**Performance and Resources Scrutiny Programme**

**Report to: the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex**

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| **Title of Report:** | **Crime Prevention Strategy Delivery Plan** |
| **Agenda Number:** | **6.0** |
| **Chief Officer** | **ACC Prophet** |
| **Date Paper was Written** | **11/03/2019** |
| **Version Number** | **0.3** |
| **Report from:** | **Essex Police** |
| **Date of Meeting:** | **28/03/2019** |
| **Author:** | **CI Gennery** |
| **Date of Approval:** | **17/03/2019** |

1. **Purpose of Report**

This paper highlights the origin, current status and direction of the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy 2018-2021.

1. **Recommendations**

There are no specific recommendations but the Board is asked to note, and invited to comment upon, the content.

1. **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the core elements of the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy, outline how it is being delivered and the performance management framework that supports it. This is a three year strategy reflecting the fact that the work required is longer term dependent upon partnership and community support.

1. **Introduction/Background**

The Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy is attached at **Appendix 1**. The strategy was launched at a well-attended event for stakeholders on the 12th November 2018.

The strategy focusses on 9 key areas**[[1]](#footnote-1)** each with a designated senior officer providing oversight and drive of policing activity as well as work to build ever stronger partnerships.

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|  | **Area** | **Strategic Lead** |
| **1** | Domestic Abuse | Chief Superintendent Andy Mariner |
| **2** | Gangs & Knife Crime | Chief Superintendent Tracey Harman |
| **3** | Night Time Economy | Superintendent Tom Simons |
| **4** | Sexual Crime, Child Abuse & Exploitation | Chief Superintendent Steve Worron |
| **5** | Digital Crime & Fraud | Detective Chief Inspector Lee Morton |
| **6** | Extremism & Radicalisation | Chief Inspector Ian Gennery |
| **7** | House Burglary and street robbery | Chief Superintendent Kevin Baldwin |
| **8** | Hate Crime | Superintendent Scott Cannon |
| **9** | Serious and Organised Crime | Superintendent Simon Anslow |

Each area has a clearly defined set of strategic objectives and supporting delivery plan setting out key goals, owners, timescales and desired outcomes (**Appendix 2**).

**5.0 Current Work and Performance**

The delivery of the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy is monitored (internally) through the monthly Local Policing, Crime and Public Protection (LPCPP) Board chaired by relevant Assistant Chief Constable. Overarching performance oversight is provided through the Force Performance Board chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable.

A range of crime data is available against a number of the strategic objectives (**Appendix 3).** This is a developing data set which is being / will be used to measure progress. It will not only be scrutinised internally it will also be shared at Safer Essex for wider partnership / community safety awareness and to inform supporting activity.

Activity to deliver crime prevention includes:

1. Increasing presence / activity from all partners in crime hotspots;
2. Focussing on repeat victims and repeat perpetrators with the support of key groups/agencies such as the DA Partnership, CRC and NPS;
3. Increased engagement and intervention with young people through schools and colleges; and
4. Analysis of crime patterns trends as well as better and faster data sharing.

**Partnership focus via the Safer Essex Board**

The Safer Essex Board is currently refreshing its terms of reference. This is likely to refocus the board on preventing crime through partnership co-ordination and shared activity. The board is attended by all community safety managers who in turn lead and coordinate work across the community safety hubs. This will be a right forum to influence and drive activity.

**Community Safety Partnerships, the Citizens in Policing Programme and the Special Constabulary;**

Essex has the largest Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) in England and Wales with over 550 Accredited Persons designated specific powers by the Chief Constable, working closely with their local CPT, to support crime prevention activity.

There are currently 150 Police Support Volunteers (PSVs) and Active Citizens (ACs) in the force working with their local CPT, primarily to promote crime prevention activity.

There are currently 297 Volunteer Police Cadets(VPCs) across 10 units in Essex with recruitment focussing on those vulnerable to crime or social exclusion.

Three new units (Harwich, Uttlesford and Brentwood) are scheduled to launch between April and May 2019, increasing the VPC cohort to 350.

The Special Constabulary is projected to grow to 600 officers by March 2020 and provides additional support to CPTs and OSG and a number of other teams across Essex Police such as the Gypsy, Traveller and Rural Engagement Team (GTRET) and fraud investigation and other cyber awareness and prevention roles.

