

Essex Police Performance Update June 2014

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1. Reducing Domestic Abuse

Performance Information

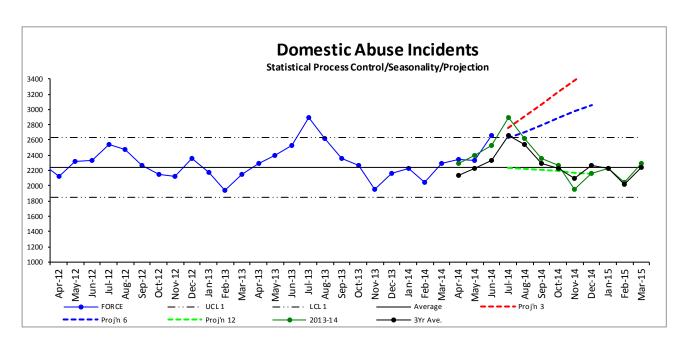
1. Reducing Domestic Abuse Data to Jun 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since May 2014
Number of domestic abuse incidents	27378	28159	2.9	Improved (-0.3% pt.)
Number of repeat incidents of domestic abuse	13463	13521	0.4	Improved (-1.0% pt.)
Number of domestic abuse offences	9045	10069	11.3	Worsened (1.9% pt.)
Number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse	55	79	43.6	Worsened (19.2% pt.)
Domestic abuse solved rate	43.4%	43.1%	-0.3	Improved (1.0% pt.)
Number of successful prosecutions for domestic abuse without the victim	N/A	12	N/A	N/A

The number of successful prosecutions for domestic abuse without the victim is for the month of June 2014.

The number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse is for the months of December 2012 and December 2013. The time lag is due to Essex Police following the national re-offending definition that allows six months for the offender to be identified and the appropriate disposal made.

The number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse uses re-run figures for last year.

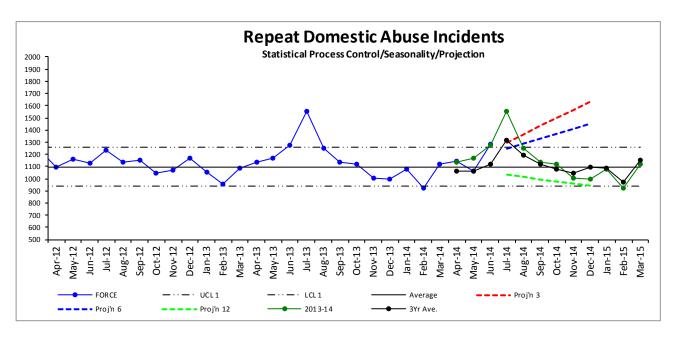
Management Information

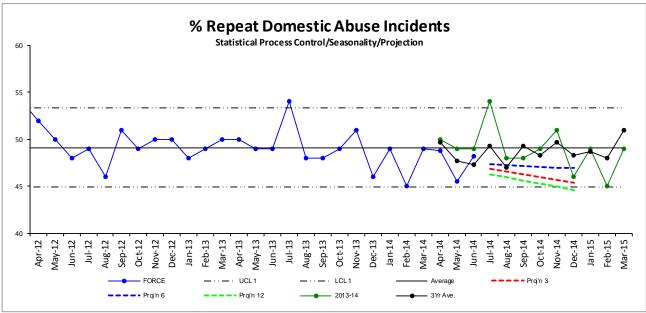






1. Reducing Domestic Abuse





Domestic Abuse

The demand profile of this quarter corresponds with seasonal trends for domestic abuse with June seeing significant increases in demand compared to previous months. Seasonal trends indicate a likely peak is to be reached in July with levels remaining high until the autumn.

The role out of the Domestic Abuse Crime Units (DACU) force-wide has been agreed for 1st September 2014 under the title 'Juno' teams.



1. Reducing Domestic Abuse

Operation Shield – Repeat Perpetrators

Operation Shield performance has been strong over the reporting period with 12 high risk perpetrators having been arrested up to and including 18th June 2014. There are currently 120 individuals on the target cohort. Operational performance will be reported through the Domestic Abuse Strategic Oversight Meeting (DASOM).

Oversight for Operation Shield is provided through a quarterly multi-agency meeting. The aim of this group is to inform police enforcement tactics and to monitor the performance of the operation in the context of demand on partner agencies.

The operation currently utilises a SPOC system to facilitate information transfer and assist police activity. In the future this link will be formalised through the Joint Domestic Abuse Triage Teams (JDATT) and MASH structures currently being developed across Southend Essex Thurrock (SET).

Thurrock Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The Thurrock MASH has a revised go live date of 4th August 2014. Police staffing has been agreed in principle comprising of a Sergeant, 2 Constables and 2 police staff researchers. The working processes of the MASH have been explored in detail; particularly with regard to its relationship with the Central Referral Unit (CRU).

