

Police and Crime Plan 2016-2021

Monthly Performance Update

October 2020

National and MSG positions are to 31st August 2020 (Essex Police data are to 31st October 2020).



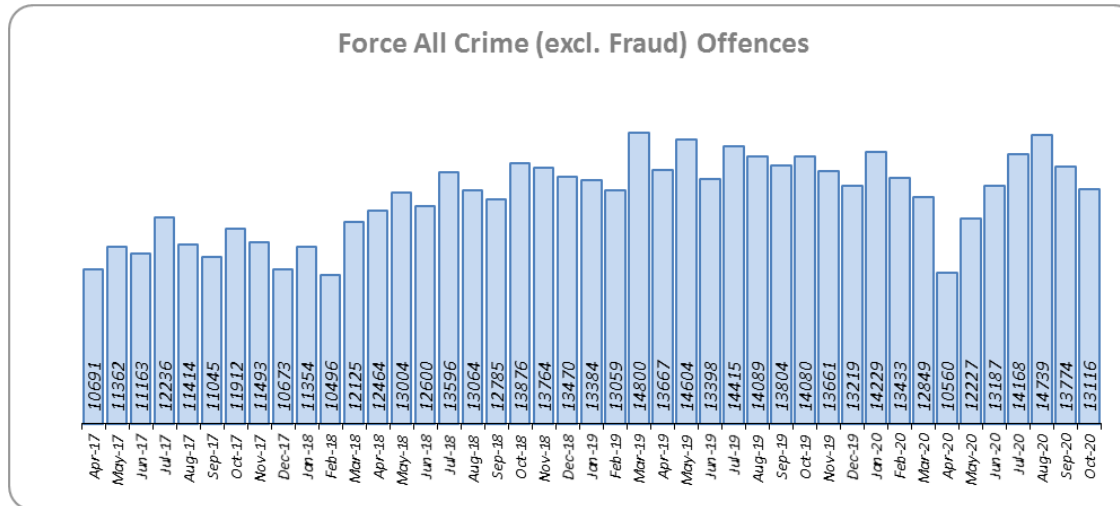
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Performance Analysis Unit, Essex Police
Sensitivity: Official

Executive Summary

- **Four of the seven PFCC Priorities** for Essex Police have been given a recommended grade of **'Good'**. Recommended grades have been determined with reference to comparisons with Essex Police's Most Similar Group (MSG) of forces, internal Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and professional judgement.
- **Three of the seven PFCC priorities** – 1 (More local, visible and accessible policing), 2 (Crack down on anti-social behaviour) and 4 (Tackling gangs and serious violence) – have been given a recommended grade of **'Requires Improvement'**.
- **All Crime fell by 6.3% for the 12 months to October 2020** compared to the 12 months to October 2019; this equates to 10,552 fewer offences. This decrease has been heavily influenced by the Government's restrictions on gathering and movement in relation to COVID-19. With the recent implementation of some restrictions, crime volumes in October 2020 were lower than those experienced in October 2019: Essex Police recorded 964 fewer offences (-6.8%) in October 2020 compared to October 2019. Each change in the rules relating to social distancing has affected the number of All Crime offences reported to Essex Police.*
- The number of **anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents was 23.8% higher in October 2020** compared to October 2019 (808 more incidents). The number of ASB incidents has been reducing steadily since May 2020, although October 2020 saw a slight increase compared to September 2020. The general decrease is due to the gradual easing of the Government's restrictions, and activities considered to be anti-social during the lockdown period now being permitted, such as social gatherings. The Government's re-implementation of some restriction of movement in September and October 2020 continues to effect the number of ASB incidents.
- Confidence (independent survey) is at 69.7% (results to the 12 months to June 2020). **Compared to year ending June 2019, confidence in the local police increased by 4.1% points.** Confidence in the local police from the Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW) places Essex eighth in its MSG, however, and 6.5% points below the MSG average.
- No crime type was either statistically high or low in the month of October 2020.

* Please see table showing the affect of social distancing measures on pages 12 and 13.

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex per 1,000 pop.	MSG Ave per 1,000 pop.	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
Number of all crime offences	168,398	157,846	-10,552	-6.3	86.3	74.7	11.6	8



Essex experienced a 6.3% decrease in All Crime (10,552 fewer offences) for the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. Essex is eighth in its Most Similar Group of forces (MSG) for crime per 1,000 population.

This decrease in crime has been heavily influenced by the Government’s restrictions on gathering and movement in relation to COVID-19. With the recent implementation of some restrictions, crime volumes in October 2020 are lower to those experienced in October 2019: Essex Police recorded 964 fewer offences (-6.8%) in October 2020 compared to October 2019.

Essex was graded as Outstanding in its recent HMICFRS Crime Data Integrity (CDI) inspection. Essex Police is only the third force of the 41 that have been inspected judged as outstanding on the first visit in this inspection programme.

Priority 1 - More local, visible and accessible policing

Grade: **Requires Improvement**

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to Jun 2019	12 months to Jun 2020	% pt. Difference	% Difference
Percentage of people who have confidence in policing in Essex (internal survey)	65.6	69.7	4.1	-
<i>Confidence Interval</i>	1.1	1.0		

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to Mar 2019	12 months to Mar 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex	MSG Ave	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
Confidence in the local police (Crime Survey of England and Wales)	46.9	48.6	1.6	-	48.6	55.1	-6.5	8
<i>Confidence Interval</i>	4.5	3.9			3.9	1.6		

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex	MSG Ave	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
Harm (Crime Severity) Score* v. Most Similar Group of Forces (MSG) - All Crime	-	13.1	-	-	13.1	11.2	1.9	8
Emergency response attendance within 15 mins (urban) or 20 mins (rural) (GOS %)**	71.4	78.5	7.1	-				

Confidence (independent survey) is at 69.7% (results to the 12 months to June 2020). Compared to year ending June 2019, confidence in the local police has significantly increased (an improvement of 4.1% points). Confidence in the local police from the Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW) places Essex eighth in its MSG, and 6.5% points below the Most Similar Group of Forces (MSG) average. However, the sample size from this survey is not representative at a sufficiently small scale to measure local level results. The Essex Police independent survey (results detailed above) was therefore introduced to achieve a more accurate local measure with only a small margin of error. The results from the Essex Police survey show that the Force performs significantly better on confidence in local policing than the results from the CSEW, which asks the same question.

The All Crime Harm (Crime Severity) Score* (13.1) places Essex eighth (last) in its MSG.

While Essex Police performance in relation to emergency response attendance within 15 minutes (urban) or 20 minutes (rural) remains below the 80% target for the 12 months to October 2020, it has improved by 7.1 percentage points when compared to the 12 months to October 2019. Essex Police are now only 1.5% points below the 80% target.

