

## Performance and Resources Scrutiny Programme 2019

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

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### 1.0. Purpose of Report

This report provides an overview of the work conducted within the Crime and Public Protection Command (C&PP) for Q3 2019/20 (1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019).

### 2.0. Recommendations

There are no specific recommendations within this report, but the board are invited to note the key areas of performance highlighted.

### 3.0. Executive Summary

This report provides a broad assessment of the work being undertaken within Crime and Public Protection and is structured around the four operational areas within the command. It details core performance and crime data, outcomes, achievements, issues and outlines ambitions for future work.

The report provides updates on some of the improvement programmes identified in the last report and includes detail on new work being conducted within the command.

#### **4.0. Introduction/Background**

C&PP has responsibility for investigating some of the most serious crimes against the most vulnerable in our communities and for tackling those offenders who pose the highest risk to our communities.

The four main departments are:

- **Public Protection Investigation Units (PPIU):** There are three PPIUs aligned to the Local Policing Areas of Essex Police; North, South and West. Each PPIU is overseen by a DCI and includes Adult Sexual Abuse Investigation Teams (ASAIT) and Child Abuse Investigation Teams (CAIT).
- **Management of Sexual Offenders and Violent Offenders (MOSOVO):** Consists of five teams based across the county with responsibility for Managing Registered Sex Offenders, Managing Violent Offenders, Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and delivery of the Disclosure Barring Scheme (DBS).
- **Police Online Investigation Team (POLIT):** One team with responsibility for investigations across the county into offences involving indecent images of children and paedophilia material held on a computer. This unit respond to referrals from other agencies (most significantly the National Crime Agency) and provide a proactive capability utilising systems to detect those people in Essex viewing and distributing indecent images of children via the internet.
- **Operations Centre:** Based at headquarters, providing support to the whole Force and comprising of:
  - Adult, Child and CSE Triage Teams who receive, process and respond to referrals from partner agencies;
  - Assessment Team who review and provide intelligence for all reported incidents handled by the Force Control Room that relate to any of the 14 strands of vulnerability;
  - Central Referral Unit (CRU) providing specialist safeguarding services to victims of High-Risk Domestic Abuse and Honour Based Abuse in support of LPA based Domestic Abuse Investigation Teams (DAIT).

## 5.0. Current Work and Performance

### 5.1. Public Protection Investigation Units (PPIUs)

#### Core performance

Crimes recorded:

<b>ASAIT RECORDED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
Rape	270	298
Other Sexual Offences	34	39
Other Offences	59	83
Non-Crimes	61	147
<b>CAIT RECORDED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
Rape	130	119
Other Sexual Offences	176	182
Other Offences	295	309
Non-Crimes	127	160

Crime outcomes:

<b>ASAIT SOLVED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
Rape	5	7
Other Sexual Offences	2	2
Other Offences	16	14
<b>CAIT SOLVED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
Rape	1	8
Other Sexual Offences	17	28
Other Offences	28	37

ASAIT's case load is 33.7% higher in Q3 2019/20 when compared with Q3 2018/19. (This is overall across the sum of all crime types listed Rape, Other sexual offences, Other offences, Non-crimes). Volume wise this equates to 567 offences in Q3 2019/20 compared to 424 in Q3 2018/19.

Rape was the most numerically acute investigation type in Q3 2018/19 accounting for 63.6% of investigations compared to all other types of investigation combined. There is a decrease to 52.5% in Q3 2019/20.

That said, Other sexual offences, whilst numerically lower than Rape, have shown a sharper increase in between Q3 2018/19 and Q3 2019/20 (14.7% increase) when compared to rapes between Q3 2018/19 and Q3 2019/20 (10.3% increase). Other offences investigated by ASAIT have increased by 40.6% from the same quarter last year, with Non-Crimes showing the greatest increase of 140.9%.

Crime outcomes suggest that the overall solved rate for all offences in the ASAIT case load has increased in Q3 2019/20 (5.4%) when compared with Q3 2018/19 (4.6%). Volume wise, the same number of crimes were solved in Q3 2018/19 and in Q3 2019/20, which is 23.