The MASH will not perform a victim safeguarding role. Its primary function will be as an information sharing hub. All domestic violence reports in the Thurrock area will be submitted to the MASH and an enhanced information picture will be provided to the CRU which will positively affect safety planning. Dealing specifically with domestic abuse, it is hoped that following implementation, the MASH will be able to undertake the secondary risk assessing role currently performed by the CRU.

Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS)

The force implemented the new legislation on 7th March 2014. Relevant performance data can be seen below:

•	Number of right to ask applications made:	41
•	Number of right to ask applications approved:	10
•	Percentage of right to ask applications approved:	24%
•	Number of right to know applications made by the CRU:	45
•	Number of right to know applications approved:	26
•	Percentage of right to ask applications approved:	58%

Further information on the right to ask and right to know scheme can be found in the March 2014 PCC Performance Report.

Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors (IDVAs)

Significant progress has been made over the reporting period in terms of refining the operating processes of the wider IDVA teams. It is anticipated that all high risk victims of domestic abuse across wider Essex will have access to an IDVA by 8th July 2014. The CRU is currently working with colleagues from MASST to trial the handover of some aspects of high risk safety planning.



2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

Performance Information

2. Supporting Victims of Crime Data to Jun 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	MSG Ranking	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since May 2014
User Satisfaction - Making contact with the police	93.8%	94.3%	0.5	7	Worsened (-0.6% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.3%	1.2%	5155	1835	
User Satisfaction - Action taken by the police	81.1%	82.9%	1.8	5	Worsened (-0.5% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.8%	1.7%		100	
User Satisfaction - Being kept informed of progress	73.0%	78.0%	5.0	7	Worsened (-0.9% pt.)
Confidence interval	2.0%	1.9%			
User Satisfaction - Their treatment by staff	92.9%	92.0%	-0.9	8	(-0.4% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.2%	1.2%		113	
User Satisfaction - The overall service provided	79.7%	82.0%	2.3	8	Worsened (-0.6% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.8%	1.7%			
Emergency incidents attended within standard (90% attended within 15 mins in urban areas or 20 mins in rural areas)	88.6%	89.7%	1.8	n/a	Worsened (-1.8% pt.)
Emergency calls answered within standard (90% within 10 seconds)	94.8%	90.8%	-4.0	n/a	Worsened (-1.8% pt.)
Ensure that the average waiting time for a person calling our switchboard (non-emergency calls) is no more than 15 seconds	11	7	-4	n/a	Improved (-1.0)

The Essex Most Similar Group (MSG) consists of Avon & Somerset, Derbyshire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire and Sussex.

The user satisfaction MSG ranking is for the 12 months to March 2014.

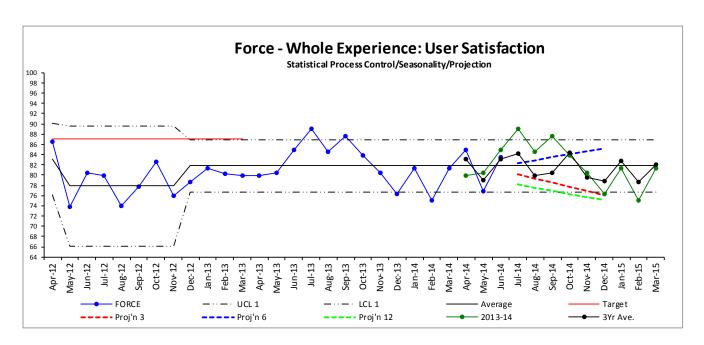
MSF ragging - green is better than the MSG average, red is worse and black is the same as the average.

User satisfaction is measured using feedback from a sample of dwelling burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime victims.



2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

Management Information



Satisfaction

The satisfaction results for the last 12 months to 31st May 2014 relate to user satisfaction surveys undertaken for crimes between 14th February 2013 and 24th March 2014.

The rolling year results show that victims' satisfaction levels continue to improve in all areas tested, with the exception of satisfaction with treatment (0.5 percentage points lower which is not statistically significant).

There is now no statistical difference between the level of satisfaction of BME and White victims surveyed for the overall service received. The work of the members of the Victim Care Team, who contact all BME victims of crime, should be recognised for increasing BME satisfaction which was, at one stage, 23 percentage points lower than white victims of crime.

The Head of Customer Service continues to monitor satisfaction levels and the verbatim feedback from victims to ensure there is no detrimental impact from internal change on satisfaction levels. Changes to systems and processes are continually introduced to fill any gaps in customer satisfaction and ensure a consistent quality of service to victims during organisational change.