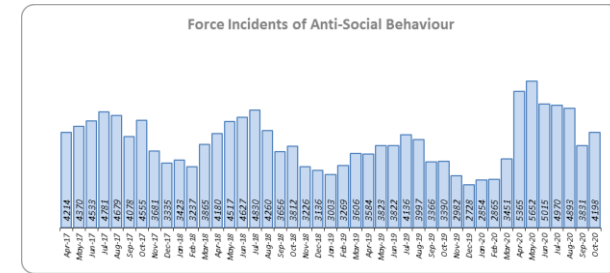
Due to the fact that Essex is 8th in its MSG for all comparable metrics and that the emergency response grade of service remains below target, a grade of Requires Improvement is recommended.

Please note:

* Crime Severity Scores (as calculated by the Office for National Statistics) measure the 'relative harm' of crimes by taking into account both their volume and their severity. Data are for the 12 months to August 2020.

** Grade of Service.

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference
Number of anti-social behaviour incidents	42,592	49,014	6,422	15.1



Police Priority Indicators	12 months to Mar 2019	12 months to Mar 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex	MSG Ave	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
ASB Perception:- Perception that ASB is a problem (CSEW)	3.3	4.3	1.0	-	4.3	4.8	-0.5	4
<i>Confidence Interval</i>	2.5	2.9			2.9	1.4		

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to Jun 2019	12 months to Jun 2020	% pt. Difference	% Difference
Percentage of people who have confidence Essex Police and the organisations they work with are dealing with ASB (internal survey)	62.8	69.4	6.6	-
<i>Confidence Interval</i>	1.2	1.1		

Essex experienced a 15.1% increase (6,422 more) in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents for the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. This increase was due to the COVID-19 restriction period, with many additional reports relating to activities that were previously not considered to be ASB, for example social gatherings and shops and businesses continuing to trade. Although ASB also increased by 23.8% in October 2020 compared to October 2019 (808 more incidents), the number of incidents reported has been generally reducing since May 2020, although October saw an increase; this decrease is due to the gradual easing of the Government’s restrictions. Due to the Government’s re-implementation of some restrictions of movement in September 2020 and October 2020, however, the number of ASB incidents in October 2020 increased compared to the number recorded in September 2020.

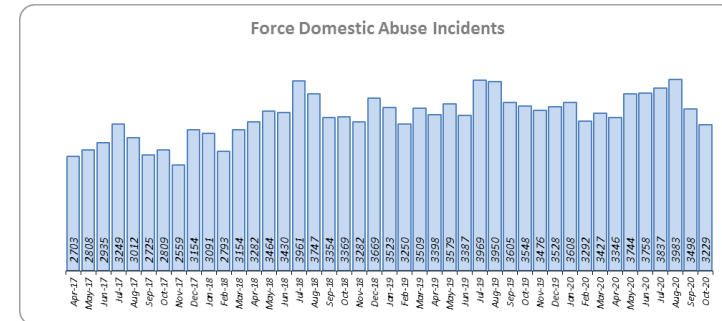
ASB Perception (from the Crime Survey of England and Wales) in Essex experienced a 1.0% point increase (decline). Essex is 0.5% points better than the MSG average; this places Essex fourth in its Most Similar Group of forces. The results of Essex’s independent survey in relation to how well residents perceive Essex Police and partner organisations to be dealing with ASB showed a significant improvement: 6.6% points.

Due to the rise in ASB and an increase in negative perceptions, a grade of Requires Improvement is recommended.

Priority 3 - Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse

Grade: **Good**

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference
Number of incidents of domestic abuse	42,669	42,726	57	0.1
Number of repeat incidents of domestic abuse	20,289	19,524	-765	-3.8
Number of domestic abuse arrests	11,876	13,934	2,058	17.3
Number of Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs) and Protection Orders (DVPOs)	179	245	66	36.9



Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference
Total domestic abuse offences solved	3,068	3,499	431	14.0
High Risk domestic abuse offences solved	774	738	-36	-4.7
Medium Risk domestic abuse offences solved	983	938	-45	-4.6
Standard Risk domestic abuse offences solved	1,116	1,641	525	47.0

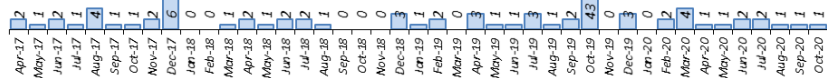
Essex experienced a 0.1% increase (57 more) in Domestic Abuse incidents and a 3.8% decrease (765 fewer) in repeat incidents of Domestic Abuse for the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. However, there was a 17.3% increase (2,058 more) in Domestic Abuse arrests and a 36.9% increase (66 more) in Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) and Protection Orders (DVPO) in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019.

There was a 14.0% increase (431 more) in the number of solved Domestic Abuse outcomes in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019.

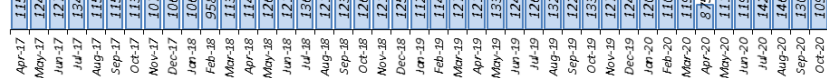
Due to the decrease in repeat incidents of Domestic Abuse and the increase in Domestic Abuse offences solved, a grade of Good is recommended.

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex per 1,000 pop.	MSG Ave per 1,000 pop.	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
Number of homicides	62	19	-43	-69.4	0.032	0.011	0.021	8
Number of violence with injury offences (new definition from Nov 2017)	15,288	14,476	-812	-5.3	7.971	8.171	-0.200	4

Force Homicide Offences



Force Violence with Injury Offences



Essex saw a decrease of 43 homicides (to 19 offences) for the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. The 12 months to October 2019 includes the tragic incident where 39 Vietnamese nationals were discovered in a lorry trailer in Grays in October 2019. Essex is eighth in its Most Similar Group (MSG) of forces for offences per 1,000 population, and is higher than the MSG average.

There was a 5.3% decrease (812 fewer offences) in Violence with Injury offences. Essex is fourth in its MSG for offences per 1,000 population, and is slightly better than the MSG average. There is also an increase in domestic abuse related Violence with Injury (6.3% decrease, 337 more offences); 39.5% of Violence with Injury is domestic abuse-related.

Priority 4 – Tackling gangs and serious violence

Grade: **Requires Improvement**

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex	MSG Ave	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
Harm (Crime Severity) Score* v. Most Similar Group of Forces (MSG) for Violence with Injury, Rape, Other Sexual Offences and Robbery of Personal Property	-	7.8	-	-	7.8	6.7	1.1	8
Number of Violence with Injury, Rape, Other Sexual Offences and Robbery of Personal Property solved	2,872	3,063	191	6.7				
Stop and search for weapons	2,550	3,169	619	24.3				
Knife-enabled crime**	997	1,397	400	40.1				

The combined harm (Crime Severity) score* (7.8) for Violence with Injury, Rape, Other Sexual Offences and Robbery of Personal Property places Essex eighth in its Most Similar Group of Forces (MSG).