CAIT case load has a 5.7% increase in Q3 2019/20 when compared with Q3 2018/19 (This is overall across the sum of all crime types listed Rape, Other sexual offences, other offences, non-crimes). Volume wise this equates to 770 offences in Q3 2019/20 compared to 728 in Q3 2018/19.

Other offences are the most numerically acute investigation type in Q3 2019/20 accounting for 40.1% of CAIT's total caseload. This is slight decrease from 40.5% in Q3 2018/19.

There has been a decrease of around 8.4% in the number of Rapes recorded in Q3 2019/20 when compared to Q3 2018/19.

Crime outcomes suggest that the overall solve rate for all offences in the CAIT caseload has increased in Q3 2019/20 (11.96%) when compared with Q3 2018/19 (7.65%). The volume of crimes solved is 73 in Q3 2019/20 compared to 46 in the same quarter 2018/19.

Solved rates for 'Other offences' accounts for 50% of the total solved outcomes within the CAIT caseload.

### Key achievements

The Drink Aware initiative, jointly funded by the Police, Fire, and Crime Commissioner, the NHS, and the Chelmsford Business Improvement Districts (BID), went live in December 2019. This project enables 'Nightlife Crews', teams of two people, located inside a select few venues in Essex to support the welfare and wellbeing of people on a night out. The project runs between 22:00 and 04:00 on Friday and Saturday nights. The crews, managed by Open Road in Chelmsford and Colchester, the SOS Bus in Basildon and Triple L Training and Medical Ltd in Southend, are specially trained to spot the signs that someone may be vulnerable or that someone is showing signs of predatory behaviour. They help prevent ASB and possible sexual offences. The presence of the crews provides an extra

level of reassurance to customers and helps staff effectively manage their venues, reducing the number of calls to emergency services.

## 5.2. MOSOVO

### Core performance

Crimes recorded:

<b>MOSOVO RECORDED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
All offences	142	148
Non-Crimes	41	43

Crime outcomes:

<b>MOSOVO SOLVED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
All Offences	33	45

MOSOVO are currently managing 1606 Registered Sex Offenders (RSO) in the community, which is a decrease of 24 since the last quarter. 403 Low Risk RSOs are subject of Intelligence Led Management. There are 120 active/overdue visits, which is a decrease of 39% since the last quarter. None of these active/overdue visits are High or Very High risk. The 39% reduction has been achieved through a number of ways. Two new DIs have been posted to MOSOVO, who reviewed working practices. National guidance was re-examined, which identified that some offenders were being visited too frequently thus reducing the number of outstanding visits. There was increased efficiency around conducting visits through more focussed supervision, along with officers working on overtime to help reduce the outstanding number. Officers being aligned in probation also helped reduce the number of visits by eliminating unnecessary work caused by duplication.

MOSOVO solved 45 offences in Q3 2019/20 compared to 33 in Q3 2018/19. The solve rate is 30.4% for this year compared to 22.7% for the same period last year.

### Key achievements

MOSOVO has realigned itself to mirror North and South National Probation Service (NPS). MOSOVO now has a DI dedicated to each geographical area. Following a review of working practices, Essex Police have embedded staff within NPS offices at Colchester and Laindon, where police offender managers work in collaboration with probation officers to visit, review and complete risk assessments with probation led registered sex offenders (RSOs). This joint working has improved working practices and intelligence sharing opportunities with a view to providing a more joined up response to RSO management and reducing duplication. Essex are currently the only force in the country working in this

way. Plans are in place to extend this trial to other probation offices in Chelmsford and Harlow in 2020. This will allow for more proactive activity on the highest risk police led nominal by the remaining officers working in the police hubs. To assist with some of the administration functions within the hubs a number of active citizens have been engaged.

### 5.3. POLIT

#### Core performance

Crimes recorded:

<b>POLIT RECORDED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
All Offences	67	107
Non-Crimes	3	6

Crime outcomes:

<b>POLIT SOLVED</b>	Q3 2018/19	Q3 2019/20
All Offences	23	65

POLIT executed 69 warrants in Q3 and received 91 referrals. A total of 101 children were safeguarded. The number of referrals from the NCA has doubled in the last quarter.

