

# Essex Police Performance Update September 2014

	Areas of Focus	<u>Page</u>
1.	Reducing Domestic Abuse	1
2.	Supporting our Victims of Crime	4
3.	Reducing Youth Offending and Reoffending in General	8
4.	Tackling Consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Issues	11
5.	Improving Road Safety	13
6.	Improving Crime Prevention	16
7.	Increasing Efficiency in Policing through Collaborative Working and Innovation	20
8.	Organisational Health	22





# 1. Reducing Domestic Abuse

#### **Performance Information**

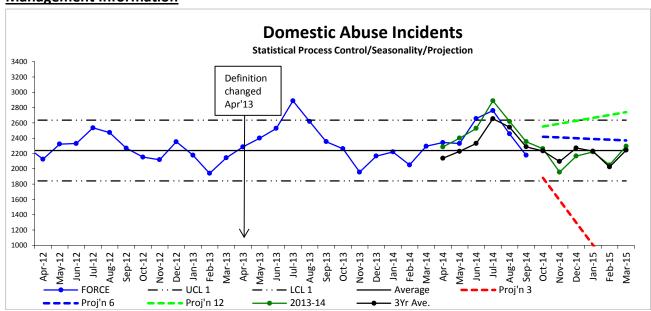
Reducing Domestic Abuse Data to Sep 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since Aug 2014
Number of domestic abuse incidents	27961	27693	-1.0	Improved (-0.9% pt.)
Number of repeat incidents of domestic abuse	13711	13303	-3.0	Improved (-0.1% pt.)
Number of domestic abuse offences	9161	10469	14.3	Worsened (1.2% pt.)
Number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse	53	59	11.3	Worsened (8.7% pt.)
Domestic abuse solved rate	43.7%	42.6%	-1,1	Improved (0.3% pt.)
Number of successful prosecutions for domestic abuse without the victim	N/A	15	N/A	N/A

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

The number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse is for the months of March 2013 and March 2014. The time lag is due to Essex Police following the national re-offending definition that allows 6 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.

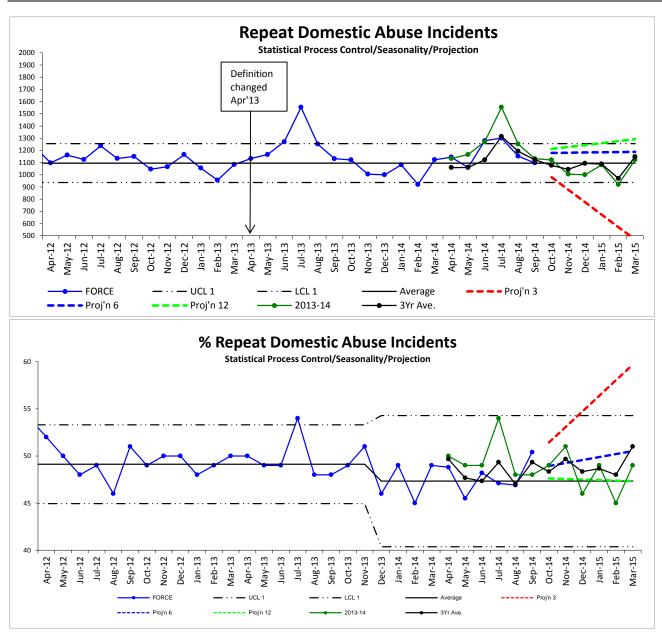
#### **Management Information**







#### 1. Reducing Domestic Abuse



#### **Domestic Abuse**

The demand profile for this quarter corresponds with seasonal trends for domestic abuse in the post summer period. There has been a slight reduction in the number of incidents of domestic abuse in the twelve months to September, whilst the number of domestic abuse related offences has increased.

On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014, Essex Police launched dedicated domestic abuse investigation teams called Juno. With an establishment of 133 officers working across the county, the teams have been set up to investigate all instances of domestic abuse related crime. It is anticipated that in the medium to long term, this dedicated specialist resource will be instrumental in improving the quality of investigations and bringing more offenders to justice.



# 1. Reducing Domestic Abuse

#### **Operation Shield**

Operation Shield's (Essex Police's plan to tackle high risk domestic abuse perpetrators) performance has been strong over the reporting period, with 104 high risk perpetrators having been arrested (up to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014). There are currently 141 individuals in the target cohort. Operational performance is reported through the Domestic Abuse Strategic Oversight Meeting (DASOM). One of the key aims of Operation Shield and the Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Board Sub-Group is to increase the number of external agency referrals into the high risk programme. This is so victims can be more easily identified and interventions planned with as much information as possible.

