#### Performance and Resources Scrutiny Programme 2021

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

Title of Report:	Update on Homicide Prevention
Classification of Paper:	Official
Agenda Number:	6.0
Chief Officer:	Lead: ACC Andy Prophet
	Supported by: T/ACC Tom Richards
Date Paper was Written:	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2021
Version Number:	2.3
Report from:	Essex Police
Date of Meeting:	26th August 2021
Author on behalf of Chief	D/Supt Lucy Morris
Officer:	
Date of Approval:	2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2021

## 1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the PFCC Performance & Scrutiny meeting with an update on Homicide Prevention activity since the last report to the May 2021 meeting.

## 2.0 Recommendations

To note the contents of the report and the direction of travel in this area.

#### 3.0 Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the activity around Homicide Prevention since the previous Performance & Scrutiny report in May 2021. Essex has been subject to additional scrutiny around Homicide Prevention following the visit from the Policing Minister in November 2020 to the six forces with the highest homicide rates nationally.

#### **OFFICIAL**

The Homicide Prevention Profile looked at 'near miss' methodology to analyse a greater range of incidents, seeking to identify trends and drivers of homicide. A further 3 ½ years of actual homicide data was analysed to assess the key driver behind each of those homicides.

Homicides which have occurred since the Minister visited in November 2020 have roughly followed a similar ratio of key drivers, with Gangs & County Lines, Domestic Abuse and Mental Health being more frequent.

Recent analysis has provided a further deep dive to review both gender and ethnicity in Essex homicides to try to ascertain the reasons behind any potential trends. A reduction in female victimisation may be linked to a reduction in DA homicide. Black victims appear to have a higher rate per 1000 population than white victims, but with small numbers this should be interpreted with a degree of caution.

A number of existing risk assessment tools are utilised by Essex Police to identify those who may be at risk of serious violence or target resources, such as RTM, Op Shield, Op Hampshire and MoRiLE. The most significant development is the Knife Crime Project where analysts have used key risk factors to produce an initial cohort of those most at risk of knife crime and serious violence. This cohort will be approached with a view to working with 'Fearless Futures', funded by Home Office funding through the VVU, for support and intervention.

Strategic Homicide Prevention activity for the five key driver areas is captured and tracked through the Homicide Prevention Board, chaired by ACC Prophet. For Domestic Abuse, the focus of strategic activity is around the early identification of indicators that may lead to escalating violence, a problem-solving approach to the highest risk and a review of stalking.

For Gangs & County Lines, the focus is on identifying young males subject to multiple RUI (Released Under Investigation) for drugs offences, implementation of the Prevent, Protect, Prepare Team (PPPT) and the introduction of the Knife Crime Project.

The key areas of focus for Mental Health are around identifying signs of escalation for individuals who have multiple MH interactions with partners, and identifying intervention opportunities for licensed firearm holders with declining Mental Health.

In relation to the Night Time Economy activity will centre around stakeholder engagement, particularly as we exit lockdown and ensuring high quality data informs emerging threat areas. The education of partners around identifying violence warning signs will be a new area of work as well as continued enforcement of venues who fail to effectively operate within licensing conditions.

Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) continue to show very little direct link to homicide with the majority of OCGs linked to drugs or acquisitive crime. However, identifying OCGs involved in the supply of drugs to County Lines and the violence they subsequently cause will remain a priority.

Governance and oversight around Homicide Prevention remains extensive both internally and externally through Home Office and Policing Minister scrutiny. The Violence &

Vulnerability Unit (VVU) continue to add real value in the partnership space, both through intervention and education initiatives, tackling serious violence.

## 4.0 Introduction/Background

In November 2020 the Policing Minister visited Essex as part of a series of visits to the six forces with the highest homicide rates (Essex being the 6<sup>th</sup> highest).

A detailed Homicide Prevention Profile was produced in October 2020 which provided an analytical assessment of both homicide and 'near miss' events, reviewing over 3000 incidents. The prevention profile was aimed at identifying the drivers and trends that could assist with homicide prevention. The analysis showed a direct correlation between population size and homicide rates, with Essex being on the national trendline.