POLIT solved 65 crimes in Q3 2019/20 (solve rate 60.7%) compared to 23 solved crimes in Q3 2018/19 (solve rate 34.3%).

#### Key achievements

POLIT received live intelligence, originating from on-line chat rooms in Canada, of live child abuse. Swift action from the POLIT team led to the arrest of a male in the south of the county. Accurate evidence gathering and retention at the scene meant that live imagery of the suspect raping his 11-month-old daughter was captured. The male was charged with rape, penetration and indecent image offences. He pleaded guilty in court within 48 hours of the information coming to light.

POLIT also assisted CAIT with the investigation and grading of live abuse videos in two cases of child rape. In one of the cases the defendant received a 21-year custodial sentence for prolonged rape of his daughter. The other case a couple who abused their friend's baby also received a combined sentence of 21 years imprisonment. These arrests and convictions have prevented further offending against other vulnerable children.

#### 5.4. Operations Centre

##### Core performance

##### Child Triage

Month	Referrals	Strategy Discussion / Meeting Participation
October	197	167 out of 169 (98%)
November	235	162 out of 163 (99%)
December	167	133 out of 133 (100%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>462 out of 465 (99%)</b>

##### Adult Triage

Month	Referrals	Strategy Discussion / Meeting Participation
October	278	6 out of 6 (100%)
November	242	5 out of 5 (100%)
December	251	2 out of 2 (100%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>13 out of 13 (100%)</b>

##### CSE Triage

Month	Referrals	Strategy Discussion / Meeting Participation
October	57	19 out of 27 (70%)
November	28	10 out of 29 (34%)
December	34	7 out of 13 (53%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>36 out of 69 (52%)</b>

In relation to the meetings not attended by CSE Triage, 13 were transferred to more appropriate departments, with attendance from officers such as the Children and Young Persons (CYP) Officer and the Missing Persons Liaison Officer (MPLO). If CSE Triage do not attend a meeting it is because a more appropriate police representative has been identified, such as the CYP, MPLO or an officer from another force. There are very rare occasions where there is no police representative at the strategy meetings, which is usually when a meeting is called with short notice and no-one is available. When this occurs the CSE Triage team will follow up the meeting on the same day with the Chair for any relevant actions and necessary information sharing.

### Key achievements

Coordinated 'Street Weeks' continue across the districts, supported and endorsed by the SET Adult Safeguarding Boards. The CRU coordinates the deployments, identifying repeat victims for joint visits and reviewing against the acute victim cohort those most vulnerable to escalating risk of domestic abuse. 'Street-Weeks' enables face-to-face contact with the victim and an enhanced joined-up approach to their safeguarding and support needs.

### **6.0. Implications (Issues)**

None identified.

### **7.0. Links to Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

The work of the Public Protection Command links to the following priorities in the Police and Crime Plan:

Priority 3 – Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Abuse

Priority 4 – Reverse the Trend in Serious Violence

Priority 5 – Tackle Gangs and Organised Crime

Priority 6 – Protecting Children and Vulnerable People from Harm

### **8.0. Demand**

ASAIT have seen an increase of 33.7% (143 offences) in the number of investigations compared to Q3 of 2018/19.

CAIT have seen an increase of 5.7% (42 offences) in the number of investigations compared to Q3 2018/19.

MOSOVO have seen an increase of 4.3% (8 offences) in the number of investigations compared to Q3 2018/19.



POLIT have seen an increase of 61.4% (43 offences) in the number of investigations compared to Q3 2018/19.

## **9.0. Risks/Mitigation**

There are three risks currently being managed in relation to the C&PP Command:

### **Risk 1634**

As proactive investigative tools are developed, the volume of potential offenders for Online Child Sexual Abuse (OCSA) and Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) is increasing. As a consequence, there is an increase in demand/workload specifically in relation to registered sex offenders. Crime and Public Protection need to identify/understand the current capacity and develop an approach to meet and deal with this emerging demand.