#### **Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS)**

The Force implemented the new legislation on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Performance data can be seen below:

Number of right to ask applications made: 79
Number of right to ask applications approved: 10
Percentage of right to ask applications approved: 13%
Number of right to know applications made by the CRU: 76
Number of right to know applications approved: 36
Percentage of right to ask applications approved: 47%

#### **Domestic Violence Prevention Orders and Notices (DVPO and DVPN)**

Following successful pilots in three separate force areas and the publication of Home Office guidance, Essex Police launched the domestic violence prevention order process in June 2014. Performance data can be seen below:

Number of DVPN applications made: 162
 Number of DVPNs rejected: 23
 Number of DVPOs granted: 139
 Number of DVPOs rejected 6
 Number of reported breaches 40

#### Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

The backlog in cases waiting to be heard at MARAC has reduced significantly following the introduction of a triage process. The new procedure allows a trained decision maker to determine if cases should progress to a full meeting or whether certain situations would be dealt with more effectively through other appropriate pathways.

Oversight of the MARAC triage process and the system in general, is maintained through the MARAC Steering Group and the newly formed JDATT and MARAC Operational Governance Group.



# 2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

#### **Performance Information**

2. Supporting Victims of Crime Data to Sep 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	MSG Ranking	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since Aug 2014
User Satisfaction - Making contact with the police	94.3%	94.5%	0.2	8	Worsened (-0.3% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.2%	1.2%	53 18 53	183	
User Satisfaction - Action taken by the police	82.8%	82.0%	-0.8	7	Worsened (-0.8% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.7%	1.7%		100	1000
User Satisfaction - Being kept informed of progress	75.9%	76.7%	0.8	8	Worsened (-1.4% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.9%	1.9%	16 (3.16)	180	
User Satisfaction - Their treatment by staff	93.2%	91.6%	-1.6	8	Worsened (-0.7% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.1%	1.3%		838	
User Satisfaction - The overall service provided	82.1%	81.0%	-1.1	8	Worsened (-1.7% pt.)
Confidence interval	1.7%	1.8%	5500.50		
Emergency incidents attended within standard (90% attended within 15 mins in urban areas or 20 mins in rural areas)	90.1%	87.4%	-2.7	n/a	Worsened (-1.0% pt.)
Emergency calls answered within standard (90% within 10 seconds)  Ensure that the average waiting time for a	94.8%	86.9%	-7.9	n/a	Worsened (-1.1% pt.)
person calling our switchboard (non- emergency calls) is no more than 15 seconds	10	7	-3	n/a	Same

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 June 2014.

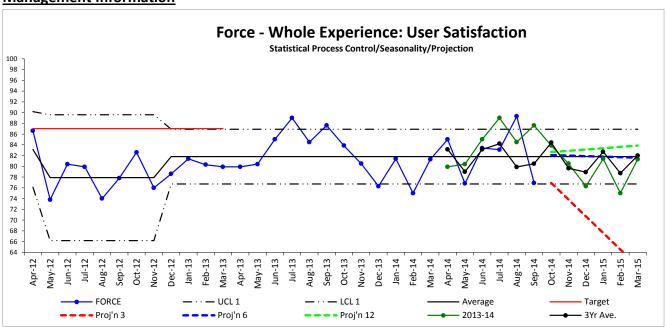
MSF ragging - green is better than the MSG average, red is worse and black is the same as the average.

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 30 September 2014 relate to user satisfaction surveys undertaken for crimes between 20 June 2013 and 30 July 2014.

The rolling year results show that victims' satisfaction levels have fallen slightly compared to the same period last year in three out of the five areas tested (satisfaction with action, treatment and whole experience) but this fall is not statistically significant.

There remains no statistical difference between the level of satisfaction of black and ethnic minority (BME) and White victims surveyed for the overall service received. The Victim Care Team continues to contact BME victims of crime to ensure that they have been satisfied with the service received.

At the end of June 2014, a new crime assessment process was introduced to streamline processes for crimes which do not require immediate attendance. Changes were made to the information provided to victims of crime to ensure that they knew what to expect next. The contact details for the quality of service team were also given so that victims can raise any concerns (or compliments) about the service they have received.

The latest satisfaction results are the first set of results to report user satisfaction with the new Crime Assessment process. Satisfaction levels for victims with crimes that followed the Crime Assessment process were higher in every area tested when compared to those where a police attendance was required; 100% satisfaction was achieved for both ease of contact and treatment.

During the last period, work has progressed to improve our non-emergency call handling. This work includes a refinement to the auto attendant on the force switchboard which will allow callers to say the name of the person they wish to contact.