The Homicide Prevention Profile identified 61 recommendations across a range of different areas including intelligence, analysis, and key driver areas, of which 46 have since been achieved and closed.

Further analysis reviewed 3 ½ years of homicide data, applying professional judgement to identify the key driver area. This led to five key drivers of homicide being identified in Essex (Domestic Abuse, Gangs & County Lines, Mental Health, Night Time Economy and OCGs).

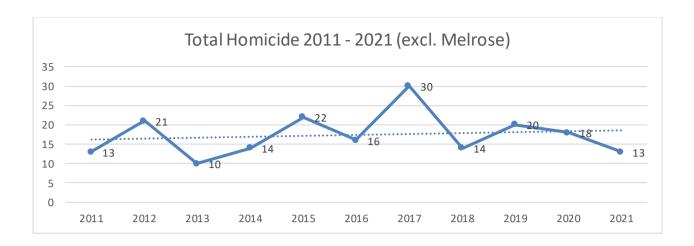
Homicide Prevention remains a clear priority for Essex Police with significant governance and oversight. Since the last report, the Chief Constable has attended the Home Office Homicide Summit in March 2021 with five other forces, and then subsequently hosted an Essex Homicide Seminar in May 2021, keeping focus and momentum in this important area.

This paper will provide an overview of more recent homicide analysis and updates on preventative activity in all the key driver areas.

### 5.0 Current Work and Performance

#### 5.1 Overview of Performance

The homicide rate in Essex has continued to remain relatively stable over the past few years with an average of approximately 1-2 homicides a month. The annual rate shows some variation with numbers fluctuating from 30 in 2017, to 14 in 2018, 20 in 2019 and 18 in 2020. This evidences that with low numbers of offences there needs to be a degree of caution in looking for data trends.



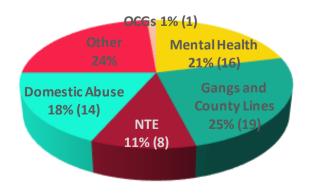
During the recent Policing Minister visit on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the Home Office complimented Essex on our consistent performance on solving homicides, with on average only 20% of Essex offences on the Home Office Homicide Index remaining unsolved (persons not charged).

Our extensive, professional approach to homicide investigation ensures we maximise opportunities to solve homicide cases at the earliest opportunity. We utilise a range of specialist skills and tactics, exploiting the full extent of custody periods to secure charges at the earliest opportunity, reducing the likelihood of bail.

Essex Police have also worked tirelessly to ensure data accuracy in this area. We understand in detail the reasons behind every unsolved homicide since 2017 and have ready access to data and information in this area. Strong Crime Data Accuracy ensures that homicides are recorded in line with counting rules and cancelled where they meet the criteria of Additional Verifiable Information. Improvements in our Crimesec 7 Home Office reporting processes ensure that our crime recording data is in line with that held by the Home Office.

#### 5.2 Key drivers of Homicide (2017 – 2020)

As previously reported, the analysis of 3 ½ years of homicide data identified 5 key drivers of homicide in the ratios shown in the pie chart below.



#### 2021 Homicide Offences

(as of 13/7/2021)

<b>Key Driver Area</b>	No.	Ratio
Domestic Abuse	3	23%
Gangs and County Lines	3	23%
Mental Health	2	15%
NTE	0	0%
OCGs	0	0%
Other	5	38%
Total	13	

The table details the breakdown of homicides in 2021 and whilst numbers are low it would seem to roughly mirror the previous ratios amongst the key driver areas. A more detailed breakdown of these homicides is included at Appendix 1.

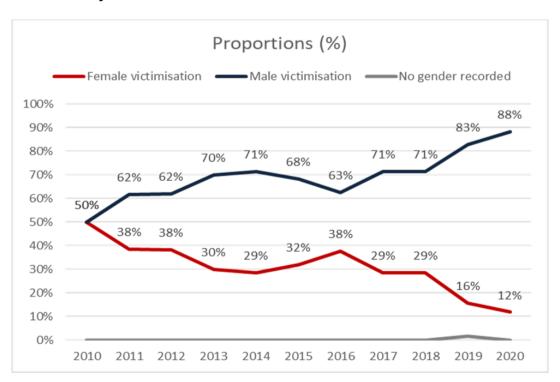
We continue to see however a complex picture of overlapping drivers where it can be difficult to ascertain which is the primary driver, particularly where declining Mental Health in a Domestic setting has resulted in homicide. Of note there have been a number of interfamilial homicides where an adult child has killed a parent during lockdown (Op Northumbria, Op Boston) which is a trend that has been identified nationally.

