

Performance and Resources Scrutiny Programme 2019

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

Title of Report:	Abbreviated Crime Prevention Update
Agenda Number:	5
Chief Officer	ACC Prophet
Date Paper was Written	09/09/2019
Version Number	03
Report from:	Essex Police
Date of Meeting:	26/09/2019
Author on behalf of Chief Officer:	CI Balding
Date of Approval:	12/09/2019

1.0 Purpose of Report

This paper is an abbreviated update on the delivery of the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy (2018-2021). The paper is a shortened version of the normal quarterly update given the fact a detailed paper was presented to the July board setting out, in detail, the refreshed 4P delivery plans for each of the crime prevention areas.

2.0 Recommendations

There are no specific recommendations but the Board is asked to note the content of the report.

3.0 Executive Summary

The paper includes recent change / impact of the delivery plans for each of the priority strands.

4.0 Introduction/Background

The Essex Crime Prevention Strategy is set out at **Appendix 1**. The strategy highlights nine key areas of focus namely:

1. Domestic Abuse
2. Gangs & Knife Crime
3. Night Time Economy
4. Sexual Crime, Child Abuse & Exploitation
5. Digital Crime & Fraud

6. Extremism & Radicalisation
7. House Burglary & Street Robbery
8. Hate Crime
9. Serious and Organised Crime

Business & Rural Crime are covered by separate strategies and delivery plans and are overseen by the Local Policing Support Unit. In the next full refresh of the crime prevention strategy (Spring 2020) these will be added.

5.0 Current Work and Performance

Each of the 9 core areas has a designated senior officer providing oversight and drive of policing activity. Each strand has a clearly defined set of strategic objectives and a detailed delivery plan setting out key goals, owners, timescales and desired outcomes. These delivery plans were recently refreshed and presented to the P&RS Board in July 2019.

Key updates in relation to each strand are as follows:

Domestic Abuse:

- A new DA strategy for Essex Police has been drafted. The strategy has been shared with the Office of Police Fire and Crime Commissioner and other key partners, including the SET DA Board for feedback.
- To support policing delivery a new DA Governance Board has been established and will be chaired by Ch Supt Mariner. The first meeting took place on 6th September 2019. This will bring together key decision makers regards DA and provide a single point of agreement and focus for DA.
 - Repeat DA incidents (3 months to July 18) - 46.43%.
 - Repeat DA incidents (3 months to July 19) - 46.28%.
 - Solved outcomes (3 months to July 18 – 804.
 - Solved outcomes (3 months to July 19) - 707.
- These metrics will continue to be the focus of attention, namely to reduce repeat victimisation and repeat offending
- Based on understanding of threat and risk and demand modelling, the force is considering the need for further investment in this area from the EP proportion of the 20,000 uplift.

Gangs & Knife Crime:

- Operation Sceptre is the Essex Police serious violence and knife crime action plan. The overarching intention of the operation is the protection and preservation of life by targeting the criminal supply, carriage & use of knives.
- The plan was launched on the 14th June 2019 and will run for 12 months. The Home Office have made £65million available for police surge activity to tackle knife crime and serious violence and EP was allocated £1.76m of this fund.
- The primary focus of this money will be to reduce serious violence in public spaces with a focus on reducing knife crimes committed on young people.
- Activity is underway in every district. This includes conducting high visibility activity targeting identified hotspots, individuals and groups.

- To date, over 100 policing operations have taken place, resulting in 400 arrests and 800 additional stop and searches. The Home Office funding is also intended to support activity to tackle serious violence and is being used to purchase additional knife arches and fund an additional 200 taser trained and equipped officers.
- The Violence and Vulnerability Unit are key partners in this work. A co-ordinated county wide approach is addressing gang related crime including violent crime and drug related crime; and child criminal exploitation. The work of the Violence and Vulnerability partnership includes close collaboration with a range of partnerships working across Essex.
 - Knife-enabled crime offences 3 months to July 18 - 169
 - Knife-enabled crime offences 3 months to July 19 - 176
- Based on understanding of threat and risk and demand modelling, the force is currently considering further investments in this area from the EP proportion of the 20,000 uplift.

Night Time Economy:

- A quarterly analytic product is being developed that can be shared with key partners to inform the focus of policing and partnership deployments to the NTE.
- Operation Benison is being reinvigorated which will involve local districts producing bespoke NTE deployment plans, outlining key premises and identified flashpoints and patrol areas. The new Town Centre Teams will be central to this response with local partners.
- Colchester District under the leadership of Chief Inspector Huddleston provide an example of the impact of this approach. Colchester District Community Policing Team have altered work hours to ensure a visible presence around licensed premises at the key times.