At the end of June 2014, a new crime assessment process was introduced to streamline processes for crimes which do not require immediate attendance. Feedback from victims indicated that they often did not know what to expect after their initial contact with the police and did not understand our processes. In order to resolve this dissatisfaction, a new Victim Care Card has been introduced to ensure victims have immediate information about the investigation process, the next steps, the available support for victims and information about their key entitlements under the Victims Code of Practice. This information is emailed to the victim immediately after their initial contact, or posted to them if the victim does not have an email address.



2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

To further improve victim satisfaction and to ensure any concerns are resolved swiftly, we have added contact details to the front of the information, so that the victim can raise any concerns (or compliments) with the Quality of Service Team.

In addition, the information and scripts used by the Crime Bureau have been amended to include information about the most frequently raised concerns and to ensure victim expectations are met and managed at the first point of contact.

New processes have also been introduced to ensure victims re-contacting Essex Police with a concern about the service they have received are passed immediately by the FCR to the central Quality of Service Team to resolve. These reports of dissatisfaction were previously entered onto STORM for local teams to progress without any central co-ordination. Examples include:

- Lack of contact from police officers on crime investigation
- Time taken for officers to attend (after attendance has occurred)
- Dissatisfaction around officers' behaviour during the investigation, including incivility or lack of respect
- Lack of updates from officers during the investigation

The Head of Customer Service is working with the DASOM Victim and Witness sub—group to develop a survey for victims of domestic abuse to ensure the voice of the victim is heard during the set up and roll out of the new Juno Hubs across Essex Police. It is anticipated that victim feedback will be captured:

- 1. Prior to the introduction of the Juno hubs
- 2. From those victims who have been supported by the pilot South hub
- 3. Through an on-going survey to monitor victim satisfaction and to find out more about the areas where improvement can be made

Final preparations will be completed throughout July 2014, which include a visit to the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) to assess the implementation of their domestic abuse survey, their findings and how the MPS used the results to improve the service and support for victims of domestic abuse.

The Confidence Board, chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable, has continued to meet to oversee work to improve public confidence in policing. The work is spilt across four main work streams:

- Valuing our people (including the staff feedback survey, force events to value our workforce and a new programme 'Passion in Policing' which will also provide the vehicle for delivering the College of Policing Code of Ethics
- Victim Satisfaction
- Public Confidence
- Public Engagement

Final preparations are being made to launch a public engagement survey to find out more about how the public wish to access non-emergency policing services.



2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

Response

Attending emergency incidents within the standard for the 12 months to June 2014 compared to 12 months to June 2013 has improved slightly; however attendance to emergency incidents on major trunk roads has decreased.

Force Control Room (FCR) leadership continues to actively work with Response and Patrol and LPA leadership to ensure that the organisation maintains availability of resources and improves first-line supervision.

Monitoring the reasons for failing to attend emergency incidents within standard is ongoing, and June 2014 results show:

More than 34.3 % of the failures were by less than 3 minutes, 16% were less than 5 minutes 21.5% were less than 10 minutes.

Call Handling

The performance for answering emergency calls has declined from 94.9% to 82.7% with only a small increase in call volume from 18020 to 18350.

An ongoing review into staffing against demand has determined that the current shift pattern is the most productive. The FCR has started negotiations on flexible working arrangements to better align resources to business needs; this will involve in excess of 60 people. To improve flexibility we have completed negotiations on a new local agreement with Unison, which is currently subject of consultation, regarding conditions of service for staff. FCR is also improving the management of absence through more rigorous management practices.

Staff numbers are down at the moment with 4.5 police vacancies and 14 staff vacancies; however FCR are actively recruiting to fill these roles. Numbers are being maintained by a mixture of 'keeping in touch' days with trained police officers and overtime by existing FCR staff. Using non-permanent FCR staff maintains risk management but sometimes impacts on grade of service due to their slower working practices.

There is currently an induction course that has four staff being trained and a further course scheduled for September. Recruitment is becoming an emerging issue, with insufficient numbers of people of the right calibre applying. A review of recruitment has been undertaken and additional methods have been implemented to raise the profile of the role. Overtime has been offered to those who have already been trained as call takers, but there is limited take up due to the summer period and Operation ECHO.