#### 2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

A procurement tender has also been completed to provide a meaningful report about the type / classification and volume of calls being answered by the force switchboard during a typical day for Essex Police to find out more about:

- Reasons for calling 101
- Percentage of calls resolved at the first point of contact for each category identified in the first bullet point
- Percentage of calls signposted to another agency for each category identified in the first bullet point
- Percentage of calls transferred to another department or area in Essex police for each category identified in the first bullet point
- Percentage of calls returned to the force switchboard after the initial transfer for each category identified in the first bullet point
- Percentage of unanswered calls after the initial transfer for each category identified in the first bullet point
- Percentage of calls which are avoidable (such as unresolved during first call, incorrectly directed, more suitable for another agency or third party)
- Volume of calls correctly routed via the existing auto attendant and resolved without further transfer or return of call to the switchboard

The results will be used to help inform the force Contact Management Programme and the Access Strategy which is being developed.

An on-line survey for victims of domestic abuse has also been launched to help us find out more about the level of service we give and where we need to improve. The survey is sent to all domestic abuse victims where cases have proceeded through the criminal court system. It seeks the victim's views about their experience and the service given to them from their first contact with the police until the conclusion of the case. The survey is anonymous and the results will be considered by the Strategic Domestic Abuse Oversight Group, chaired by the Chief Constable.

The Confidence Board, chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable, has continued to meet to oversee work to improve public confidence in policing. The Board is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Victims Code of Practice and the mechanisms to test compliance with each of the entitlements. A new compliance test has been developed which will be undertaken during December 2014.

#### Response

Attending emergency incidents within the standard has deteriorated by 1.7% pts. (12 months to August 2014 compared to 12 months to August 2013). Trunk road emergency response failures still account for the largest group of failures. The A12 corridor (M25 to Marks Tey) remains an area of particular concern and work is in hand by Roads Policing to address this.

The Force Control Room (FCR) leadership continues to actively work with local commanders to ensure the organisation maintains adequate resources. The availability of resources is subject to consistent and ongoing challenge by FCR staff, in order to achieve the best use of those resources.

The force monitors the reasons for failing to attend emergency incidents within standard as we continue to strive to improve our response rates.



# 2. Supporting Our Victims of Crime

#### **Call Handling**

The performance for answering emergency calls for the 12 month period to September has declined from 94.8% in 2013 to 86.9% in 2014, whilst the volume during those two periods remained level. 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 and is due to be completed at the end of October. However, new flexible working arrangements will not be implemented until after the temporary move to Chigwell, due to a necessary 3-month minimum formal notification period for change of shift patterns. FCR is also improving the management of absence through more rigorous management practices.

Performance has been adversely affected by significant vacancies that have arisen over recent months, and these have been explored previously in performance scrutiny meetings. Close and ongoing working with HR to enhance recruitment has been successful in attracting new people. The classroom element of new courses has been reduced from 7 to 5 weeks without affecting content, and has doubled in capacity (12 recruits started on 5th October with courses planned for November (recruits identified), January, February and March). Recruitment tactics remain open and enduring. In the meantime, some 21 officers and staff have been seconded into FCR in the interim period under Operation Marconi, and the issue is subject of oversight by a Gold Group chaired by an ACC. Abandoned calls have reduced significantly, and performance is showing improvement.



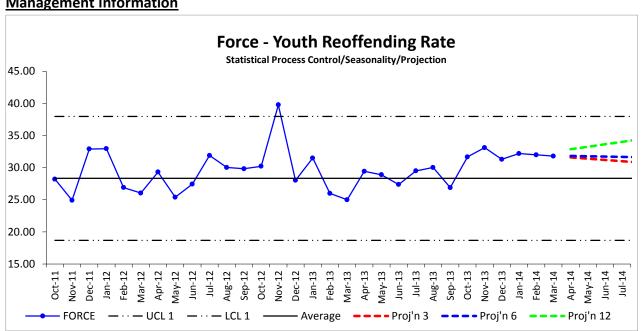
3. Reducing Youth Offending and Re-offending in General

#### **Performance Information**

3. Reducing Youth Offending and Reoffending in General Data for March 2014	Monthly Last Year	Monthly This Year	Monthly Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since Feb 2014
The number of youth offenders	316	314	-0.6	Worsened (9.7)
The number of adult offenders	1598	1647	3.1	Worsened (5.8)
The number of youth offenders who re-offend	79	100	26.6	Worsened (15.9)
The number of adult offenders who re-offend	413	439	6.3	Worsened (5.8)
Youth re-offending rate	25.0%	31.8%	6.8%	Worsened (0.8)
Adult re-offending rate	25.8%	26.7%	0.9%	Worsened (0.1)