The 'other' category contains a wide range of incidents, including unprovoked arguments, street violence and ASB, however it is noted that more broadly drugs often feature as a precursor to these incidents. A full review of the Homicide Prevention Profile will be conducted in Autumn 2021 which will include a review of the driver areas to ascertain if any new areas should be introduced.

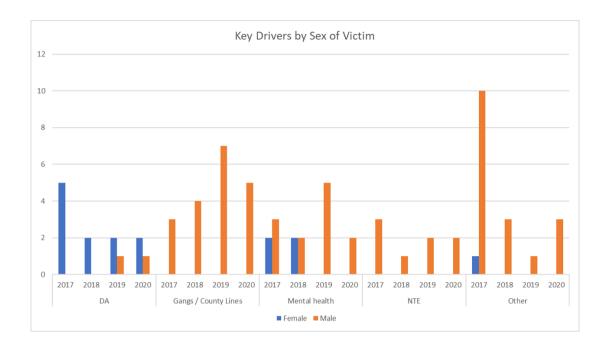
## 5.3 Recent Analysis of Gender and Ethnicity Data

As a result of discussions at the Policing Minister led Home Office Homicide Summit in March 2021 focusing on both gender and ethnicity, Essex analysts conducted a deep dive review of the Essex data in these areas.

### 5.3.1 Gender Analysis



The above graph shows the proportion of male and female homicide victims since 2010. Since 2016 there has been a shift towards a much higher proportion of male victims. In order to understand why this might have occurred, gender data has been compared against the known key driver areas since 2017, with the following results:



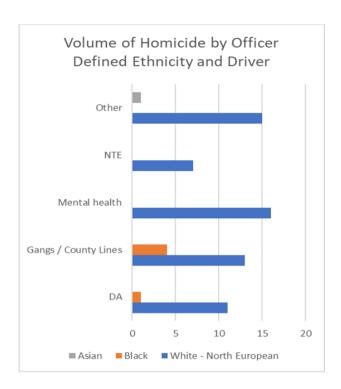
This graph shows a declining picture of female Domestic Abuse victims, compared with an increase of male Gangs & County Lines victims as a proportion since 2017. This would suggest that this shift could be attributed to Essex Police's relentless focus on DA since 2015/6 and our introduction of specialist DA teams.

## 5.3.2 Ethnicity Analysis

Analysis of ethnicity of homicide victims in Essex indicated a higher rate per 1000 population of black victims than white-North European victims. However, it must be noted that numbers of black victims are incredibly low. One less black victim would halve the rates for each of the last three years. Comparatively, the rate of change for white victims is far less easily affected. In 2020 for example there were 10 white victims, with an additional 15 victims being required to change the rate from 0.01 to 0.02.

Ethnicity: Rates per 1000 population				
Year	White - North European	Black	Asian	Middle Eastern
2015	0.01	0.09	0.00	0.00
2016	0.01	0.09	0.02	0.00
2017	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00
2018	0.01	0.06	0.00	0.00
2019	0.01	0.06	0.00	0.00
2020	0.01	0.06	0.00	0.00

When comparing key homicide drivers against ethnicity it shows that the majority of black victims are in the Gangs & County Lines driver area, but this still only equates to four victims over the 3 ½ year reporting period.



#### 5.4 Risk Assessment Tools

#### 5.4.1 Current Risk Assessment Tools

The Policing Minister has taken a keen interest in what risk assessment tools are being used to attempt to identify those at risk of serious violence or being involved in the use of serious violence, that may in turn prevent homicides.

A brief summary of the risk assessment tools currently in use is included here, with many having been described in more detail in previous PFCC reports. A more detailed description is provided in Appendix 2 if required.