Sexual Crime, Child Abuse & Exploitation;

- A 3 day course has been designed to raise the standards of investigation, risk identification and management including the subject area of CSE and delivery is currently underway to all substantive Sergeants. The training material will be absorbed into future Sergeant training to reduce abstraction for training and ensure all newly promoted Sergeants are equipped with skills to effectively supervise investigations.
- A product has been developed and delivered in Southend to increase awareness of the signs of Sexual Exploitation within Night-time Economies by providing awareness training to Licensing Officers, Designated Premises Supervisors and Door Staff. This is currently being evaluated with a view to county-wide roll-out.
- The force will create a new specialist investigation team (Feb 2020) to investigate CSE crimes of 1 Sgts and 9 Constables from the 2019 precept uplift finding.

- Based on understanding of threat and risk and demand modelling, the force is currently considering further investments in this area from the EP proportion of the 20,000 uplift.

Extremism & Radicalisation:

- There are now 11 district IAGs supporting the Strategic IAG. Standing agenda items for all IAGs include; Stop and Search, Hate Crime and Use of Force. A new scrutiny panel will launch shortly, which focuses on scrutinising Body Worn Video of stop and search incidents.
- PREVENT input sessions have been implemented for IAG members, with further sessions being run across the county in the coming months.

Hate Crime:

- CPD events have now been delivered to all CPT Officers.
- The hate crime procedure has supplemented by the creation of a single referral form (HC5 for police and partners).
- Quality of investigations are improving for hate crime with strong evidence that Case Action Plans are being set and good levels of supervision.
- Partnership wide hate crime campaign in the process of being designed and launched to ensure a consistent approach to signposting and supporting victims of hate crime.
- Increases in reported hate crime linked to the EU Exit are being closely monitored to identify any patterns, trends or key threats.
 - Hate crime solved outcomes 3 months to July 18 - 79
 - Hate crime solved outcomes 3 months to July 19 - 99

Digital Crime and Fraud:

- Essex Police are recruiting 3 x PREVENT Fraud Co-ordinators. Their role will primarily focus on identification and visits to vulnerable persons at risk of being victims of fraud. They will provide crime prevention advice and support to minimise the likelihood of them being victimised. This will also include visiting those who have been identified through the 'Banking Protocol', to support banking organisations in ensuring their customers are not being made victims of fraud. These staff should be in place by November 2019.
- Essex Police are working with UK Finance to extend the 'Banking Protocol'. The protocol currently only covers incidents where vulnerable persons are taken into banks to withdraw money. A plan is being formulated to extend to on-line/telephone customers, seeking to withdraw unusual amounts. The plan being for police to interact with those customers, seeking to prevent them being victimised.
- In line with the national model, the Essex Police Cyber Crime Unit resources have been increased, with PSE investigators now being employed to support the investigation team.

House burglary and robbery:

- Operation Meteor is the Essex Police dwelling burglary reduction campaign. The property marking phase will take place from **September to December 2019**. There are 5 separate property marking products that will be incorporated within the evaluation. In total there will be 15 areas, (10 test and 5 control.) Each product will be deployed in two separate ‘test’ areas, with a control area being used as a comparable measure.
- An academic evaluation of Operation Meteor will take place that focuses on evaluating the effectiveness of property marking tools. The evaluation will also examine the implementation of the project.
- Key performance for burglary and robbery are as follows:
 - Burglary (residential) offences for 3 months to July 18 - 1948
 - Burglary (residential) offences for 3 months to July 19 - 1761
 - Burglary (residential) outcomes for 3 months to July 18 - 86
 - Burglary (residential outcomes) for 3 months to July 19 - 147
 - Robbery (personal) offences for 3 months to July 18 - 371
 - Robbery (personal) offences for 3 months to July 19 - 392
 - Robbery (personal) outcomes for 3 months to July 18 35
 - Robbery (personal) outcomes for 3 months to July 19 – 34
- Operation Sceptre activity is expected to positively impact on robbery levels.

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

N/A

8.0 Actions for Improvement

There are no outstanding HMICFRS improvement plans relating to the Crime Prevention Strategy.

The breadth of the performance data and analysis against the crime prevention strands is a focus for the coming period.

9.0 Future Work/Development and Expected Outcome

Work is ongoing to standardise the reporting format for CSPs regarding their crime prevention activity via the OPFCC reporting requirements and into Safer Essex.

10.0 Decisions Required by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

None

Appendix 1 – Crime Prevention Strategy



Essex Police Crime
Prevention Strategy 2