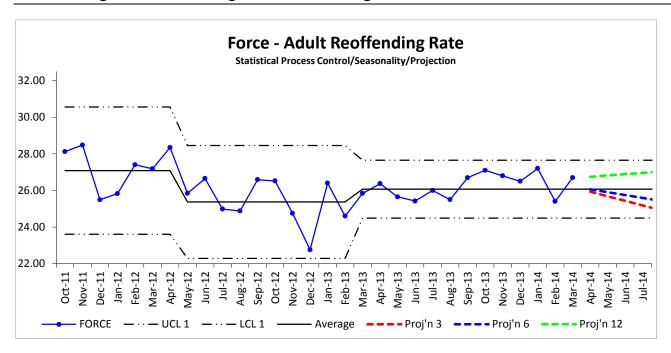
Work is on-going to develop the most informative measures of reoffending. Specifically, the force is working with the Probation Service and other partners to develop data to inform Integrated Offender Management. Until this work is completed, for this document the data shown above are based on offender information taken from the Police CrimeFile system rather than on 'proven' reoffending data from PNC. The data are 6 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



#### Adult Reoffending and Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

Addressing the reoffending behaviour of the most prolific and high priority offenders in Essex is a continual challenge for Essex Police. The force is a key partner in Integrated Offender Management (IOM) which is a multi-agency arrangement specifically aiming to address the behaviour of these offenders.

In September 2014, HMIC published a report which recognised that the IOM arrangement in Essex is "well-managed". This is the second HMIC report in 12 months to reflect positively on the development of IOM in Essex.

#### **Integrated Offender Management**

Essex Police is continuing to develop and coordinate IOM together with partner agencies, maintaining a focus on addressing the underlying causes of offending and working with offenders to tackle these issues, while taking robust action against offenders who continue to commit crime.

In the last quarter, information suggests that IOM is continuing to have a positive effect on offenders who have left IOM after successfully stopping their offending behaviour. In the rolling quarter to August 2014, there was a 71.43% reduction in the number of offences committed in the 12 months after leaving IOM when compared to the 12 months before they joined IOM.

The ability to better demonstrate the "success" of IOM is currently being addressed through the development of a bespoke performance management framework. The proposed framework will be presented during the next quarter, and will enable there to be a better understanding of the contribution IOM is making to reducing reoffending.

#### **Operation Olive: Voluntary Electronic Tagging**

The programme of voluntary electronic tagging, 'Operation Olive', has been in place since February 2013. To date 55 offenders have worn the electronic monitoring tag, which has contributed considerably to the reduction in burglary offences across Essex.



## 3. Reducing Youth Offending and Re-offending in General

Due to its continued success, Chief Officers have allocated funding for 20 tags for the next 12 months with the additional support of a Researcher and Administrator to assist with the management of the programme.

In the last quarter, data analysis suggests that reoffending involving key offenders has reduced through wearing the electronic tag. Offenders who were convicted of an offence whilst wearing the tag continue to request a tag prior to being released from prison.

#### **Youth Reoffending**

Essex Police is currently developing a Youth Cadet scheme. Initially it has been agreed that 3 schemes will be launched (1 in each LPA) by the end of 2015. With 25 cadets in each unit, a total of 75, 13 to 18 year olds will benefit from positive police engagement. This will help their social development and life skills. It is hoped that 25% of the cohort will be recruited from vulnerable backgrounds (be that at risk of harm or at risk of offending).

Work continues in developing the Youth Officer roles (previously School Liaison Officer). New job descriptions are being considered to incorporate the work required with the Youth Cadet Scheme as well as streamlining the role. This is to ensure that engagement with young people is for a policing purpose rather than the general engagement which has developed over time. It will also encourage more visibility outside of schools i.e. town centres, thus encouraging the young people that are excluded, or choose not to attend school (those most at risk), to engage.

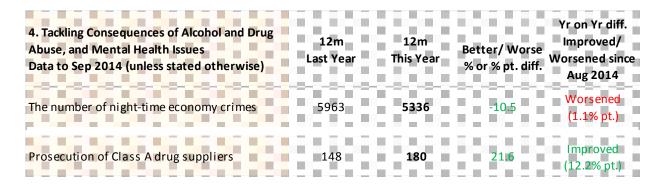
An Essex Police Youth Strategy is being developed. Initial consultation has taken place with partners involved in youth engagement which was facilitated by a Youth Workshop hosted by ECC/OPCC.

Community resolutions continue to be used where appropriate. This enables officers to keep victims at the heart of policing whilst ensuring that we do not unnecessarily criminalise young people for minor misdemeanours. Community Remedy, which is being developed together by police and the PCC will assist in formalising options (for both young people and adults) in dealing with lower level offending and anti-social behaviour.