There was a 6.7% increase (191 more) in the number of solved high harm offences (Violence with Injury, Rape, Other Sexual Offences and Robbery of Personal Property combined) in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. This is being driven by an increase in the number of Rape and Other Sexual Offences solved. Please see page 17 for the numbers of solved for each category.

There was a 24.3% increase (619 more) in the number of stop and search for weapons in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. This is a result of both increased police proactivity and improvements in technology.

There was a 40.1% increase (400 more) in the number of Knife-enabled crime offences in the 12 months to October 2020** compared to the 12 months to October 2019.

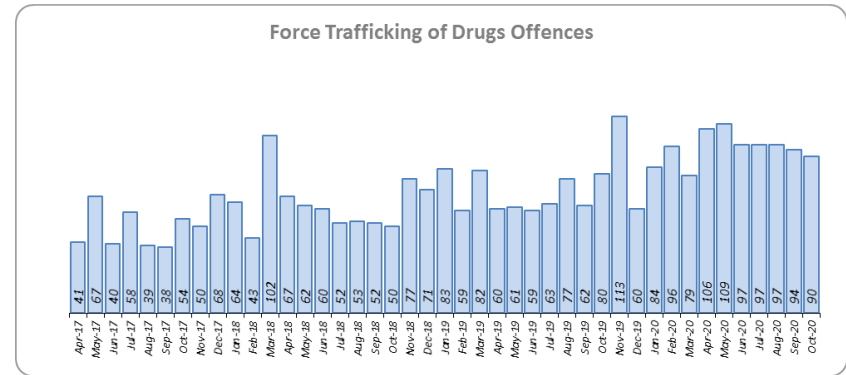
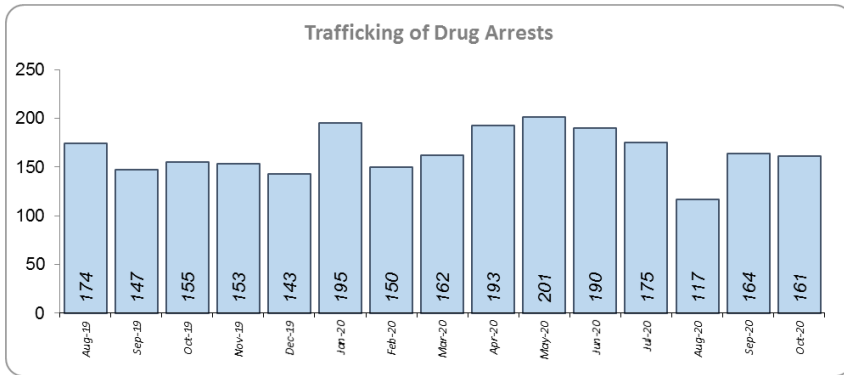
Due to the fact that Essex is above the MSG average for Homicide and high harm offences a grade of Requires Improvement is recommended.

Please note:

* Crime Severity Scores (as calculated by the Office for National Statistics) measure the 'relative harm' of crimes by taking into account both their volume and their severity. Data are for the 12 months to August 2020.

** The number of knife crime offences is an indicator of how effective Essex Police is at identifying knife-enabled offences, and is not necessarily reflective of the number of these offences that have been committed in the county. This is because the identification of these offences is reliant on the appropriate indicator being manually added to the crime record. A manual review of knife flags was conducted and missing flags were added retrospectively. Additionally a new data quality process was introduced in June 2020. Whilst this has enabled us to better understand knife crime in Essex, the process has consequently inflated the figures. As such, no inferences can be drawn as to the current trend.

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference
Number of Organised Criminal Group disruptions*	47	98	51	108.5
Trafficking of drugs arrests	1,780	1,963	183	10.3



98 Organised Crime Group (OCG) disruptions were conducted in Essex in January to July 2020* inclusive compared with 47 in the same months in 2019 (51 more). In January 2019 there was a change in the way in which the number of OCG disruptions were counted; this follows National Crime Agency (NCA) and Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU) guidance to ensure that all forces record disruptions in the same way. Year-on-year comparisons can only therefore be made from January 2020.

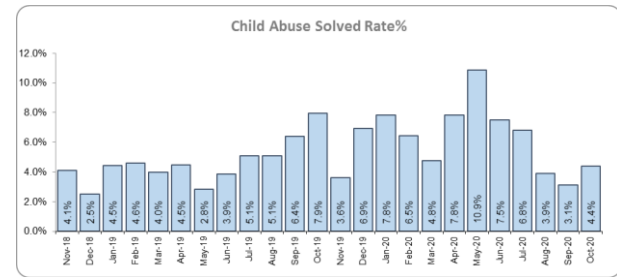
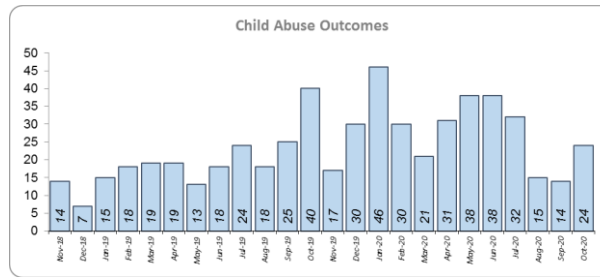
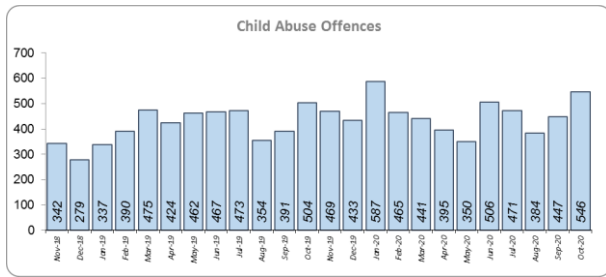
Trafficking of drug arrests, which are also as a result of police proactivity, increased by 10.3% (183 more) for the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. In the same period, 30.1% more trafficking of drugs offences have been recorded (262 more offences to 1,132).

Due to the increase in Trafficking of Drug Arrests, a grade of Good is recommended.

Please note:

* The number of Organised Crime Group disruptions are a comparison of January to July 2019 and January to July 2020, as there was a change in the method by which these disruptions were counted from January 2019. Please note that there is currently a backlog in the recording of disruptions onto police systems; disruptions conducted between February to July 2020 that were not previously recorded in previous reports have since been added. Also due to these delays, data for August is not yet available.