Mitigating actions are on-going:

1. Design, build and recruit to a POLIT structure that has scope and capacity to deal with:
  - a) All levels of IIOC referrals from CEOP / NCA; (Complete)
  - b) High and very high-risk grooming & incitement cases;
  - c) Online Child Activist Groups; and,
  - d) A strong proactive capability.
2. To ensure the Digital Forensics Unit capability and capacity is sufficient to meet operational demand.

POLIT will not be expanding to incorporate a separate grooming function. It will continue to service referrals from ROCUs and local ERSOU UCOL cases. These will be prioritised over CEOP referrals. The POLIT team currently do not have capacity to deal with all high and very high-risk grooming and incitement cases and as such these will remain with LPAs to allocate. The Proactive DCI is made aware of all OCAG cases that appear on the night and FCR briefings. The Intel is maintained and submitted within C&PP Intel cell. There is no capability for OCAG activity to be dealt with inside POLIT at the moment due to demand. The Athena tag for OCAGs is being taken to all Athena forces in January. The proactive team are still operating and continue to service warrants from ICACOPS and CPSYS but due to current staffing, have reduced the amount of cases they are taking from the system and are currently paused due to growing demand from CEOP work.

Selection process for 2 x Scale 4 Digital Forensic Support Officers is underway and confirmation/vetting of external applicants is awaited.

### **Risk 1635**

C&PP Command Recruitment Challenges: Crime and Public Protection are currently suffering from recruitment challenges including:

1. The inability to attract the appropriate staff/officers with the required skill set
2. Inability to retain skilled staff/officers
3. A low number of transferees from other forces
4. Delays within the recruitment process

There is one on-going mitigating action:

1. Create a mentoring programme to identify officers who have the potential to perform a detective role. This is currently being progressed through a review of the Investigative Development Module (IDM).

There was recent success in the latest Neptune intake with 12 out of the 20 officers signing up to the NIE programme. However, due to the new LPA shift patterns ICDP has been cancelled with no new Neptune officers going to Crime and Public Protection. This will impact on the ability to identify officers to go onto the mentoring programme. Work is now ongoing to liaise with the LPA DCIs to help identify officers in their commands who have shown an interest in Public Protection and would be good candidates for the mentoring programme. In January 2020 the first officers from the Detective First Programme will arrive in Public Protection and there will be ongoing work to identify future recruitment opportunities.

### **Risk 1823**

Insufficient rape investigations result in injustice for victims. The quality and consistency of rape investigations and the development of the relationship with the CPS need to be improved to address the low levels of charges for rape.

Mitigating actions are on-going:

1. Develop a revised performance management framework to identify barriers to performance
2. Establish consistent application of investigation prioritisation using the SOP across all three PPIUs
3. Progress PPIU police staff business case to maximise deployment of resources
4. Implement an independent multi-agency rape scrutiny panel to identify barriers to improved performance across agencies
5. Agreement from Chief Officers to identify additional key performance questions and indicators to measure victim satisfaction with the service we provide in addition to measuring the crime outcome

### **10.0. Equality and/or Human Rights Implications**

There are no identified issues in relation to Equality or Human Rights.

### **11.0. Health and Safety Implications**

There are no identified issues in relation to Health and Safety.

## **12.0. Consultation/Engagement**

This report has been written in consultation with the Crime and Public Protection Command Team. Data has been provided by the Performance Analysis Unit and individual C&PP teams for information held locally.

## **13.0. Actions for Improvement**

### **PPIU**

The first multi-agency Rape Scrutiny Panel was held in November 2019, chaired by ACC Prophet. A number of key partners were in attendance, including mental health. The purpose of the panel is to work with partners to identify barriers and improve performance across agencies. The Panels will be themed with partner agencies invited to identify cases within the theme they believe should be scrutinised.