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 for management information.



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

#### **Drugs**

A successful bid to the Home Office 'Innovations Fund' will deliver £718,000 to be spent over two years which will help to fund the county-wide roll-out of the drug testing on arrest model. A cross partnership steering group will be formed to manage project delivery, which will include the recruitment of three new coordinator posts, one for each Local Policing Area. It is anticipated that the programme will be operationally live in the first quarter of 2015.

#### **Alcohol**

Operation Benison (targeted inspections of licensed premises) continues to be delivered. This ensures that licensed premises throughout the force are inspected regularly. The focus of enforcement action during September included the ACPO initiated alcohol week of action. October's focus will be on Halloween and fireworks (off-licence inspections).

During the reporting period, a force-wide assessment of local licensing delivery has been made against the strategic programme of work. Some areas are being developed further by district commanders to ensure consistent delivery, such as enhancing engagement through local licensing tasking groups.

The peer led review of licensing has been adopted through the Evolve programme of work. This will reduce workload, freeing up time for pro-active enforcement and engagement.

The training package for nominated Night-Time Economy (NTE) Special Constables has been developed, and a delivery programme has been agreed, starting late October 2014.



# 5. Improving Road Safety

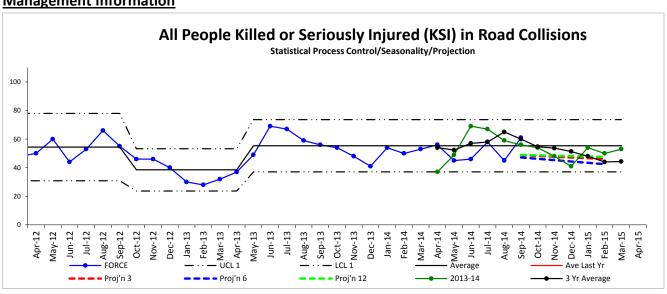
#### **Performance Information**

5. Improving Road Safety Data to Sep 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since Aug 2014
All people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road collisions	662	679	2.6	Worsened (0.9% pt.)
KSI - Fatalities	43	30	-30.2	Worsened (3.1% pt.)
KSI - Serious injuries	619	649	4.8	Worsened (0.7% pt.)
Number of Collisions	587	604	2.9	Worsened (2.2% pt.)
The number of people KSI in powered two wheeled vehicles	145	173	19.3	Worsened (18.7% pt.)
The number of young car drivers (17 - 25 years) KSI in road collisions	112	113	0.9	Improved (-4.0% pt.)
The number of pedestrians KSI in road collisions	107	122	14.0	Improved (-5.4% pt.)
The number of cyclists KSI in road collisions	86	86	0.0	Worsened (8.9% pt.)
The number of children and young people (0 - 17 years) KSI in road collisions	82	67	-18.3	Worsened (1.5% pt.)
The number of drink drivers KSI in road collisions	32	12	-62.5	Improved (-9.2% pt.)

September 2014 KSI data is at 13/10/2014

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

#### **Management Information**





#### 5. Improving Road Safety

#### **Improving Road Safety**

#### **Road Safety Operations**

An increase in the number of KSI casualties has presented Essex Police and the Essex Safer Roads Partnership (ESRP) with considerable challenges.

There has been greater focus placed upon opportunities to engage, educate and enforce, using the skills of various ESRP partners to promote road safety to key and vulnerable road user groups.

Through various multi-agency operations a total of 6,130 vehicles were stopped by Essex Police following identification of a road traffic offence being committed. From these interactions, 90 people were arrested for various offences, 2,824 drivers were referred onto national re-education courses (NDORS) in an effort to re-educate drivers and riders for low-end traffic offending, and 207 vehicles were seized for no insurance or no driving licence.

Operations took place in Colchester, Chelmsford, Loughton, Epping, Harlow, Clacton, Canvey Island, Basildon, Thurrock and Southend alongside key strategic routes such as the A12, A127, A13, M11 and M25.

It should be noted that the most recent communication from the Department for Transport highlights provisional data for Q1 2014 showing a 4% national increase in killed casualties and a 2% increase in serious casualties.

#### **Powered Two Wheel (Motorcycles) KSI**

The warm summer period attracted a significant number of motorbikes onto the road network for both leisure and commuter riding.

During July, August and September there was robust enforcement activity towards careless riding offences on key routes. This recognised analytical work on current motorbike collision data which identified commuter and midweek leisure riding as a priority for enforcement in an effort to address poor riding behaviour and reduce the risk of harm.

Engagement opportunities remained in place at weekends using Fire Bike, local authority road safety staff and Essex Police to engage and educate riders.