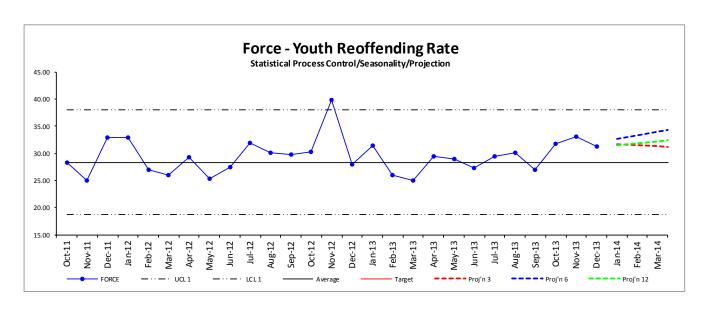
3. Reducing Youth Offending and Re-offending in General

Performance Information

3. Reducing Youth Offending and Reoffending in General Data for Dec 2013	Monthly Last Year		Monthly Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since Nov 2013
The number of youth offenders	239	288	20.5	Worsened (5.0% pt.)
The number of adult offenders	1560	1663	6.6	Worsened (6.3% pt.)
The number of youth offenders who re-offend	67	90	34.3	Worsened (38.1% pt.)
The number of adult offenders who re-offend	355	440	23.9	Worsened (15.3% pt.)
Youth re-offending rate	28.0%	31.3%	3.3%	Worsened (10.0% pt.)
Adult re-offending rate	22.8%	26.5%	3.7%	Worsened (1.6% pt.)

Work is on-going to develop the most informative measures of reoffending. Specifically, the force is working with the Probation Service and other partners to develop data to inform Integrated Offender Management. Until this work is completed, for this document the data shown above are based on offender information taken from the Police CrimeFile system rather than on 'proven' reoffending data from PNC. The data are six months in arrears to allow time for the police to establish who the offenders are for a crime.

Management Information





3. Reducing Youth Offending and Re-offending in General

PCC Youth Conference

The force continues to develop its plans for young people in Essex – particularly around engagement and enforcement. To this end, we were pleased to support the recent PCC Youth Conference where we were able to listen to the concerns young people have about policing in Essex and what their priorities for us are. We will continue to work closely with the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure we capture the feedback received from young people across Essex.

Youth Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

Plans to develop a 'Youth IOM' cohort have now been submitted which if agreed will see an increase in officers seconded to Youth Offending Teams across the county. Young people who are identified as continuing to present a high risk of offending are already supported by the Youth Offender Team (YOT) case worker. However, we would like to ensure that those young people who are reluctant to change their behaviour are also supported by the YOT police officer, including home visits and compliance with strong bail package requirements.

Howard League for Penal Reform

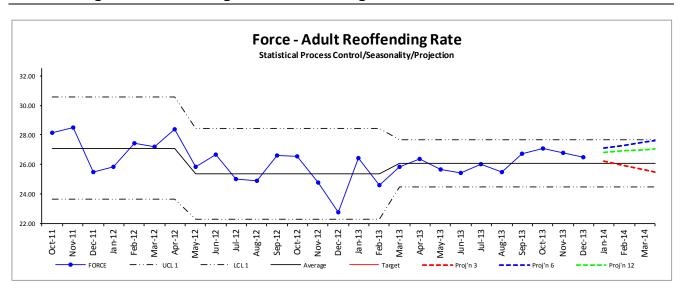
The recent report by the Howard League for Penal Reform, 'Child Arrests in England and Wales 2013: Research Briefing', identified a reducing trend in arresting children and young people. It is pleasing to note that Essex showed a significant reduction in child arrests since 2008, which reflects our approach to find positive and alternative responses to low level criminality including Triage and Community Resolution. We are now in discussions with Essex Youth Offending Services (YOS) to review and reduce the number of young people subject to a remand in custody. The plans outlined above will bring about stronger bail packages that can be offered to the court. These include daily/evening curfew checks by YOT police officers which should help to satisfy the courts and provide them with the confidence to choose an alternative to remand.

Restorative Justice

The force is in the process of identifying funding to train our YOT/Youth Officers in motivational interviewing skills as these skills are key to bringing about positive changes in behaviour by young people who are already offending and continue to do so.



3. Reducing Youth Offending and Re-offending in General



Adult Reoffending and Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

Essex Police faces the continual challenge of reducing the offending behaviour of the most prolific offenders in our communities. A key strategic response to this has been Essex Police's engagement with, and development of, the Essex IOM initiative with partner agencies. We are confident that IOM is a key factor in the continued stability of the adult reoffending rate.

In addition to IOM, our programme of voluntary electronic tagging is a positive step forward in challenging prolific offenders to desist from committing crime.

Integrated Offender Management

Essex Police continues to work closely with partner agencies to manage the IOM cohort, to change the offending behaviour of those offenders that engage with us and actively target those that do not through a range of policing tactics.

During the coming quarter there will be an independent review of the governance of IOM and a multi-agency workshop, which will bring together all IOM practitioners. This will be beneficial in reinforcing our already strong partnerships and informing the development of working practice.

Operation Olive: Voluntary Electronic Tagging

The programme of voluntary electronic tagging has been in place since February 2013. The information we have received so far in relation to the impact of voluntary tagging on offenders and the reduction in crime that these individuals would have committed, is encouraging.