The first theme focussed on Police Domestic Abuse Rape No Further Action (NFA) cases, as a result the board highlighted concerns regarding subsequent safeguarding actions once a suspect released with no further action, discussion focussed around the power of PNC / PND regarding those subject to subsequent DBS vetting checks. The panel were also focussed on the impact to the victims and issues regarding victim / survivor trauma. As a result, panel members have been invited to attend a Force training day, which is scheduled to take place for Essex Police officers led by Zoe Lodrick a Registered Psychotherapist and an experienced Trainer and Consultant who has over 22 years' experience of providing psychotherapy to women and men who have experienced rape, sexual assault and/or childhood sexual abuse; and providing training and consultation to professionals who work with victims/survivors of sexualised traumas.

Next meeting is due to take place in February 2020 focussing on the adopted protocol in place that enables expedition of cases involving witnesses under 10 years of age. The Panel will focus on two recent cases involving under 10s where sexually harmful behaviours are displayed, one involving an adult offender and the other with child offender.

### **Ops Centre**

### **CRU**

The co-location of the Central Referral Unit with Essex MARAC to County Hall is anticipated to occur in March 2020. The proposed functionality will be police staff on shift within the building between 7am – 8pm, 7 days a week, 365 days a year and is set to enhance efficiency in various key service delivery areas. CRU and MARAC processes are

being streamlined to minimise duplication and maximise the appropriate use of information sharing in safeguarding victims of DA and tackling perpetrators. This will lead to greater efficiency in terms of officer time, MARAC consistency and information accuracy. An automated data feed process for information sharing is being trialled, this has historically been a labour-intensive exercise and taken an estimated 2-4 hours to complete by the Essex MARAC. The new automated process is currently delivering the information sharing requirements in compliance with the Information Sharing Agreement, taking on average 15 – 20 minutes.

There remains the ambition to co-locate the Adult Triage with Adult Social Care, this has been approved by Chief Officers in principle and is being incorporated within the Estates planning for development this year.

#### **14.0. Future Work/Development and Expected Outcomes**

##### **PPIU**

###### **CSE Team**

The launch of a new CSE Investigations Team is anticipated to be established ready for go-live on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. This will enable the Force to create a unit to centralise the investigations of CSE, with a view to providing increased focus around victim engagement, performance improvements and centralised supervisory review mechanisms to improve investigative standards in this area.

###### **Case Progression Team**

The Case Progression Team launched in January 2020, based at headquarters, to support the ASAIT hubs across the county to reduce the demand on those offices and focus on progressing cases to CPS likely to result in a conviction. The Case Progression Team will seek to improve with the quality of file submissions, building positive working relationships with key agencies, such as CPS, to strengthen the multi-agency activity to reduce offending, repeat victimisation and bring more offenders to justice, with the aim of increasing solved outcomes and improving outcomes for victims. It is anticipated the team being fully resourced by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

From February 2020, North PPIU will also be trialling an additional Investigation Progression Team utilising existing staff, to focus on delivering a higher solved rate and outcomes.

## **15.0. Preventing sexual crime – National best practice**

### RSOs

Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) are monitored under legislation within the Sexual Offences Act 2003. The notification requirements allow police to obtain information such as where RSOs reside, any names they may use and details of foreign travel. The Act also enables preventative powers to be applied to RSOs, including Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPOs), which now incorporate Foreign Travel Orders, to prevent sexual harm to the public or specific members of the public. Sexual Risk Orders have a similar effect but apply to people who have not been convicted of a relevant offence.

### Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme, 'Sarah's law'

The Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme, commonly known as 'Sarah's law' after the murder of Sarah Payne, allows parents, carers and guardians to ask the police to tell them if someone has a criminal record for child sexual offences. If checks reveal the subject is known for child sexual offences or other offences that may put the child at risk, the police will consider a disclosure of the information to the person best placed to protect the child.

### Programmes

There are a number of programmes available, in both the community and the custody environment, for sex offenders to receive therapy. Included are programmes called 'Horizon' and 'Kaizen'. The original Core Sex Offender Treatment Programme was halted in 2017 after research indicated it increased offending. The new schemes still involve group sessions, but participants are no longer required to discuss their own offences. Horizon, forms part of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) suite of programmes, aimed at medium-risk offenders, and aims to teach them "to manage unhealthy sexual thoughts and behaviours" and make other positive changes to their lives. HM Prison Service also introduced Kaizen, a Japanese word used in business to refer to continual improvements in performance, is focused on the highest risk offenders. A decision was made not to pursue immediate roll-out of Kaizen in the community. A pilot exploring the viability of implementing Kaizen in the community has been undertaken in the West Midlands. The aims of this pilot were to explore both the need for Kaizen in the community and how it could most efficiently and practicably be operationalised.