#### **Young Drivers 17-25**

Introduction of 'The Honest Truth' road safety campaign, to reduce anti-social driving and the number of young people KSI, is to be launched on 26<sup>th</sup> October with training taking place on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October for local driving instructors.

There will be dedicated enforcement and engagement patrols, using the Casualty Reduction Section Special Constables working alongside Essex Fire and Rescue to patrol local communities who continue to be at risk of personal injury on the road where the continued practice of 'cruiser meets' and street racing take place. Communities such as Canvey Island, Basildon (Southfields) and Thurrock regularly attract, during the summer period, significant attention from young drivers. A minority of the young drivers pose a significant risk, not only to themselves but to other road users through practices such as highway racing and other highly dangerous manoeuvres.

As witnessed in Thurrock, working closely with key partners and maximising the use of relevant legislation can play a major part in minimising the risk and disruption to local communities.



# 5. Improving Road Safety

#### **Pedestrians**

Concerns have been raised regarding the number of pedestrian casualties in Basildon, Southend and Colchester, to which the night-time economy may have been a contributing factor.

Analysis was carried out to look at the underlying factors, if any, as to why the pedestrians were injured. The primary factor identified was alcohol. As a result, preventative education and engagement activities will be undertaken around the night-time economy at the above locations. This will take the form of a pedestrian safety awareness campaign to be launched towards the end of 2014 by the ERSP.

Discussions have taken place with the Colchester SOS Bus on how the SOS team can assist the ERSP in minimising the risk to pedestrians within Colchester. During their reassurance patrols they have witnessed pedestrians colliding with cars especially in areas serving late night fast food.

The Casualty Reduction Section's Special Constables have also been tasked with policing the night-time economy and pedestrian safety within the identified towns.

The Essex Safer Roads Partnership continues to provide education in schools, promoting pedestrian safety.

#### **Drink Drive Casualty Data**

The rolling 12 months to September 2014 shows a decrease of 62.5% in the number of drink drive casualties. This decrease is partly due to the way drink drive KSIs are calculated. If a drink driver and 3 passengers are involved in a KSI, this will count as 4 drink drive KSI casualties. During 2013/14 there were more cases of multiple casualties within each collision compared to 2014/15 (which involved single serious casualties).



# 6. Improving Crime Prevention

#### **Performance Information**

6. Improving Crime Prevention Data to Sep 2014 (unless stated otherwise)	12m Last Year	12m This Year	Better/ Worse % or % pt. diff.	MSG Ranking	Yr on Yr diff. Improved/ Worsened since Aug 2014
The number of all crime offences	99588	100050	0.5	6	Worsened (0.6% pt.)
The number of victim based crime offences	89538	90049	0.6	6	Worsened (0.5% pt.)
The number of repeat victims of crime	8395	8823	5.1	n/a	Worsened (1.1% pt.)
The number of repeat victims of business crime	2991	2819	-5.8	n/a	Worsened (1.2% pt.)
The solved crime rate	28.79%	27.94%	-0.85	6	Worsened (-0.35% pt.)
The number of anti-social behaviour incidents	57228	53018	-7.4	n/a	Worsened (1.0% pt.)
The % of people agreeing that the Police and Local Council are dealing with crime and ASB in this area	58.0%	55.3%	-2.7	8	Improved (2.1% pt.)
The % of people who think the Police are doing a good job in this area	58.8%	57.1%	-1.7	8	Improved (1.7% 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 August 2014

The all crime solved rate MSG ranking are for the 12 months to August 2014

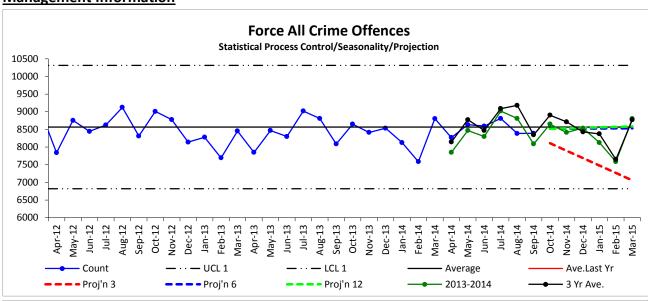
The last two measures in the table above are from the Crime Survey for England and Wales. Data and MSG rankings are for the 12 months to June 2014.

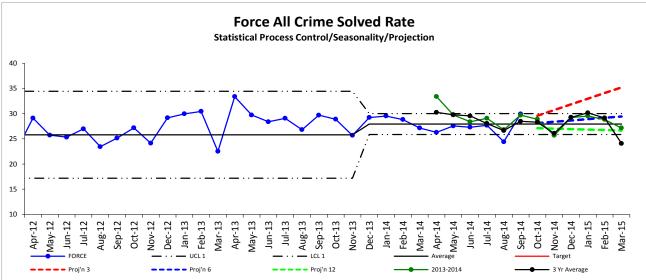
MSG ragging – green is better than the MSG average, red is worse and black is the same as the average.