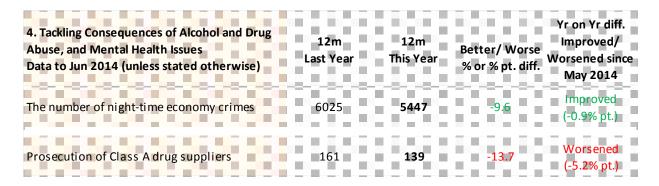
In the last quarter we received feedback which suggested that reoffending involving key offenders has reduced through wearing the electronic tag. To quote several current tag wearers; "The tag is the only thing stopping me offending as I know you always know where I am".

Another example shows an offender who had committed 33 burglaries prior to having the tag fitted. On release from prison the offender signed up to wearing an electronic tag and did not commit an offence for seven months. The offender then requested to have the tag removed whilst he actively looked for full-time employment; to date, he has not committed any further offences.



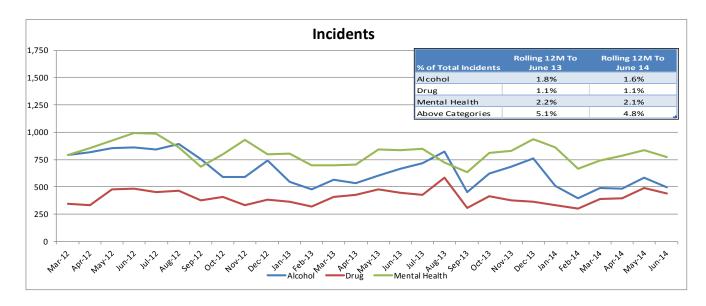
4. Tackling Consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Issues

Performance Information



The number of night-time economy crimes uses re-run figures for last year.

Management Information



Data for April to March 2013 has been re-run and as such is not strictly comparable. This is because there has been a longer period of time for the 2012 incidents to have been closed with the most appropriate qualifiers. Incidents may contain all three qualifiers (drug, alcohol or mental health). The qualifiers used to close the incident as drug/alcohol/mental health-related can be assigned by any authorised person during the 'resulting' or 'closing' process. As a result a degree of caution has to be used whilst quoting these figures as an accurate representation of policing interaction. These figures are collated from a system that is designed for Command and Control and not one for management information.

Drugs

The Chelmsford 'Drug Testing on Arrest' pilot scheme has continued to operate and the aspiration remains to roll-out the concept across Essex. In May, a bid was made to the Home Office 'Innovations Fund' for £718k over two years to contribute to new staff, hardware, training and evaluation for the roll-out. A response to the bid is anticipated in July.



4. Tackling Consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Issues

Alcohol

A peer led review of the structure, resourcing and future development of the police licensing function was carried out, the findings of which are now under consideration by the force.

At the end of April, a new license premises management database (called Bacchus) went live. Bacchus will be used by both Essex and Kent forces. The database was developed in-house by our collaborative I.T. Department.

During this quarter, partnership working around licensing was further consolidated with a Joint Forum, consisting of police, local authority and other key organisations. District Commanders have also been tasked with developing local partnership functions, e.g. licensing tasking groups.

Throughout the quarter, activities to help licensed premises operators identify potential drug activity on their sites continued using 'lon Trap' technology.

Operation Benison (targeted inspection of licensed premises) has continued to evolve. During the period a rolling programme of themed activity has been agreed with District Commanders. The focus in June and July was the on the World Cup. There is also a programme of additional policing activities directed at day-time drinking during July. The theme for August is outdoor festivals.

The findings from the operation are captured, analysed and help to inform future policing activity. Reporting mechanisms have been enhanced to include STORM (which records incidents) and Crimefile (which records crimes) data, and systems established to ensure that arrests and custody activity are fully collated. This provides a clearer context for physical inspections as well as any follow-up activity by specialist licensing staff.

To date the majority of licensed premises have been found to be well managed, with any minor issues being dealt with primarily by way of advice. However, Essex Police takes a robust approach to premises that are poorly managed. For example, in April the force made an application to review the licence of The Silk Road premises in Colchester, due to a number of assaults occurring on the premises and incidents of crime and disorder in the immediate vicinity. The local Licensing Committee imposed a three month suspension of license, the removal of their Designated Premises Supervisor, the shortening of trading hours and a range of other conditions.

The Special Constabulary identified a team of nineteen officers to undertake specialist training in order to support delivery of Operation Benison. A bespoke training package is under development with delivery anticipated during the summer months.