### Awareness Raising – NSPCC

The NSPCC advise that to prevent Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) it is best practice to raise awareness about the signs, teach children and young people about healthy relationships and make sure everyone knows how to report concerns. Essex Police has therefore ensured this takes place in schools, in the community including businesses involved in the night-time economy, information sharing across agencies and empowering

parents by raising awareness of the signs and knowing where to seek help. Essex Police also have CSE Hotline, staffed by the Operations Centre, for concerned members of the public to call for advice and guidance. It is also vital that children are kept safe online. Developments in technology mean that online CSE is constantly evolving. According to Europol, mobile connectivity, growing internet coverage in developing countries and the development of pay-as-you-go streaming solutions are furthering the trend in the commercial live streaming of child sexual abuse. The NSPCC has highlighted that criminals are exploiting evolving technology which provides tools to preserve their anonymity online more quickly than law enforcement are able to respond to these changes.

#### The Lucy Faithfull organisation – charities

The Lucy Faithfull organisation, which is the only UK-wide charity dedicated solely to tackling child sexual abuse, has an anonymous and confidential 'Stop It Now!' helpline service. This is available to anyone with concerns about child sexual abuse, including those worried about their own sexual thoughts or behaviour towards children and those worried about their online behaviour. Experienced advisors offer confidential advice on what steps can be taken.

#### Technology / Tools

There are a number of methods increasingly available to combat drug facilitated sexual assaults. Entrepreneurs are developing tools with drug testing capabilities to identify common date rape drugs such as Rohypnol, GHB and Ketamine, these include straws, nail varnish, cups, coasters, with one company developing the 'SipChip'. The SipChip enables an individual to place a drop of the drink on the plastic chip which then indicates whether the drink has been spiked. Last year Police in Edinburgh raised awareness of the dangers of leaving drinks unattended whilst distributing spikey bottle stoppers in night-time economy areas to prevent anyone tampering with the drink.

#### 'Ask for Angela' campaign

The 'Ask for Angela' campaign, originated in Lincolnshire and has now expanded worldwide, helps keep people in bars and venues safe from sexual assault. 'Angela' is a code word for when someone feels in danger, perhaps on an uncomfortable date, and they need help to leave. The person can ask the staff for 'Angela' and they will assist them with a safe exit/taxi home. The scheme is not gender specific and posters are usually placed in restrooms at establishments that have awareness of the scheme. This scheme was launched in Essex supported by Essex Police in 2017.

#### **Preventing Sexual Crime – Essex Police / partnership activity**

#### Breck's Last Game

In April 2019, 'Brecks Last Game' (a short-film about a 14-year-old boy who was groomed and murdered by a man he met on a gaming site) was published nationally online. Breck's Last Game is an educational tool aiming to raise awareness of online grooming and the associated dangers, it is also available for use in schools and the PHSE curriculum. At the time of the launch a training programme detailing the dangers of online exploitation was delivered to over 400 year 8 students in Essex using over 60 members of staff from the Essex Youth Service (supported by Essex Police officers at each venue). This is an ongoing initiative that continues.

### Dot Com

The Dot.com project launched in Essex in June 2019 and will be subject to a National Launch in Early 2020. The Force has worked with Dot.com Digital to support the development of an online platform designed to teach primary school age children about online grooming, exploitation, and bullying. The Dot.com platform has been cited as a resource in the Department for Education guidance for teaching online safety in schools 2019.

### Op Kirn

Operation Kirn is an initiative aimed at training staff in hotels to recognise CSEA (Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) and how their premises might be utilised to commit offences. Since May 2018, 80% of hotels in Essex have been offered CSEA training. LPAs are looking at problem premises to target for enforcement and further training.