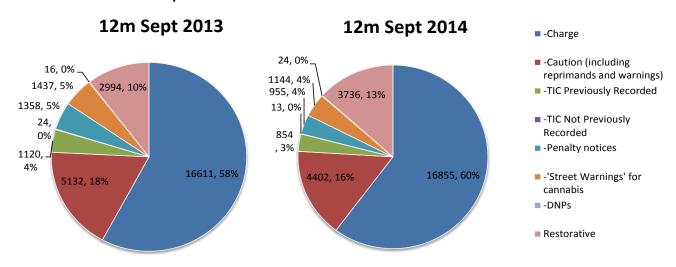
# 6. Improving Crime Prevention

#### **Management Information**





#### **Breakdown of Offence Disposals**





#### 6. Improving Crime Prevention

#### **All Crime**

Whilst there is a slight increase (0.5%) in the number of offences for the 12 months to September, the force continues to successfully reduce key crimes such as dwelling burglary (11.0% fewer offences), robbery (17.1% fewer offences) and vehicle crime (9.6% fewer offences).

For dwelling burglary, our intelligence-led approach is now fully integrated and is 'business as usual'. It continues to give accurate information on burglaries and key offenders. The force has developed additional focus to Op Insight during the autumn plan to ensure the reduction is maintained during the months leading up to Christmas when there is traditionally an increase in dwelling burglary offences.

Our focus on dwelling burglary has provided us with some excellent opportunities to tackle key offenders and is also thought to have contributed to the decreases we have seen in vehicle crime.

Essex Community Messaging (ECM) was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014 as a flagship system for providing effective two-way communication between Essex Police, partners and the public. ECM enables users to share targeted and timely crime prevention advice in response to identified crime trends. With 847 people already signed up, and invites sent to 2045 Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, ECM will supplement a range of ongoing initiatives where we work with the community to reduce crime.

#### **Rural Crime**

Overall, rural crime has decreased by 3.4%. This can be linked to a range of initiatives, one being the growth of Farm Watch and enhanced communication with rural communities. Further examples of the work being undertaken to reduce rural crime are given below.

The Special Constabulary Rural Policing Team have now been up and running since November 2013 working from two bases in Maldon and Dunmow. The team, consisting of 2 Special Sergeants and 14 Special Constables, tackle identified crime series and hot-spots county-wide through a combination of covert and high-visibility policing in rural communities. They also work closely with the Force Wildlife, Heritage and Environmental Crime Officer. The Rural Policing Team took part in Operation Society<sup>1</sup> and was instrumental in the arrest of several persons involved in hare coursing in the Northern Local Policing Area. Proposals are being finalised to create two further hubs for the team; one in the west of the county and one in the east. Extensive consultation has taken place with the rural community to identify the best locations and patrol bases.

Essex Police has been represented at selected rural/countryside events throughout the year (for example Earnest Doe Show, Young Farmers' Show, Barleylands Show). At these events, crime prevention advice has been provided and the opportunity given to join relevant watch schemes.

All Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) in Essex are being risk assessed and an appropriate marker placed on our command and control system to help inform and direct the correct level of police response. Planning is underway for the launch of Heritage Watch in January 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Operation Society aimed to increase awareness of the special constabulary (SC) through a range of SC-led operations



#### 6. Improving Crime Prevention

#### **Business Crime**

Members of our force continue to work locally to provide bespoke crime prevention advice to businesses to stop them being targeted by criminals.

Essex Police has provided training on how to deter and deal with theft to all Crime Prevention Tactical Advisers. This training was developed in a successful training pilot at Freeport, Braintree. The intention is to offer bespoke advice to the top 10 commercial victims in each district.

Essex Police will encourage businesses within local districts to sign up as members of ECM so that they receive quick time alerts of concerning types of offending and possible suspects.

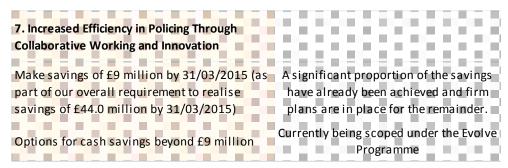
To address shoplifting, Essex Police has commissioned an Essex wide retail crime problem profile which will identify intelligence, prevention and enforcement opportunities to further reduce crime and bring offenders to justice. Operation Hallmark has also been created to provide clear direction for dealing with shoplifting offences county-wide by use of a specific tactical plan and accurate data collection.