**Risk Terrain Modelling** - RTM anticipates places that may attract criminality, identifying where new crime incidents may occur so resources can be deployed accordingly. A successful pilot in Southend is being rolled out across seven districts with Op Grip funding, supported by VVU and CSPs.

**Op Shield** - uses recency, frequency and gravity to identify those at highest risk of Domestic Abuse, allowing interventions aiming to prevent serious violence.

**Op Hampshire** – uses the Hampshire Matrix scoring system to risk assess and score Gangs and County Lines, informing Serious Violence Team taskings.

**MoRiLE** - Management of Risk in Law Enforcement uses SOC system tasking to score OCGs and the level of organisational confidence in the response, allowing the most dangerous to be proactively targeted.

#### 5.4.2 Developing Risk Assessment Tools

### **Knife Crime Project – 'Fearless Futures'**

Data scientists within the Performance Analysis Unit have developed a process to identify those most at risk of knife crime and serious violence. The project is using four years of data on key risk factors to produce an initial cohort of 2500 individuals most at risk of knife crime and serious violence, which is then filtered down using additional factors and professional judgement. It is a predictive model, based on previous offending behaviour. Offences used to identify the cohort include all community violence (non DA), as well as knife crime and serious violence being specifically used in the modelling. It has been verified by Essex University as being a reliable evidence-based process that is statistically accurate.

Once the smaller cohort of those most likely to perpetrate serious violence has been identified, appropriate interventions can be made.

The trial is starting in Chelmsford, Maldon, Uttlesford area and involves an introductory letter to individuals on the cohort expressing a desire to work with them in a positive supportive way, identifying their individual needs and supporting them away from criminality. The intention is that approaches are persistent, in a variety of settings, looking for an appropriate time when the individual wishes to seek support.

Interventions are provided by 'Fearless Futures' through Violence & Vulnerability funding, and may include housing support, mentoring, or drug and alcohol support. This initiative was launched on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021, going live on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

#### **RUI Cohort**

It was raised through ACC Prophet's Homicide Prevention board, that recent learning from Metropolitan Police Homicide data identified that a high number of their homicide victims had been Released Under Investigation (RUI'd) multiple times for different drugs offences, suggesting a possible link to drugs gangs but no overall coordinated approach. It was therefore tasked to the Performance Analysis Unit to review data where the same offender is subject to RUI multiple times for drugs offences in Essex. The intention is to look for trends and intervention opportunities and the strong use of bail rather than RUI.

An initial cohort is being built by the analysts and will include ethnicity to identify if any groups are more likely to be subject to multiple RUIs. This work is at the early stages with reviews of the scoring mechanism ongoing to ensure it is appropriate.

#### 5.4.3 Future Potential Tools

#### **Analytics 4 Everyone**

Early development of our A4E dashboards have focused on areas such as response times and fraud. However as more dashboards are added there will be the potential for quick time analysis to be made available to all that can assist in identifying risk more quickly and providing an appropriate policing response to reduce escalating violence.

#### 5.5 Key Preventative activity around homicide drivers

The Homicide Prevention Board, led by ACC Prophet has identified the key areas of strategic activity for each of the homicide driver areas, in conjunction with the Strategic lead. This has allowed a more focused strategic action tracker for Homicide Prevention as shown at Appendix 3. Updates on key strategic activity are included in each driver area below:

#### 5.5.1 Domestic Abuse

Early identification of indicators that may lead to an escalation of violence in DA offences

Op shield 2 is designed to provide early identification of indicators that could lead to an escalation of violence. The inclusion of DA on the Essex Police control strategy means that it is subject to further scrutiny and analytical support. Analytical products at Force Tasking highlight the high repeat and high-risk perpetrators and victims for tasking activity and will soon include the high repeat standard risk victims, which is an area of concern. The top ten highest frequency DA victims/perpetrators in each LPA will be considered at Tasking to review policing activity and look to allocate resources, assets or funding for disruption or intervention.

The secondary risk assessment process for DA has also now been centralised to ensure a consistent approach through the C&PP Central Referral Unit, linking in with partners. This ensures that risks are identified and properly graded at the earliest opportunity.