5. Improving Road Safety

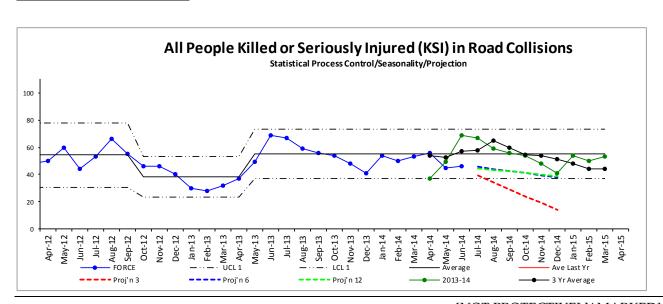
Performance Information

5. Improving Road Safety Data to Jun 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	Worsened since
All people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road collisions	651	714	9.7	Improved (-2.0% pt.)
KSI - Fatalities	44	33	-25.0	Same
KSI - Serious injuries	607	681	12.2	Improved (-2.2% pt.)
Number of Collisions	564	623	10.5	Improved (-1.6% pt.)
The number of people KSI in powered two wheeled vehicles	154	165	7.1	Worsened (8.4% pt.)
The number of young car drivers (17 - 25 years) KSI in road collisions	90	124	37.8	Improved (-1.2% pt.)
The number of pedestrians KSI in road collisions	97	132	36.1	Worsened (0.7% pt.)
The number of cyclists KSI in road collisions	81	89	9.9	Improved (-13.1% pt.)
The number of children and young people (0 - 17 years) KSI in road collisions	100	72	-28.0	Worsened (16.0% pt.)
The number of drink drivers KSI in road collisions	23	23	0.0	Improved (-15.0% pt.)

June 2014 KSI data is at 7/07/2014

The rolling 2014/15 12 month KSI data is based on re-run individual months added together.

Management Information





5. Improving Road Safety

Young Drivers 17-25

Work continues to identify more effective ways of communicating with young drivers. A project is to be undertaken based on an award winning road safety campaign developed by Devon and Cornwall Police entitled 'The Honest Truth' which has used imaginative methods in communicating with young people and young drivers. The project is supported by Advanced Driving Instructor Groups in Essex, acknowledging the benefits of introducing 'The Honest Truth' into the driver learning process from day one.

Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue will be working together to engage with young drivers at a number of known car cruiser meetings over the summer period, highlighting the vulnerability of young people when driving, including their passengers.

Pedestrians

Pedestrian safety remains a concern and whilst Essex Police can have only limited impact upon pedestrian safety the Essex Safer Roads Partnership has pedestrian safety as a priority ensuring appropriate educational and engagement opportunities are deployed through analytical processing of existing casualty data. Data does highlight specific concerns in Basildon, Southend and Colchester areas with the latter highlighting some concern centred upon pedestrian casualties during the night-time economy. Partners, including the local SOS action teams, are involved in developing supporting plans.

P2W (Motorcycles) KSI

KSI collisions involving motorcycles continue to cause concern. These collisions are occurring mainly in the south of Essex along the A127 and A13 corridor, including districts such as Basildon and Southend, and involve both leisure and commuter riders.

In response to the increase in motorcycle KSI collisions since April 2014, the Casualty Reduction Section has adapted its operational, educational and engagement activities. This has included early morning enforcement activity (Operation Kelly) along routes such as the A127 and A13, focusing upon high speed incidents of careless riding linked to commuters, plus evening commuter journeys. In addition, we have enhanced our ability to engage with riders promoting BikeSafeUK at events such as PIT Stops held in conjunction with Essex County Council Road Safety and Essex Fire and Rescue Service. These events take place at Althorne (B1010), Leaden Roding (B184) and Finchingfield (B1256).

At weekends, routes identified as 'hot spots' receive additional speed enforcement, conducted by Special Constables. This work focuses on casualty reduction, but also provides reassurance to local communities.

The Essex Bike Show (5th May 2014) attended by 4,500 riders, promoted the activity of Essex Police and our partners including the launch of Essex 'Hugger', a road safety approach now adopted by Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex Police areas, ensuring continuity in delivering one specific road safety campaign recognised across East Anglia.

As fine weather plays a significant factor in motorcycling activity, the above programme is enhanced when a period of settled weather is predicted.



5. Improving Road Safety

A12 Casualties and Incident Management

The A12 remains a significant topical issue for residents, users and business and in particular the wider impact a collision/incident can have on journey times and the wider local/regional economy. These issues are highlighted regularly by elected members of both Parliament and the Essex County Council.

Operation Excellence has looked to highlight the role that drivers/riders have when using the route, in particular emphasising how simple measures such as a reduction in speed, allowing greater distance from the vehicle in front, avoid in car distraction and respect for all road users can have a positive impact on reducing collisions which in turn will demonstrate significant benefits to journey times.

The operation is supported by the use of social media, local radio (BBC Essex) and accompanying visual messages relating to the use of mobile phones, speed, drink-driving and tailgating, and an increased level of enforcement.