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference
Number of child abuse outcomes	247	346	99	40.1
Number of child abuse offences	4,977	5,526	549	11.0
Child abuse solved rate	5.0	6.3	1.3	-
Child Sexual Abuse/Exploitation investigations	2,065	2,029	-36	-1.7
Modern Slavery referrals made to the National Referral Model (NRM)*	71	58	-13	-18.3



Although there was a 1.7% decrease (36 fewer) in the number of Child Sexual Abuse/Exploitation investigations in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019, there was a 40.1% increase (99 more) in the number of solved Child Abuse Outcomes in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019.

11.0% more Child Abuse offences (an additional 549) were recorded in the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. There was a 1.3% point increase in the solved rate (from 5.0% to 6.3%).

58 Modern Slavery referrals were made in April to October 2020* compared with 71 in the same months in 2019 (13 fewer).

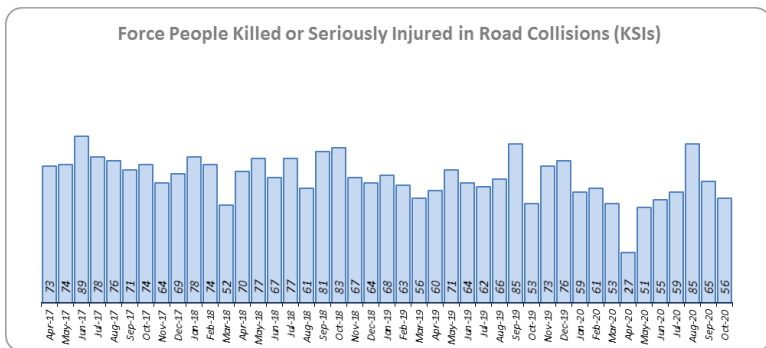
Due to the fact that the number of child abuse outcomes has increased by 40.1% a grade of Good is recommended.

*The number of Modern Slavery referrals made to the National Referral Model are a comparison of April to October 2019 and April to October 2020, due to a change in the method of recording in April 2019.

Priority 7 - Improve safety on our roads

Grade: **Good**

Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Essex (per 100 million km) Data to June 2019	MSG Ave (per 100 million km) Data to June 2019	# diff.	Essex MSG Position
All people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road collisions	851	786	-65	-7.6	1.171	1.120	0.051	5
Number of driving related mobile phone crime on Essex roads*	-	-	-	-				
Number of driving under the influence of drink and/or drugs on Essex roads	3,566	4,283	717	20.1				
<i>Number of driving under the influence of drink on Essex roads</i>	1,427	1,454	27	1.9				
<i>Number of driving under the influence of drugs on Essex roads</i>	1,755	2,366	611	34.8				
<i>Number of Failure to Provide samples</i>	384	463	79	20.6				



Rolling 12 months	12m to Oct 19	12m to Oct 20	Number Diff	% Diff
KSI - All	851	786	-65	-7.6%
KSI - Fatalities	42	48	6	14.3%
KSI - Serious injuries	809	738	-71	-8.8%
Number of Collisions	797	723	-74	-9.3%

There was a 7.6% decrease (65 fewer) in the numbers of those Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) in Essex for the 12 months to October 2020 compared to the 12 months to October 2019. Please note that most KSIs do not result in criminal offences (such as death or serious injury caused by dangerous driving) being recorded. Essex is placed fifth in its Most Similar Group (MSG) of forces for casualties per 100 million vehicle kilometres (results to June 2019).

There was a 20.1% increase (717 more offences) in drink/drug driving, particularly drug drive offences recorded between April and October 2020 (during the COVID-19 restriction period). This is a measure of police proactivity in relation to road safety.

As of June 2019, Essex was slightly worse than the MSG average per 100 million km. However, due to the fact that more recent national figures have not been released, the current position cannot be determined (the date of the next national release has not yet been confirmed). Due to the decrease in KSIs by over 10% in the past 12 months, a grade of Good is recommended.

*No comparison data is currently available for driving offences related to mobile phones due to a legal appeal (which occurred in October 2019). The current phone use legislation is awaiting clarification in the courts; this has been delayed due to the impact of COVID-19.

Monthly Performance Overview: Of Note

COVID-19: Restrictions of movement and social distancing

Since 13 March 2020, the Government implemented a series of alert levels and steps regarding the level of social distancing allowed in relation to COVID-19. Each change has affected the number of All Crime offences recorded.

Date Period	Level	Step	Restrictions	Number of days	Daily Average
01/11/2019 - 12/03/2020			No government restrictions	133	446
13/03/2020 - 23/03/2020		Recommended social distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of self-isolation measures should COVID-19 symptoms be suspected • Only essential travel and socialising recommended 	11	429
24/03/2020 - 12/05/2020	Level 4	Compulsory lockdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work from home if you can • Allowed to leave home for essential shopping or medical needs only • Only one hour of exercise outdoors allowed per day 	50	350
13/05/2020 - 31/05/2020	Level 4	Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work from home if you can - but if you can't, you may be able to return to your workplace • Unlimited exercise outdoors • Meet one friend or family member outdoors - but stay two metres apart 	19	409
01/06/2020 - 12/06/2020	Level 4	Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools reopen for all pupils in Reception and Years 1 and 6 • Re-opening of car showrooms and outdoor markets • May meet up to 6 people from other households outdoors, including back gardens - but stay two metres apart 	12	418
13/06/2020 - 14/06/2020	Level 4	Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single adult households, including those with under 18s, can form a 'support bubble' with one other household • Places of worship (for private prayer only) reopen 	3	421
15/06/2020 - 03/07/2020	Level 4 Level 3*	Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non essential retail shops reopen • Zoos, safari parks and drive-through cinemas reopened • Years 10 and 12 return to school 	18	453
04/07/2020 - 10/07/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two metre rule was reduced to 1-metre plus rule** • Two households can meet indoors (observing the 1-metre plus rule) • Various business and venues reopen including:*** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pubs and restaurants • Holiday accommodation (hotels, B&Bs, cottages, campsites and caravan parks) • Hairdressers and barbers • Outdoor gyms and children's playgrounds • Libraries, community centres, bingo halls, cinemas and museums • Funfairs, theme parks, amusement arcades, outdoor skating rinks, social clubs and model villages • Places of worship open for prayers and services, including weddings with up to 30 guests (marriage ceremony only) 	7	436

* The alert level was reduced to Level 3 on 18th June 2020 but no restrictions were changed on this date.

** 2m social-distancing rule replaced with a "1-metre plus" rule, meaning people should stay at least 2m apart where possible, but otherwise should remain at least 1m apart while taking steps to reduce the risk of transmission, such as wearing face coverings.