Problem solving approach to the Highest Risk cohort of victims and perpetrators

The introduction of the DA Problem Solving Teams (DAPSTs) has focused efforts on a problem-solving approach for DA. A performance matrix is being produced which includes an algorithm to track progress of DA victims and measure the success of the teams, aiming

to reduce repeat occurrences by working closely and supporting victims over a longer period.

The teams work closely with partners to help close gaps that may have been a previous blocker to supporting prosecutions, such as housing support, mental health and social care. A number of case studies have highlighted the significant success of the teams to date, including a victim from the Gypsy Romany Traveller community who was terrified of repercussions having suffered years of abuse. With the support of the DA PST she found the strength to remove herself from an abusive situation and support a prosecution. Other victims report finally achieving a sense of empowerment with the support they have been provided with.

Review of stalking offences and identification of cases at risk of escalation to violent offences

Essex Police is ahead of other regional forces around the use of Stalking Protection Orders (6 in place 6 in development), however it is acknowledged there is more to do in this area. DCI Steve Jennings has been appointed as the new lead for Stalking & Harassment, reporting to Ch Supt Andy Mariner as the DA lead. An action plan is being developed to focus activity.

### 5.5.2 Gangs & County Lines

## Identify Young Males linked to multiple drugs investigations

This area has already been described in the Risk Assessment Tools section at 5.4.2. It is a developing piece of work to create an RUI cohort for intervention work. Whilst in the early stages of assessing a scoring process and producing a cohort, there is a likely to be a clear cross over to the Gangs & County Lines work of the Serious Violence Unit (SVU) and the potential for intervention from the Violence & Vulnerability Unit (VVU).

The SVU is continuing to look for opportunities to charge and remand suspects at the earliest opportunity with 89% of all SVU Op Raptor subjects Remanded in Custody in the last 12 months compared with 19% in the previous 12 months, thus reducing the risk of offending whilst out under investigation.

#### Implement the PPPT Team

Development of the new Prevent, Prepare and Protect Team within the SVU is another key area of Strategic Activity. This aims to provide an intrusive and robust multi-agency approach for those at the highest risk of serious violence, preventing and diverting vulnerable people away from criminality.

Recruitment is underway for the team that was agreed as part of the Force Growth Programme. At full strength the multi-agency team will consist of a Detective Inspector, Detective Sergeant and 3 Police Constables, working alongside partners from Youth Offending, Probation and local authorities including gangs workers and drugs and alcohol workers.

#### **Knife Crime Diversion/Exit Referral Pathway**

The partnership trial commencing in Chelmsford with Fearless Futures, using predictive analysis to identify and divert those at risk of serious violence away from knife crime is now underway (as described under Risk Assessment Tools section 5.4.2). This is clearly key strategic activity for homicide prevention and will be monitored through ACC Prophet's Homicide Prevention board as well as other Governance structures.

#### 5.5.3 Mental Health

Identifying signs of escalation and increasing risk of violence in individuals who have multiple interactions with police and partners in relation to Mental Heath

Essex Police have been working hard with partners to seek opportunities to improve the overall provision of Mental Health support and look at potential pitfalls that could lead to a MH crisis or escalation of violence.

The leaky pipe event held in late 2020 between key Mental Health partners identified a number of areas for improvement. This included:

- Regularly reviewing incidents to identify earlier touchpoints for MH support (monthly partnership meetings are now in place)
- Gaining a better understanding of each partnership role
- Reviewing Places of Safety in Essex and seek to commission more
- Reviews of Sec 135

 Reviews of Sec 136 – seeking to identify any earlier intervention opportunities prior to MH Crisis, such as the use of 111 'Option 2' a 24/7 MH Crisis support line.

The Chief Operating Officer of EPUT has agreed that the Governance of the action plan coming from this event should be led by Health as the primary agency. This is a significant step change from recent years where the Police have been driving the agenda and attempting to coordinate partnership activity. The College of Policing have assessed that with regards to MH partnership working, Essex Police are far ahead of most forces nationally.