In addition to the local focus on business crime, Essex Police are also actively involved in both the national ACPO Business Crime Group (specifically retail) and the national Crime Prevention Group. The Business Crime Group is finalising plans to standardise crime prevention techniques, evidence gathering and reporting in major retail chains. The Crime Prevention Group is working with the College of Policing to provide evidence based best practice that can be shared with businesses. Essex is seen as a lead force in this respect and as a result delivers quality interventions and support along with key partners from the business sector.



7. Increasing Efficiency in Policing Through Collaborative Working and Innovation

#### **Performance Information**



Detailed progress is reported via the monthly Budgetary Control Report.

#### **Operating Model**

#### Increasing efficiency in policing through collaboration and innovation

The Support Services Directorate (SSD) and Serious Crime Directorate (SCD) both continue to provide high quality operational and support capability to both Essex and Kent Police. The two directorates are also contributing significant savings up to 2016/17. Work is ongoing to explore further opportunities for closer integration of certain functions between the two forces over the coming years. In addition to the work of the SCD, Essex Police also works alongside forces in the eastern region as part of the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit.

The force is soon to go live with the ATHENA IT system – a single ground breaking-multi-force computer system that will replace a number of ageing systems. Additionally, the force is also planning to move, in 2015, to a mobile solution for operational officers. This will give them access to all the systems they require to effectively perform their roles, with minimal need to return to police premises. This should significantly boost the amount of time individual officers spend out and about in their communities.

Discussions with public sector partners have been taking place over the last 12 months (e.g. Essex Fire and Rescue Service) with a view to exploring the potential for collaborating on a range of back office and front line service delivery.

#### **Evolve**

All of the organisational change planned for 2014/15 has now been delivered and the majority of the budgetary savings have been taken. Of the total savings requirement for 2014/15, £12million has been formally removed from budgets to date; work is ongoing with the Corporate Finance Department to finalise further savings.

The first phase of change to the operational policing model was implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. All local policing and response resources now sit under the line management of the Local Policing Areas and the distinction between dedicated Response and Patrol Teams and Neighbourhood Crime Teams has been removed. All officers previously posted into those different roles now operate within the new omni-competent Local Policing Teams and deal with all aspects of local incident and volume crime demand.

The second phase of the operational policing model reconfiguration is currently being developed. Options regarding shift patterns and distribution of resources will be presented to Chief Officers in late October with an anticipated implementation date for any changes of June 2015.



#### 7. Increasing Efficiency in Policing Through Collaborative Working and Innovation

In addition to the operational policing model, other restructuring proposals regarding the HQ departments, Essex Police College and Criminal Justice Department (specifically custody suite staffing) are being developed and are expected to be ready for implementation in the first half of 2015. A range of non-pay savings has also been produced and will be considered as part of the normal 2015/16 budget setting process.

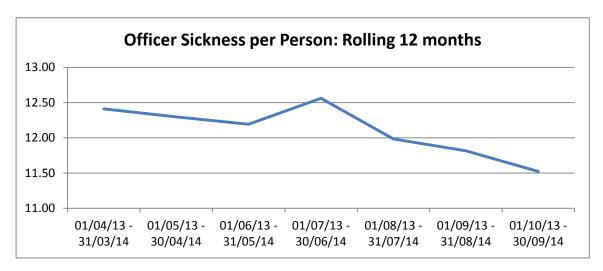
The proposals in development will enable the delivery of the 2015/16 savings requirement as it currently stands. If the savings requirement for 2015/16 is revised as a consequence of changes to core grant funding or council tax income then some of the plans scheduled for 2016/17 may have to be brought forward and/or new savings proposals will have to be produced.

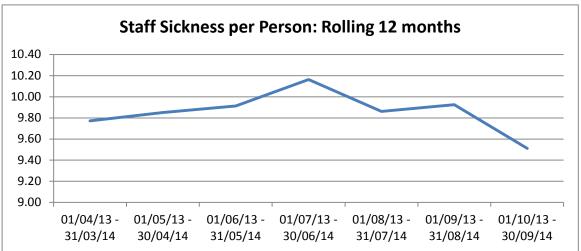


#### 8. Organisational Health

#### **Management Information**

#### Sickness Levels





#### **Sickness**

To provide further support for positive attendance, Health Services are exploring the use of fast-track diagnosis referrals utilising non NHS frameworks and counselling support. In addition, where medical evidence meets the appropriate threshold, the force continues to support ill-health retirement arrangements. Additional resources are being recruited to the Health Service's department to enable a more responsive service to be provided in order to better support the workforce.

The rolling year data shows the continuing trend of improvement across police officer and police staff groups.

#### **Vacancy Levels**

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