### University of Essex

In September 2019, PPUI North commenced an initiative at the University of Essex. Officers will utilise university staff and resident life students to help cascading information to the 6000 new students regarding sexual offending, consent and options for reporting, to ensure university students have access to the help and support they need. The Force will engage with the students as part of Fresher's Week, posters around safeguarding and preventative advice for sexual offences will be displayed throughout the university and presentations will also take place at other events throughout the academic year.

### Drink Aware

The Drink Aware project, working with Night Time Economy venues to deliver vulnerability awareness training to staff and implement Drink Aware Crews in identified venues, commenced in December 2019.

### Active Citizens and others

There is exploration around using Active Citizens to raise awareness around internet safety at public facing events. There will also be engagement with the fire service to ensure consistency with the support they already provide to schools in raising awareness and educating children.

### Project Goldcrest

Project Goldcrest is now live, an initiative designed collaboratively by Essex Police, The Oakwood Place SARC, and other partners. This project enables young people, who have already been identified as being at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), to take their own forensic samples at home, with someone with parental responsibility (or an appropriate adult) as a witness. Completed kits will be retained by Essex Police for 25 years. If a complainant subsequently comes forward the kits can be utilised as evidence which otherwise might not be available.

### MOSOVO and CPT alignment pilot

MOSOVO have embedded officers into the community policing team at Tendring to work together to target the top RSOs in the district.

### The Catalyst Project

The Catalyst Project is a collaboration between the Force and the University of Essex. Data extracted from Athena around CSEA has been provided to the university to map patterns and trends relating to teenage rape offences. The anonymised data is inputted into a secure online platform which provides useful mapping, charts, graphs and key findings from that data.

A first draft report has been provided by the Catalyst Project based upon 4 years of data. A second version of the report is being prepared on request to include overlaid open source material with supporting analysis. It is anticipated the initial findings will assist in highlighting where further work, analysis and targeted research should be focussed to provide additional value.

The Force are due to meet with the Catalyst Project Team on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 regarding progress and delivery of the Catalyst Project.

An IT Platform has been created and work continues with IT Services to ensure product compatibility with Essex Police systems. Presently, the C&PP Force Analyst is completing 'proof of concept' work with the platform for the C&PP Command. Full testing of the platform is required before it can be placed on Force IT systems, the C&PP Force Analyst is working with The Innovation Task Force to facilitate this.

Training for use of the platform has been provided by the Catalyst Project Team to the C&PP Force Analyst, an SCD Analyst Team Leader and a Performance Analysis Unit Analyst. General feedback was all were impressed with the platform and could foresee opportunities for use within their respective departments in order to achieve significant time savings and improve analysis.

The Force is seeking to secure 3 additional projects with Catalyst: machine learning models predicting environments crimes likely to take place, victim satisfaction and staffing issues



such as reducing turnover and increasing retention in Public Protection by understanding stress and breaking points. Proposal for funding has been submitted by Catalyst. Data from the platform will be analysed and made available to commands.

### Op Ratify

Operation Ratify, is using the Force's data to identify and target individuals reported for multiple rape and/or sexual offences. The criteria for identification has been structured in to *tier 1 offenders*: six or more sexual offences including at least one rape, where at least one offence was committed in the last 18 months and offender is not currently in prison or being managed by MOSOVO; and, *tier 2 offenders*: four or more sexual offences including at least one rape, where at least one offence was committed in the last 18 months.

Force Analysts have identified 7 tier 1 offenders and 41 tier 2 offenders, work is now underway with the Force Analysts producing full intelligence packages on each offender for the respective C&PP investigation hub DCI's. An Op Ratify Working Group Meeting has been established and will meet on a monthly basis commencing in March 2020 following production of the full intel packages. At the working group the hub DCI's, as Local Responsible Officers for the intel packages, will present and agree the prioritisation of the intel packages with the C&PP D/Supt Investigations, in order to provide structure, governance and oversight.

Those identified will be pro-actively targeted, utilising Force tasking, to reduce future offending. The police tactics will include civil orders in order to restrict opportunities to offend and working and partner agencies.