*** Strict guidelines re social distancing are to be followed

Monthly Performance Overview: Of Note (continued)

Date Period	Level	Step	Restrictions	Number of days	Daily Average
11/07/2020 - 12/07/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor pools and outdoor theatres reopen Grassroots sports restart 	2	471
13/07/2020 - 19/07/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beauty Parlours (non close contact treatments only), tattooists, spas and tanning salons reopen 	7	442
20/07/2020 - 24/07/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-school nurseries reopen 	5	452
25/07/2020 - 14/08/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports facilities and venues, including indoor gyms, fitness and dance studios, indoor swimming pools and water parks reopen 	21	479
15/08/2020 - 31/08/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor theatre, music and performance venues to reopen with socially distanced audiences Wedding receptions in the form of a sit-down meals for up to 30 people will be permitted Piloting of a small number of sporting events to the safe return of spectators will resume Casinos, bowling alleys, skating rinks and soft play centres reopen Close contact beauty services such as facials, eyebrow threading, eyelash treatments, make-up application and microblading will resume 	17	464
01/09/2020 - 13/09/2020	Level 3	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Week beginning 1st September - schools, nurseries and colleges reopen for all children and young people on a full-time basis 	13	440
14/09/2020 - 22/09/2020	Level 3 Level 4*	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Rule of Six" introduced. Apart from a set of limited exemptions, including work and education, any social gatherings of more than six people are not permitted Universities reopen 	9	485
23/09/2020 - 23/09/2020	Level 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face coverings to be worn by taxi drivers and passengers 	1	469
24/09/2020 - 27/09/2020	Level 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All hospitality venues must close at 22:00 All retail staff and customers in indoor hospitality venues to wear masks, except when seated at a table to eat or drink All pubs, bar and restaurants restricted to table service only 	4	454
28/09/2020 - 13/10/2020	Level 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only 15 people able to attend weddings and civil partnerships, in groups of six Indoor adult sports only permitted in groups of less than six 	16	427

* The alert level was increased to Level 4 on 21st September 2020 but no restrictions were changed on this date.

Monthly Performance Overview: Of Note (continued)

COVID-19: Restrictions of movement and social distancing

On 14th October 2020 the Government introduced three levels of restrictions according to different levels of infections around the country. Tier 1 – Medium, Tier 2 – High and Tier 3 – Very High. Restrictions pertaining to each level can be seen on pages 20 and 21.

Date Period	Alert Level - Essex County Council	Alert Level - Thurrock and Southend	Number of days	Daily Average
14/10/2020 - 16/10/2020	Tier 1 - Medium	Tier 1 - Medium	3	439
17/10/2020 -	Tier 2 - High	Tier 1 - Medium	15	420

Officers arrest 19 and seize £100k

Weapons, cash and drugs were seized during an operation targeting a network suspected of supplying cocaine to county lines drugs gangs. The arrests were the culmination of a complex investigation into a network of individuals suspected of feeding the drugs market by supplying cocaine to county lines gangs. Taking out these links in the chain also helps to protect vulnerable adults and children who these criminals exploit and use for their own financial gain.

2016-2021 Police and Crime Plan Performance Indicators

Table 1

Police and Crime Plan Priorities	Police Priority Indicators	12 months to October 2019	12 months to October 2020	Number Difference	% Difference	Direction of Travel
Priority 1 - More local, visible and accessible policing	Percentage of people who have confidence in policing in Essex (internal survey) ¹	65.6	69.7	4.1	-	Improving
		<i>Confidence Interval</i> ²	1.1	1.0		
	Confidence in the local police (CSEW) ³	46.9	48.6	1.6	-	Stable
		<i>Confidence Interval</i> ²	4.5	3.9		
	Number of all crime offences	168,398	157,846	-10,552	-6.3	Improving
	Harm (Crime Severity) Score - All Crime ⁹	-	13.1	-	-	-
	Emergency response attendance within 15 minutes (urban) or 20 minutes (rural)	71.4	78.5	7.1	-	Improving
Priority 2 - Crack down on anti-social behaviour	Number of anti-social behaviour incidents	42,592	49,014	6,422	15.1	Deteriorating
	Percentage of people who have confidence that the policing response to ASB is improving (internal survey) ⁴	62.8	69.4	6.6	-	Improving
		<i>Confidence Interval</i> ²	1.2	1.1		
Priority 3 - Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse	Number of incidents of domestic abuse	42,669	42,726	57	0.1	Deteriorating
	Number of repeat incidents of domestic abuse	20,289	19,524	-765	-3.8	Improving
	Number of domestic abuse arrests	11,876	13,934	2,058	17.3	Improving
	Number of Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs) and Protection Orders (DVPOs)	179	245	66	36.9	Improving
	Number of domestic abuse offences solved	3068	3499	431	14.0	Improving
Priority 4 - Tackling gangs and serious violence	Number of homicides ⁸	62	19	-43	-69.4	Improving
	Number of violence with injury offences (new definition from Nov 2017)	15,288	14,476	-812	-5.3	Improving
	Harm (Crime Severity) Score for Violence with Injury, Rape, Other Sexual Offences and Robbery of Personal Property	-	7.8	-	-	-
	Number of Violence with Injury, Rape, Other Sexual and Robbery of Personal Property Offences solved	2,872	3,063	191	6.7	Improving
	Stop and search for weapons	2,550	3,169	619	24.3	Improving
	Knife-enabled crime ¹⁰	997	1,397	400	40.1	Deteriorating
Priority 5 - Disrupting and preventing organised crime	Number of Organised Criminal Group disruptions ⁵	47	98	51	108.5	Improving
	Trafficking of drugs arrests	1,780	1,963	183	10.3	Improving
Priority 6 - Protecting children & vulnerable people	Number of child abuse outcomes ⁶	247	346	99	40.1	Improving
	Number of child abuse offences	4,977	5,526	549	11.0	Deteriorating
	Child abuse solved rate	5.0	6.3	1.3	-	Improving
	Child Sexual Abuse/Exploitation investigations	2,065	2,029	-36	-1.7	-
	Modern Slavery referrals made to the National Referral Model (NRM) ¹¹	71	58	-13	-18.3	Deteriorating
Priority 7 - Improve safety on our roads	Number of driving related mobile phone crime on Essex roads	-	-	-	-	-
	Number of driving under the influence of drink and/or drugs on Essex roads	3,566	4,283	717	20.1	Deteriorating
	All people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road collisions ⁷	851	786	-65	-7.6	Improving

Please note:

- The number of Organised Crime Group disruptions are a comparison of January to July 2019 and January to July 2020, as there was a change in the method by which these disruptions were counted from January 2019. Please note there is a backlog in the recording of disruptions onto police systems; disruptions conducted between February and July 2020 that were not previously recorded in in previous reports have since been added. Also due to these delays, data for August 2020 are not yet available.
- The number of Modern Slavery referrals made to the National Referral Model are a comparison of April to October 2019 and April to October 2020, due to a change in the method of recording in April 2019.