6. Improving Crime Prevention

Performance Information

6. Improving Crime Prevention Data to Jun 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	MSG Ranking	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since May 2014
The number of all crime offences	99728	100335	0.6	6	Worsened (0.5% pt.)
The number of victim based crime offences	89497	90627	1.3	6	Worsened (0.3% pt.)
The number of repeat victims of crime	8496	8651	1.8	n/a	Worsened (0.7% pt.)
The number of repeat victims of business crime	3231	2834	-12.3	n/a	Worsened (4.1% pt.)
The solved crime rate	27.93%	28.37%	0.44	n/a	Worsened (-0.28% pt.)
The number of anti-social behaviour incidents	56264	53550	-4.8	n/a	Improved (-0.9% pt.)
The % of people agreeing that the Police and Local Council are dealing with crime and ASB in this area	61.4%	56.6%	-4.8	6	Worsened (-0.4% pt.)
The % of people who think the Police are doing a good job in this area	60.4%	57.0%	-3.4	8	Worsened (-1.4% pt.)

The Essex Most Similar Group (MSG) consists of Avon & Somerset, Derbyshire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire and Sussex.

The all crime MSG rankings are for the 3 months to May 2014

The all crime solved rate MSG ranking is no longer available.

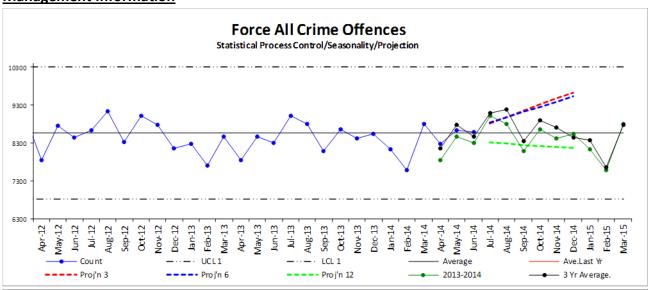
The last two measures in the table above are from the Crime Survey for England and Wales. Data and MSG rankings are for the 12 months to December 2013.

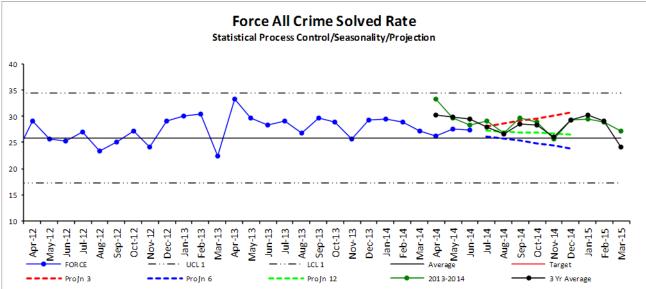
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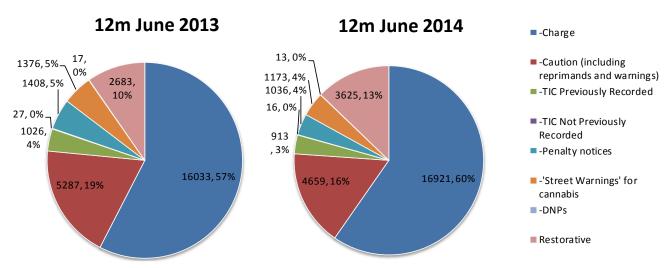
6. Improving Crime Prevention

Management Information





Breakdown of Offence Disposals





6. Improving Crime Prevention

All Crime

Whilst there has been a slight increase (0.6%) in the number of offences for the 12 months to June 2014 against the 12 months to June 2013, there has been a larger increase (3.7%) during April – June 2014 versus April – June 2013. The largest numerical increase was seen in Other Violence Against the Person (OVAP). This category comprises 21 sub-categories, with the top 3 numerical increases being in 'assault without injury', 'harassment' and 'public order offences'; all 3 of which can be viewed as less serious offences than some of the other offences within this category. In the last quarter we have seen a significant increase of over 500 crimes that were domestic abuse related. Many of these will be reflected in the violent crime increase. This particular rise is seen as positive as victims are more confident to report such crime. In addition, part of this increase is a 16.1% rise in proactive police reported public order offences. Reducing all crime and tackling serious violent crime remain key priorities for the force.

Dwelling Burglary

Officers continue to be tasked with patrolling specific zones using intelligence-led policing, which provides accurate information on our burglaries and key offenders. It has also provided us with some excellent opportunities in tackling offenders and reducing crime. Results have varied across the county and we are now analysing our activity to find out what works and what doesn't.

Rural Crime

The English Heritage map overlays have now been placed on our mapping system; this shows such sites as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), battlefields, parks and gardens. The final draft for the Operation Chronos leaflet (unlawful metal detecting) is being finalised and will then be sent to the ACPO lead in heritage crime for a public launch. We are going to start a 'Heritage Watch'; all 299 SAMs in Essex are to be risk assessed to ascertain their vulnerability and a marker placed on Storm (an incident recording system). We are also going to create external wildlife and heritage webpages.

