between 0800 hours and midnight, seven days per week. Halstead and Witham police stations are open from 1200 hours to 1800 hours, Monday to Saturday (excluding Bank Holidays).

The Neighbourhood Crime Team, CID, and Response and Patrol teams are based at Braintree Police Station.

Crime Data for Braintree

All crime has decreased by 5.8% (351 less offences) when comparing reports for 1st November 2012 to 31st October 2013 against the same period in 2011/12.

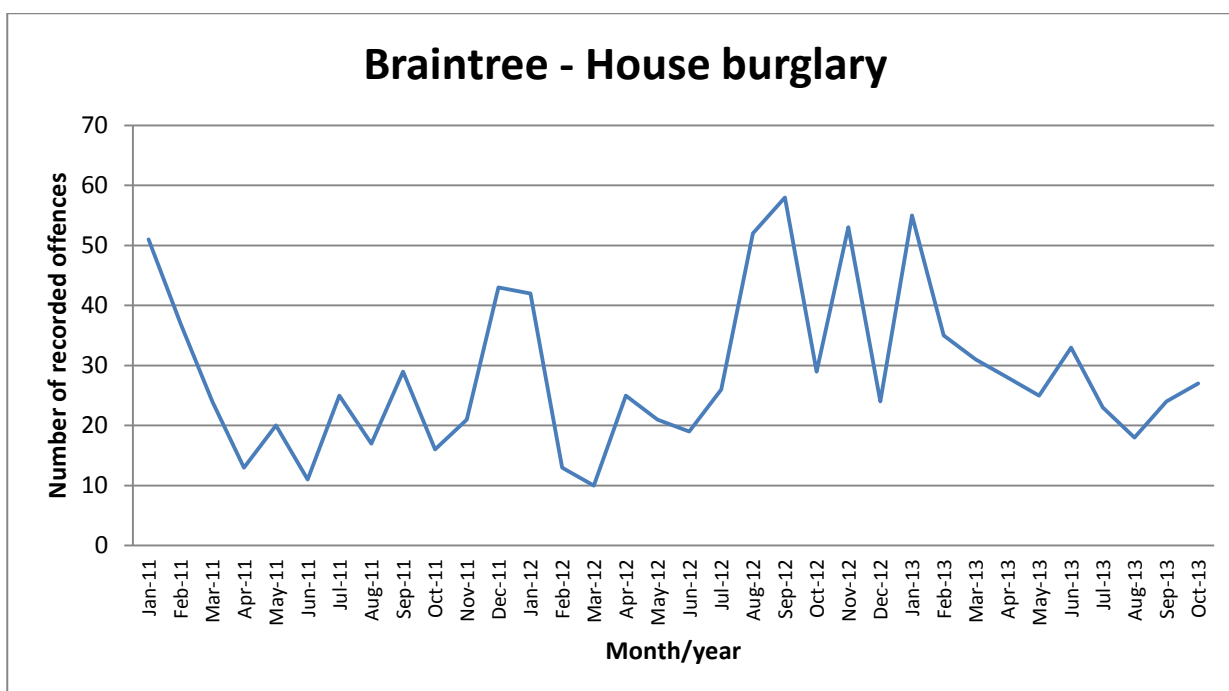
The areas of note are as follows:

- Theft from Vehicles has decreased by 19.6% (131 less offences);
- Shoplifting has decreased by 5.7% (27 less offences);
- Criminal Damage has decreased by 18.2% (190 less offences);
- Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents have decreased by 3.2% (131 less incidents);
- Burglary in a Dwelling has increased by 5.4% (19 more offences);
- Burglary in Other Than in a Dwelling (such as burglary of sheds, out-buildings and commercial premises) has increased by 6.4% (32 more offences);
- Other Violence Against the Person has decreased by 3.4% (41 less offences);
- Assault with Less Serious Injury has decreased by 3.8% (18 less offences).

1) All burglary

Since January 2013, there has been a steady decrease in the number of burglaries of people's homes, although there was an increase in June. The situation is being closely monitored and burglary remains an area of focus for the district.

We continue to work with our colleagues in CID, the Integrated Offender Management Team and other key partners to deter or divert offenders from further criminal activity and target those who persist in causing harm to our local community.



Many of the burglaries of people's sheds, garages and outbuildings occur in rural locations spread over a wide area.

The policing district also supports Farm Watch and other rural crime initiatives such as the Rural Crime Patrols.

The police undertake regular liaison with Neighbourhood Watch groups and local media to distribute and publish crime reduction information.

2) Visibility and Neighbourhood Policing

The Braintree District comprises thirteen wards that are policed by the area Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). Five wards are located in Braintree; there are four wards in Witham and four wards in Halstead. There are a small number of neighbourhood officers and PCSOs based at each of the district's three police stations. There are two neighbourhood Sergeants managing the team of Constables and PCSOs. The neighbourhood team work with the community and our community safety partners to seek long-term solutions to local problems and provide reassurance. They target persistent offenders for both crime and anti-social behaviour. They manage public engagement events such as Neighbourhood Action Panel meetings. Each of the officers and PCSOs are responsible for a number of wards.

Earlier this year, the response and patrol teams for Braintree were moved from Great Dunmow and Stanway to Braintree Police Station in order to provide better coverage for the district. There are five teams of officers based at Braintree Police Station which provide a 24/7 response cover.

The Neighbourhood Crime Team (NCT) consists of five shifts of officers that provide 24/7 cover for the district. These teams are located at Braintree Police Station. Each team is

led by a Sergeant and an Inspector that covers the whole LPA. The Braintree NCT also provides mutual support to the Uttlesford NCT (based at Saffron Walden) when demand is high. The NCT has a wide range of duties, including incident management, crime investigation, missing person enquiries and policing the night-time economy.

The District Policing Area of Braintree and Uttlesford is supported by a licensing team, an Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, an Essex Watch Co-ordinator, and a Crime Prevention Tactical Advisor.

There are three CID teams based at Braintree Police Station which are led by a Detective Inspector. They investigate serious crimes such as dwelling burglary and serious assaults.

3) Theft of cycles and cycling on pavements

A rise in the popularity of cycling has led to an increased number of bicycles being left insecure, or with inadequate security, and this has provided greater opportunities for bicycle thieves, especially within the towns of Braintree, Witham and Halstead.

Overall, there have been 45 more offences of theft of pedal cycle in the district when compared with the same period last year.

As part of policing operations in Braintree town centre, local officers are also seeking to stop people from cycling on footpaths.

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

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

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.