Please view above table with the explanations and caveats detailed on pages 16 and 17.

End Notes

¹ Question from Essex Police's own confidence and perception survey (Percentage of people who have confidence in policing in Essex). Results are for the period 12 months June 2020 versus the 12 months to June 2019.

² The confidence interval is the range +/- between where the survey result may lie. This is mainly influenced by the number of people answering the survey. The more people that answer the survey, the smaller the interval range.

³ Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW): 12 months to March 2020 vs. 12 months to March 2019.

⁴ Question from Essex Police's own confidence and perception survey (Percentage of people who have confidence that the policing response to ASB is improving). Results are for the period 12 months to June 2020 versus the 12 months to June 2019.

⁵ Please note that the number of Organised Crime Group disruptions are a comparison of January to June 2019 and January to June 2020 only (full data for July to August 2020 are not yet available), due to a change in counting rules that occurred in January 2019. From January 2019, activity has been recorded rather than the number of people arrested. If there was a day of action, for example, and five people were arrested, this would formerly have counted as five disruptions, but now will count as one. The change stems from confusion over the previous guidelines, with police forces counting disruptions in different ways. Please note also that there is currently a backlog in the recording of disruptions onto police systems; disruptions conducted between February to July 2020 that were not previously recorded in previous reports have since been added.

⁶ Solved outcomes are crimes that result in: charge or summons, caution, crimes taken into consideration, fixed penalty notice, cannabis warning or community resolution.

⁷ 'Killed or Seriously Injured' (KSI) refers to all people killed or seriously injured on Essex's roads, regardless of whether any criminal offences were committed. 'Causing Death/Serious Injury by Dangerous/Inconsiderate Driving' offences (detailed on p.11) refers to the number of crimes of this type.

⁸ Please note that on Wednesday 23 October 2019 the bodies of 39 Vietnamese nationals were discovered in a lorry trailer in Grays. This tragic incident is reflected in the Homicide numbers.

⁹ Crime Severity Score measures 'relative harm' of crimes by taking into account both the volume and the severity of offences, and by weighting offences differently. Data are for the 12 months to August 2020.

End Notes (Continued)

¹⁰ The number of knife crime offences is an indicator of how effective Essex Police is at identifying knife-enabled offences, and is not necessarily reflective of the number of these offences that have been committed in the county. This is because the identification of these offences is reliant on the appropriate indicator being manually added to the crime record. A manual review of knife flags was conducted and missing flags were added retrospectively. Additionally a new data quality process was introduced in June 2020. Whilst this has enabled us to better understand knife crime in Essex, the process has consequently inflated the figures. As such, no inferences can be drawn as to the current trend.

¹¹ The number of Modern Slavery referrals made to the National Referral Model are a comparison of April to October 2019 and April to October 2020, due to a change in the method of recording in April 2019.

¹² The number driving related mobile phone crime on Essex roads is not currently available this year for comparison, due to a legal appeal which occurred in October 2019. The current phone use legislation is awaiting clarification in the courts which has been delayed due to the impact of COVID-19. Since the appeal, few offences have been prosecuted.