The Special Constabulary Rural Policing Team comprises 2 Special Sergeants and 12 Special Constables, with two teams split 50/50 between Dunmow and Maldon hubs. In May 2014 they performed 367 hours of high-visibility policing in rural communities throughout Essex. There is a plan to increase the number of hubs to three, creating one in Colchester, and resourcing it with a further Special Sergeant and six Special Constables.

Business Crime

The force is encouraging businesses to engage with their local Business Against Crime forums, Crime Prevention Tactical Advisors (CPTA) and Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) to share information and intelligence about offenders, trends and crime series. We continue to provide crime prevention advice to prevent businesses becoming victims and improve confidence in policing.

Training and support is provided to promote proportionate intervention and exclusion from premises. We are identifying repeat victims; and creating tactical reduction plans to prioritise activity towards these premises. We are also sharing information regarding current crime hot spots with retailers, to improve vigilance and encourage intelligence on known offenders.

Metal Theft

Theft of metal has fallen by 46.72% during the period 1st March 2014 to 31st May 2014 compared with the same period last year.



6. Improving Crime Prevention

BTP and Home Office Forces participated in a Week of Action between 19th and 23rd May 2014, targeting metal theft and aligning with the European Day of Action on 21st May. As part of an ongoing investigation into the theft of large amounts of scrap metal across the country, a series of checks are taking place at locations where scrap metal is disposed of, and sold by, members of the public to a scrap dealer.

Community Messaging Scheme

The Community Messaging System (CMS) development contract has now been awarded following a comprehensive and challenging procurement process. CMS will enable police and partners to deliver specific messages to specific groups/geographical areas using a number of engagement tactics. These tactics will include text, email and voice messaging for those without access to modern technology.

CMS will allow police and partners to warn and inform communities across the county using the most appropriate engagement tactics, in a cost effective way. This will enhance the effectiveness of our engagement with communities and our collective ability to reduce crime and harm across Essex.



7. Increasing Efficiency in Policing Through Collaborative Working and Innovation

Performance Information



Detailed progress is reported via the monthly Budgetary Control Report.

Operating Model

In May, following extensive demand analysis that was carried out by expert consultants, chief officers agreed to make certain refinements to phase 1 of the revised policing model that is due to go live on 1st September, 2104. These changes will enable the force to save money and improve efficiency by reducing the size of some of the specialist policing teams and returning more officers to local policing.

In summary, the force has reduced the size of its specialist firearms teams, whilst still retaining the same level of 24 hour firearms response cover that is currently provided by the Armed Response Vehicles.

There has also been a reduction in the number of specialist roads policing officers. The size of this new team is now comparable with other forces similar in size to Essex.

In addition, the Operational Support Group, based at Boreham, has been reduced in size. This team provides public order cover for the force and has the capability to respond to critical incidents across the county.

As a result of these changes the force has been able to save in excess of £3 million.

The changes to our policing model have been communicated to key stakeholders including MPs, council chief executives, collaborative forces and other blue light organisations.

There has also been extensive internal communication and consultation. Throughout this process Essex Police has worked closely with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Work continues on phase 2 of the new policing model, which is scheduled to take effect from April 2015.

In April, the chief officer teams of Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue Service met to discuss collaborative opportunities. Following presentations and discussion it was agreed that scoping work would be undertaken in a number of areas and findings presented for consideration in the autumn.



8. Organisational Health

Management Information

Sickness Levels



Please note HR is working on producing rolling 12 month data for sickness.

Sickness

In terms of short term sickness the force is seeing a reduction, but there is still a significant long term sickness issue to resolve. To support this process, Occupational Health has received additional funding to support fast track diagnosis using non NHS frameworks and counselling for both police staff and police officers. In addition, where medical evidence meets the appropriate threshold, the force is applying ill health retirement arrangements.

Force total short term sickness for the first quarter in respect of police officers is 1.1 days lost per officer. For police staff (excluding PCSOs) this is 1.07 days lost per person. In respect of PCSOs this is 1.45 days lost per person.

Projecting April - June 2014 sickness figures for a whole year and comparing them to April 2013 – March 2014 the following trends were seen:

- Police officer short term sickness shows a slightly improving trend
- Police staff short term sickness shows a stable trend
- PCSO short term sickness shows an improving trend
- Police officer total sickness shows a stable trend
- Police staff total sickness shows a stable trend
- PCSO total sickness shows a significantly improving trend



8. Organisational Health

Vacancy Levels

Vacancy levels will be provided in a separate update given by the Head of Human Resources (HR) each quarter.