In addition to the Leaky Pipe activity Essex Police are working with Essex County Council to lead on Homicide Prevention events. This will include a deep dive review of MH homicide cases to ascertain learning and intervention opportunities that can be applied to future cases.

## Identify intervention opportunities for Licenced Firearm holders with Mental Health concerns

The Head of Firearms within OPC has already identified the risk of both suicide and homicide linked to licensed firearms holders. The Homicide Prevention Board has also recognised this as an issue and D/Supt Elliott Judge as Mental Health lead will also support OPC in this area.

Initial research has identified that in the past 12 months there have been 5 suicides or homicides involving licensed firearms holders. Having a role as a carer, appears to be a consistent theme in these cases.

In the last year, OPC have introduced improved processes for firearms licence applications which now includes a medical screening questionnaire. This seeks to identify any health concerns which could affect an applicant's suitability for a firearms licence.

A pilot initiative is due to commence in September 2021, led by OPC, to deliver training to approximately 10 000 GPs and Healthcare staff in South and Mid Essex during their 'Time to Learn' sessions. The intention of the training is to explain their critical role in identifying mental health concerns that might suggest that an individual is not suitable to hold a firearm, and once spotting those concerns, how to flag them to the Police. We are not aware of any forces currently delivering a similar input to healthcare professionals and it is being closely monitored by peers and partners, including the BASC (British Association for Shooting and Conservation). It will also be subject to evaluation by Anglia Ruskin University.

#### 5.5.5 Organised Crime Groups

## **Identifying and Tackling OCGs supplying County Lines**

The profile of homicides in Essex is not seen to directly link to OCGs. Our profile differs significantly from GMP, Merseyside and even the Metropolitan Police, hence why we have only attributed one homicide in 3 ½ years directly to an OCG. Mapped OCGs in Essex are rarely linked directly to violence, with most being linked to drugs, or acquisitive crime.

The main focus therefore remains on identifying the link between OCGs and county lines operating in Essex where their level of violence does contribute to our overall homicide rate.

It may be in due course that OCGs are removed as one of our key drivers of homicide and this is consumed within the county lines activity, but we will retain the direct OCG focus until the next full homicide prevention profile is produced.

#### 5.5.6 NTE

There is a clear strategic plan led by Ch Supt Simon Anslow around Night Time Economy violence, which is particularly mindful of the situation as lockdown eases.

## Community Stakeholder Engagement Plan - Partners, Stakeholders, Media, Comms

Engagement with key stakeholders in the NTE community is the first strand of the strategic plan, bringing partners together to help prevent violence in the NTE. This includes ensuring our media and communications are appropriate and complimentary. With the roadmap out of COVID lockdown, Essex Police will be standing up 3<sup>rd</sup> sector support such as street pastors and SOS buses, reinvigorating pre-COVID good practice.

# Data - High quality data and intelligence to be fed to Community Policing Teams to inform response and deal with emerging threats

Ensuring that NTE data is accurate is essential to developing an appropriate response. By sharing accurate data with the right teams and partners, they can promptly deal with emerging threats of violence. The NTE dashboard on Power Bi, allows analysts to drill in and scrutinise where issues are occurring on a District basis. By identifying emerging issues early enough, appropriate measures can be put in place to reduce the risk of escalation to serious violence.

Education – Dissemination of educational material to local authorities and thirdparty support networks on recognising the early warning signs of potential violence

This is a developing area with the focus on helping partners to identify the warning signs of violence, to allow for action and intervention opportunities. The aim is to ensure statutory, voluntary and other stakeholder partners are able to recognise signs of vulnerability and know how to bring it to the attention of relevant agencies. This work is being led through existing CSP partnerships and NTE groups to drive this forward.

#### Enforcement - Robust enforcement of NTE locations linked to violence

Robust enforcement remains a clear priority for policing in order to ensure licensed premises are complying with requirements to reduce the risk of violence. Premises that fail to do so will be subject to enforcement and there have been a number of examples where Essex Police have taken prompt action where a failure to comply with licence conditions has been a contributory factor in a violent incident. A recent example of a closure in Brentwood evidences Police working with the local authority licensing team resulting in an immediate licence suspension within days of a violent incident.