**6.0 Implications (Issues)**

None identified

**6.1 Links to Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

The creation and delivery of this strategy contributes to **all** areas of the PFCC Police and Crime Plan and should be considered an underlying theme throughout.

**6.2 Demand**

N/A

**6.3 Risks/Mitigation**

None identified

**6.4 Equality and/or Human Rights Implications**

None identified

**6.5 Health and Safety Implications**

None identified

**7.0 Consultation/Engagement**

Not applicable

**8.0 Actions for Improvement**

There are no outstanding HMICFRS improvement plans or Areas for Improvement (AFIs) relating to the Crime Prevention Strategy.

**9.0 Future Work/Development and Expected Outcome**

**Delivering the Strategy;**

The 9 strategic leads regularly review the delivery plans to ensure they remain fit for purpose and reflect any relevant changes to legislation, national guidance and established good practice.

There is work to do to standardise the reporting format for CSPs. This will be led by the Safer Essex Board. This is supported by a proposal from the OPFCC office to require CSPs to report progress against the stated CSP objectives to secure continued funding.

**Violence and Vulnerability;**

The Safer Essex Board commissioned a critical piece of work, involving a range of key partners, which led to the Violence and Vulnerability Framework. The framework resulted in the creation of a **Violence and Vulnerability Leadership Board** led by the PFCC which will bring together key strategic leaders across the county to tackle issues surrounding serious violence, gang crime, county lines and knife crime as well as the exploitation of children and the vulnerable. The work of the Board will be delivered through an **Operations Board** and a small co-ordinating **Violence and Vulnerability Unit**.

A key element of work will be the prevention, diversion and intervention work that will impact directly on young people who are either deemed at high risk of being affected by gang culture, drugs and violence, or who are already affected and can be engaged to provide support to enable them to make different choices.

**Youth Justice Team** **(YJT);**

Youth crime is a national issue, particularly the scale and complexity of gang criminality (often associated with the exploitation of children) and the recognition of a need for early intervention with the education sector and other key stakeholders.

Essex Police is in the process of finalising the arrangements to create a centrally managed Youth Justice Team (YJT) to provide consistent decision making, partnership coordination and oversight of the outcome for all youth crimes.

Logistics considerations are being finalised and staff affected by the changes are about to enter a statutory consultation period, with the team expected to go-live in May or June 2019.

The YJT will be supported by the new multi-agency Out Of Court Disposals Panels which aim to ensure the most effective resolution for youth related crime and the most appropriate outcome for young people involved in criminality.

**Rural Crime;**

The Essex Police Rural Crime Strategy was launched in November 2017 together with the Gypsy, Traveller and Rural Engagement Team (GTRET). The team and strategy have been well received by the rural communities of Essex and the partners working within them and have had constant success since being formed.

To build on this work, the Chief Constable and the PFCC made a successful precept bid to increase the team by a further 7 officers who are expected to be in place by April 2020.

**Business Crime Unit (BCU);**

Essex Police has had a Business Crime Strategy since 2013, was one of the first forces to adopt the NPCC definition of business crime and has been invited to join a working group to create guidelines and mandatory rules regarding business crime.

Work is ongoing within LPSU to develop a dedicated BCU with the aim to ‘go live’ in early 2020. This team will actively support the development of Town Centre Teams that will see an additional 60+ officers across the 10 districts working to tackle retail and wider business crime at a local level.

**Essex Centre for Data Analytics;**

With key partners, Essex Police is currently developing an innovative approach to the use of analytics as a means of understanding, predicting and subsequently reducing risk. This work forms part of the ongoing implementation of the Essex Centre for Data Analytics (ECDA) which is designed to create a “whole system approach” for integrating data and predicting risk.

The aim is that public and private sector organisations share their data and benefit from the analytical expertise offered by the ECDA, increasing their knowledge, access to technology and the analysis of data at a greater scale, allowing a greater insight across stakeholders into areas of vulnerability, helping to predict risk and enable early prevention. The project is now being refined and tested.

**Appendices**

**Appendix 1** **– Crime Prevention Strategy**



**Appendix 2** **– Delivery Plans**













**Appendix 3 – Performance Data**

Separate copy

1. Business & Rural Crime, whilst linked to the core strategy are covered by separate strategies and delivery plans [↑](#footnote-ref-1)