Crime Tree Data – Rolling 12 Months to October

Table 2

Force

Crime Tree Data - Rolling 12 Months to October

Top Level		Offences										Solved Outcomes										Solved Rates %											
Crime Type	% DA 2020	2019	2020	# diff.	% diff.	Z	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % diff.	2019	2020	# diff.	% diff.	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % diff.	2019	2020	% pt. diff.	Z	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % pt. diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % pt. diff.	
1 Anti-Social Behaviour (Incidents)	-	42592	49014	6422	15.1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2 All Crime (excl. Action (NFB) Fraud)	18.9	168398	157846	-10552	-6.3	0.0	14080	13116	-6.8	41273	41465	-1.7	23137	24258	1121	4.8	1641	1738	5.9	5387	5561	3.2	13.7	15.4	1.6	-0.5	11.7	13.3	1.6	12.8	13.4	0.6	
3 - State Based Crime	6.8	26164	28102	1938	7.4	0.6	2097	2280	8.7	6705	7485	11.6	8563	10411	1848	21.6	656	781	19.1	2241	2431	8.5	32.7	37.0	4.3	0.0	31.3	34.3	3.0	33.4	32.5	-0.9	
4 - Victim Based Crime	21.5	142234	129744	-12490	-8.8	-0.3	11983	10836	-9.6	35468	33980	-4.2	14574	13847	-727	-5.0	985	957	-2.8	3146	3130	-0.5	10.2	10.7	0.4	-1.1	8.2	8.8	0.6	8.9	9.2	0.3	
Victim Based Crime		Offences										Solved Outcomes										Solved Rates %											
5 Violence Against the Person	35.9	63853	65637	1784	2.8	0.7	5568	5484	-1.5	16349	17660	8.0	7153	7818	665	9.3	494	582	17.8	1555	1932	24.2	11.2	11.9	0.7	-0.7	8.9	10.6	1.7	9.5	10.9	1.4	
6 - Homicide	10.5	62	19	-43	-69.4	-0.2	11	43	1	-97.7	47	4	-91.5	12	18	6	50.0	3	0	-100.0	6	3	-50.0	19.4	94.7	75.4	-1.0	7.0	0.0	-7.0	12.8	75.0	62.2
7 - Violence with Injury	39.5	15288	14476	-812	-5.3	-0.9	1	1333	1095	-17.9	3909	3872	-0.9	2445	2479	34	1.4	181	191	5.5	506	630	24.5	16.0	17.1	1.1	-0.1	13.6	17.4	3.9	12.9	16.3	3.3
8 - Death or Serious Injury caused by unlawful driving	3.3	30	30	0	0.0	1.0	20	3	5	66.7	5	13	160.0	39	27	-12	-30.8	8	6	-25.0	11	12	9.1	130.0	90.0	-40.0	0.3	266.7	120.0	-146.7	220.0	92.3	-127.7
9 - Death or serious injury by dangerous driving	4.5	25	22	-3	-12.0	-	2	2	0.0	4	8	100.0	29	19	-10	-34.5	5	0	-100.0	7	8	14.3	116.0	86.4	-29.6	-	250.0	0.0	-250.0	175.0	100.0	-75.0	
10 - Death by careless driving (drink or drugs)	-	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
11 - Death by careless or inconsiderate driving	0.0	4	6	2	50.0	-	1	2	100.0	1	3	200.0	9	7	-2	-22.2	2	2	0.0	3	3	0.0	225.0	116.7	-108.3	-	200.0	100.0	-100.0	300.0	100.0	-200.0	
12 - Death or serious injury driving - unlicensed, disqualified, uninsured	0.0	0	1	1	-	-	0	0	-	0	1	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
13 - Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	0.0	1	1	0	0.0	-	0	1	-	0	1	-	1	1	0	0.0	1	1	0.0	1	1	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	-
14 - Violence without injury	38.2	25298	27404	2106	8.3	0.8	6	2263	2258	-0.2	6637	7085	6.8	2879	3381	502	17.4	198	250	26.3	643	814	26.6	11.4	12.3	1.0	-0.7	8.7	11.1	2.3	9.7	11.5	1.8
15 - Stalking and Harassment	31.0	23175	23708	533	2.3	0.9	9	1926	2125	10.3	5751	6686	16.3	1778	1913	135	7.6	104	135	29.8	389	473	21.6	7.7	8.1	0.4	-0.9	5.4	6.4	1.0	6.8	7.1	0.3
16 Sexual Offences	22.8	4844	4681	-163	-3.4	1.0	456	434	-4.8	1238	1239	0.1	272	442	170	62.5	46	31	-32.6	95	82	-13.7	5.6	9.4	3.8	0.1	10.1	7.1	-2.9	7.7	6.6	-1.1	
17 - Rape	39.5	2017	1976	-41	-2.0	0.6	198	174	-12.1	530	532	0.4	45	85	40	88.9	6	7	16.7	18	17	-5.6	2.2	4.3	2.1	0.5	3.0	4.0	1.0	3.4	3.2	-0.2	
18 - Rape - Under 16 yrs	4.0	510	505	-5	-1.0	2.1	5	55	60	9.1	124	149	20.2	21	43	22	104.8	2	4	100.0	9	11	22.2	4.1	8.5	4.4	0.1	3.6	6.7	3.0	7.3	7.4	0.1
19 - Rape - Over 16 yrs	5.17	1507	1471	-36	-2.4	0.0	2	143	114	-20.3	406	383	-5.7	24	42	18	75.0	4	3	-25.0	9	6	-33.3	1.6	2.9	1.3	0.3	2.8	2.6	-0.2	2.2	1.6	-0.7
20 - Other Sexual Offences	10.6	2827	2705	-122	-4.3	1.1	4	258	260	0.8	708	707	-0.1	227	357	130	57.3	40	24	-40.0	77	65	-15.6	8.0	13.2	5.2	-0.1	15.5	9.2	-6.3	10.9	9.2	-1.7
21 - Other sexual offences : Under 13	1.4	652	640	-12	-1.8	-	60	83	38.3	133	183	37.6	51	71	20	39.2	16	5	-68.8	23	13	-43.5	7.8	11.1	3.3	-	26.7	6.0	-20.6	17.3	7.1	-10.2	
22 - Other sexual offences : Under 16	4.4	821	790	-31	-3.8	-	59	75	27.1	197	179	-9.1	81	130	49	60.5	10	6	-40.0	23	15	-34.8	9.9	16.5	6.6	-	16.9	8.0	-8.9	11.7	8.4	-3.3	
23 - Other sexual offences : Age 13 to 17	8.3	21	12	-9	-42.9	-	3	0	-100.0	0	1	-88.9	1	2	1	100.0	0	0	-	0	1	-	4.8	16.7	11.9	-	0.0	-	-	0.0	100.0	100.0	
24 - Other sexual offences : Over 13	22.7	1023	986	-37	-3.6	-	114	79	-30.7	281	262	-6.8	64	96	32	50.0	10	6	-40.0	23	17	-26.1	6.3	9.7	3.5	-	8.8	7.6	-1.2	8.2	6.5	-1.7	
25 - Other sexual offences : Over 16	23.1	8	13	5	62.5	-	1	2	100.0	2	6	200.0	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
26 - Other sexual offences : Not Age Specific	5.7	302	264	-38	-12.6	-	21	21	0.0	86	76	-11.6	30	58	28	93.3	4	7	75.0	8	19	137.5	9.9	22.0	12.0	-	19.0	33.3	14.3	9.3	25.0	15.7	
27 Robbery	2.2	1818	1386	-432	-23.8	0.0	116	132	13.8	420	393	-6.4	194	173	-21	-10.8	13	11	-15.4	43	42	-2.3	10.7	12.5	1.8	-0.7	11.2	8.3	-2.9	10.2	10.7	0.4	
28 - Robbery of business property	0.0	174	105	-69	-39.7	0.5	17	10	16	60.0	31	28	-9.7	39	31	-8	-20.5	2	3	50.0	3	8	166.7	22.4	29.5	7.1	-0.3	20.0	18.8	-1.3	9.7	28.6	18.9
29 - Robbery of Personal Property	2.4	1644	1281	-363	-22.1	-0.2	7	106	116	9.4	389	365	-6.2	155	142	-13	-8.4	11	8	-27.3	40	34	-15.0	9.4	11.1	1.7	-0.9	10.4	6.9	-3.5	10.3	9.3	-1.0
30 Theft Offences	2.8	54181	42096	-12085	-22.3	-1.1	4408	3522	-20.1	12911	10655	-17.5	5379	3789	-1590	-29.6	342	224	-34.5	1106	713	-35.5	9.9	9.0	-0.9	-1.7	7.8	6.4	-1.4	8.6	6.7	-1.9	
31 - Burglary	1.8	10952	8407	-2545	-23.2	-1.4	802	605	-24.6	2390	1784	-25.4	699	467	-232	-33.2	32	19	-40.6	136	130	-4.4	6.4	5.6	-0.8	-0.9	4.0	3.1	-0.8	5.7	7.3	1.6	
32 - Burglary Residential	2.4	8011	6223	-1788	-22.3	-1.2	3	614	458	-25.4	1798	1274	-29.1	465	295	-170	-36.6	25	12	-52.0	88	100	13.6	5.8	4.7	-1.1	-0.7	4.1	2.6	-1.5	4.9	7.8	3.0
33 - Burglary Business & Community	0.1	2941	2184	-757	-25.7	-1.4	13	188	147	-21.8	592	510	-13.9	234	172	-62	-26.5	7	7	0	48	30	-37.5	8.0	7.9	-0.1	-0.8	3.7	4.8	1.0	8.1	5.9	-2.2
34 - Burglary Dwelling (pre-Apr 17 definition)	3.3	5803	4319	-1484	-25.6	-1.2	425	312	-26.6	1273	892	-29.9	430	270	-160	-37.2	24	11	-54.2	83	94	13.3	7.4	6.3	-1.2	-0.6	5.6	3.5	-2.1	6.5	10.5	4.0	
35 - Burglary Other (pre-Apr 17 definition)	0.2	5149	4088	-1061	-20.6	-1.4	377	293	-22.3	1117	892	-20.1	269	197	-72	-26.8	8	8	0	53	36	-32.1	5.2	4.8	-0.4	-0.9	2.1	2.7	0.6	4.7	4.0	-0.7	
36 - Vehicle Offences (incl. Interference)	1.4	15217	12183	-3034	-19.9	-0.6	1288	1080	-16.1	3719	3104	-16.5	366	242	-24	-6.2	29	28	-3.4	85	64	-24.7	2.4	2.8	0.4	0.6	2.3	1.6	0.3	2.3	2.1	-0.2	
37 - Theft from a Vehicle	0.4	7587	6227	-1360	-17.9	-0.8	14	625	520	-16.8	1894	1557	-17.8	115	101	-14	-12.2	13	7	-46.2	34	19	-44.1	1.5	1.6	0.1	0.2	2.1	1.3	-0.7	1.8	1.2	-0.6
38 - Theft of a Vehicle	3.4	5401	4121	-1280	-23.7	-0.3	10	499	391	-21.6	1312	1096	-16.5	197	165	-32	-16.2	13	15	15.4	36	36	0.0	3.6	4.0	0.4	0.5	2.6	3.8	1.2	2.7	3.3	