### 5.6 Violence and Vulnerability Unit (VVU)

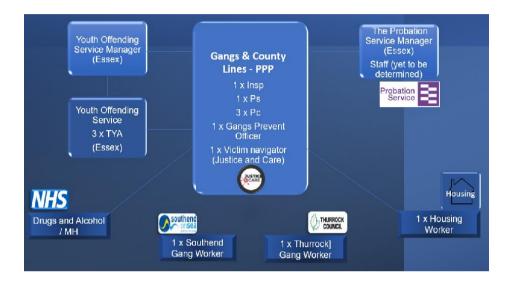
The Violence and Vulnerability Unit work alongside the Serious Violence Unit and continue to be involved in a wide variety of interventions which aim to reduce serious violence.

Operation Grip is the forces 'place' strategy to reduce community violence. It involves weekly analytical work to identify the locations where the most harm is caused and policing those locations in a variety of ways. It is incorporated into the VVU to ensure multi-agency engagement and activity in the harm spots. This approach has Home Office approval backed with academic support (Cambridge) for measuring effectiveness. This operation went live on 28th June 2021 and identified 67 harm spots in the seven major towns across all LPA's, with approximately 550 interactions each week.

The VVU equally operate 'place based' localities interventions. Focusing on locations where the people who commit the most serious violence are located, and often linked to areas of deprivation, the VVU work with CSPs to provide specific interventions in those localities, which meet the needs of that particular location. Projects include access to youth workers, outreach job centres, or drug and alcohol diversion programmes. 11 wards were involved in

activity last year, and a further 13 wards having been identified for targeted work in this financial year.

The development of the Prevent, Protect, Prepare Team will provide a stronger multiagency approach to tackling serious violence.



They will work with the Violence and Vulnerability Unit (VVU) and other key partners to give a professional and consistent safeguarding approach to children and vulnerable adults exploited by Gangs and County Lines in Essex, and help to deliver the significant intervention work overseen by the PFCC.

Op Trespass continues to deliver safeguarding training to Police and partners around gangs and exploitation, with another round of training about to commence. This includes 'Spot the Signs' training on 'cuckooing' which has been delivered to partners and specific business areas to try to upskill those who may be in a position to identify people at risk of being caught up in Gangs and County Lines.

Other positive initiatives include the 'Our County' social media campaign, which was a county-wide campaign helping young people to understand the risk of exploitation and how to avoid risky situations. It is in the process of being reviewed by an independent market research company and through an online survey with Essex schoolchildren.

Outputs from the SVU remain strong with the highlights from Q1 2021/22 being:

Warrants Executed	47	People Safeguarded	22
Arrests	130	Youth Gang Injunctions Obtained	15
Suspects Remanded	79	Adult Gang Injunctions Pending	11
Cash seized	£183 000	Court Orders shutting down County Line Numbers	15

## 6.0 <u>Implications (Issues) – Ongoing Scrutiny</u>

The Policing Minister has confirmed that he will continue to visit the top six homicide forces and will visit Essex Police again in 12 months time. This focus is therefore likely to remain.

Our internal Governance processes provide oversight of the collective work around Homicide prevention, through the bi-monthly Homicide Prevention Board, quarterly COG updates and quarterly PFCC reporting.

## 7.0 Future Work/Development and Expected Outcome

### 7.1 Strategic Activity

The Homicide Prevention Action tracker which was created to manage the Homicide Prevention Profile recommendations has been adapted to refocus around the key strategic activity in each of the homicide driver areas. This allows for the most important work in each of the drivers to be subject to regular scrutiny at ACC Prophet's Homicide Board.

#### 7.2 Homicide Data

Significant progress has been made around provision of a single data set for homicide. The Performance Analysis Unit have developed a draft monthly report that will include key information that is relevant for homicide prevention, including gender and ethnicity. Major Crime will provide PAU with a professional judgement assessment of the key driver for each homicide which can then be retained by PAU as part of the central single data set

#### 7.3 Sobriety Bracelets

During the recent visit from the Policing Minister in July 2021, a discussion was had about the use of 'sobriety bracelets'. Not yet utilised in Essex at the time of writing, the Alcohol Abstinence and Monitoring Requirement (AAMR) allows courts to impose a requirement

where an offender has to abstain from alcohol for up to 120 days on sentencing. The offender is required to wear an alcohol monitoring tag to ensure compliance as part of a Community Order or a Suspended Sentence Order.