Crime Tree Data – Rolling 12 Months to October

Table 3

Victim Based: Under Reported											Offences											Solved Outcomes											Solved Rates %										
Crime Type	% DA 2020	2019	2020	# diff.	% diff.	Z	CSS	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % diff.	2019	2020	# diff.	% diff.	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % diff.	2019	2020	% pt. diff.	Z	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % pt. diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % pt. diff.										
Racial/Religiously Aggravated Offences	1.2	1570	1807	237	15.1	1.6		143	179	25.2	421	548	30.2	263	280	17	6.5	15	16	6.7	58	53	-8.6	16.8	15.5	-1.3	-1.1	10.5	8.9	-1.6	13.8	9.7	-4.1										
Hate Crime HO Definition	2.9	2952	3338	386	13.1	1.8		258	336	30.2	812	966	19.0	363	401	38	10.5	28	21	-25.0	84	88	4.8	12.3	12.0	-0.3	-1.6	10.9	6.3	-4.6	10.3	9.1	-1.2										
Domestic Abuse	100.0	29326	29803	477	1.6	0.3		2534	2362	-6.8	7834	7485	-4.5	3068	3499	431	14.0	246	247	0.4	721	813	12.8	10.5	11.7	1.3	-0.6	9.7	10.5	0.7	9.2	10.9	1.7										
- High Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	2595	2568	-27	-1.0	-1.0		288	175	-39.2	683	597	-12.6	774	738	-36	-4.7	70	53	-24.3	192	189	-1.6	29.8	28.7	-1.1	-0.3	24.3	30.3	6.0	28.1	31.7	3.5										
- Medium Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	5081	4055	-1026	-20.2	-2.3		417	268	-35.7	1342	887	-33.9	983	938	-45	-4.6	68	54	-20.6	247	185	-25.1	19.3	23.1	3.8	-0.4	16.3	20.1	3.8	18.4	20.9	2.5										
- Standard Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	19760	21684	1924	9.7	0.9		1608	1735	7.9	5285	5555	5.1	1116	1641	525	47.0	90	125	38.9	228	390	71.1	5.6	7.6	1.9	-0.1	5.6	7.2	1.6	4.3	7.0	2.7										
- No Risk Assessment	100.0	1890	1496	-394	-20.8	-0.5		221	184	-16.7	524	446	-14.9	195	182	-13	-6.7	18	15	-16.7	54	49	-9.3	10.3	12.2	1.8	0.3	8.1	8.2	0.0	10.3	11.0	0.7										
State Based Crime											Offences											Solved Outcomes											Solved Rates %										
Crime Type	% DA 2020	2019	2020	# diff.	% diff.	Z	CSS	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % diff.	2019	2020	# diff.	% diff.	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % diff.	2019	2020	% pt. diff.	Z	1m Oct 19	1m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 1m % pt. diff.	3m Oct 19	3m Oct 20	Yr on Yr 3m % pt. diff.										
Drug Offences	0.0	5484	7052	1568	28.6	0.6		422	525	24.4	1413	1540	9.0	4788	6454	1666	34.8	390	475	21.8	1372	1396	1.7	87.3	91.5	4.2	0.2	92.4	90.5	-1.9	97.1	90.6	-6.4										
- Trafficking of Drugs	0.0	870	1132	262	30.1	0.8		80	90	12.5	219	274	25.1	592	857	265	44.8	53	68	28.3	154	213	38.3	68.0	75.7	7.7	0.5	66.3	75.6	9.3	70.3	77.7	7.4										
- Possession of Drugs	0.0	4614	5920	1306	28.3	0.6		342	435	27.2	1194	1266	6.0	4196	5597	1401	33.4	337	407	20.8	1218	1183	-2.9	90.9	94.5	3.6	0.1	98.5	93.6	-5.0	102.0	93.4	-8.6										
Possession of Weapons	1.0	1642	1411	-231	-14.1	-1.1		110	102	-7.3	320	375	17.2	1006	817	-189	-18.8	59	61	3.4	188	209	11.2	61.3	57.9	-3.4	-0.3	53.6	59.8	6.2	58.8	55.7	-3.0										
Public Order	8.3	15182	16079	897	5.9	0.7		1233	1365	10.7	4022	4655	15.7	2131	2351	220	10.3	144	175	21.5	515	634	23.1	14.0	14.6	0.6	-0.9	11.7	12.8	1.1	12.8	13.6	0.8										
Miscellaneous Crimes against Society	16.1	3856	3560	-296	-7.7	-0.3		332	288	-13.3	950	915	-3.7	638	789	151	23.7	63	70	11.1	166	192	15.7	16.5	22.2	5.6	1.6	19.0	24.3	5.3	17.5	21.0	3.5										

Crime Severity Score (CSS) - Based on the ONS Crime Severity Score which replaces the Cambridge Harm Index - data are for the 12 months to August 2020, (a total of 21 crime types have been ranked where scores are available).

The CSS excludes proactively generated crime detection by police i.e. State Based Crime, as these offences do not reliably measure harms experienced by the population. Rather, they measure the resources invested in catching offenders.

Yr on Yr 1m %/pt. diff. - compares the month of October 2020 with the month of October 2019.

Yr on Yr 3m %/pt. diff. - compares the three months to October 2020 with the three months to October 2019.

Z Score - Standard Score over 1.96 or under -1.96. Standard Scores are used to calculate the probability of an event occurring within a normal distribution; they are also used to compare two scores from different normal distributions (for example the number of offences per police District). In this document, Standard Scores are calculated in the following way: (current month's figure, minus the average figure per month over the previous three years) divided by the Standard Deviation of the same three year period. Standard Deviation is a measure to determine how spread out figures are from the average or "mean" a large standard deviation indicates the data is widely spread; if small, the data will be more clustered together.