There is clear potential use in both Domestic Abuse and Night Time Economy settings in cases where alcohol is an identified trigger for serious violence. Chief Superintendent Simon Anslow is meeting with the Probation Service to understand how they intend to implement them in Essex and how Essex Police can assist in identifying which cases might be suitable to pursue AAMR.

#### 7.4 Mental Health work with Partners

Continued work with partners following the 'Leaky Pipe' event will focus on potential intervention opportunities or signs to identify an escalation of violence.

At the recent Policing Minister meeting with Essex Police in July, the Home Office committed to consider how they can best support forces on Mental Health issues linked to Homicide Prevention. The Policing Minister acknowledged the need for partners to help drive much of this agenda. There is scope for the PFCC's office to facilitate bringing partners together to review our current position around Mental Health and the risk of violence, with a view to sharing any findings with the Home Office and seeking specific support at Ministerial Level.

#### 8.0 Risks/Mitigation

None identified

#### 9.0 Equality and/or Human Rights Implications

There are no identified impacts on equality, diversity or human rights.

#### 10.0 Health and Safety Implications

None

## OFFICIAL

## **APPENDIX 1**

Investigation	Date	Location	Driver	Outcome
Op Croquet	30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 20	Grays	Street Violence	Await CPS advice
Op Liquid	11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 20	Colchester	County Lines (Suffolk)	Solved – Charged
Op Marler	29 <sup>th</sup> Dec 20	Colchester	Drugs fuelled/debt	Solved – Charged
Op Macaw	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 21	Rayleigh	Domestic Abuse	Solved - Charged
Op Corby	17 <sup>th</sup> Jan 21	Colchester	Domestic Abuse/ Mental Health	Solved - Charged
Op Floret	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 21	Leigh on Sea	Gangs	Unsolved (Self Defence)
Op Stockbury	10 <sup>th</sup> Apr 21	Leigh on Sea	Mental Health (Domestic setting)	Solved - Coroner's Inquest
Op Stockholm	16 <sup>th</sup> Apr 21	Waltham Abbey	Dispute/Street Violence	Solved – Charged
Op Fascia	24 <sup>th</sup> Apr 21	Jaywick	Drugs/Street violence	Solved – Charged
Op Grebe	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 21	Basildon	ASB/Street violence	Solved – Charged
Op Northumbria	21 <sup>st</sup> Jun 21	Grays	Mental Health/ Domestic Abuse	Solved - Charged
Op Boston	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jul 21	Southend	Domestic Abuse	Unsolved (as of 13/7/21)
Op Zambia	11 <sup>th</sup> Jul 21	Basildon	County Lines	Unsolved (as of 13/7/21)

#### **APPENDIX 2**

#### **Risk Terrain Modelling**

RTM diagnoses and communicates environmental attractors of crime incidents. Information products can be used to anticipate places that will be most suitable for illegal behaviour, identify where new crime incidents will emerge and/or cluster, develop place-based interventions, strategically and tactically allocate resources, and prioritize efforts to mitigate crime risks.

The Southend Hotspot Pilot has had full evaluation and did reduce violence in the areas patrolled in. This reduction was seen for 48 hours before crime levels began to rise again.

At the same time RTM software was used in Basildon to look at a problem orientated policing approach, looking at designing out crime. This was also a success.

As a result, EP has now rolled this approach out across seven identified districts with the use of the Op Grip Home Office Funding for 2021/22. This has Performance Analysis Unit, Community Safety Partnership and Violence & Vulnerability Unit support and will be led by the Serious Violence Unit.

#### **Op Shield**

The objective of Op Shield is to directly affect those at the highest risk of serious violence through Domestic Abuse. The Strathclyde Model uses recency, frequency and gravity to inform their victim and suspect cohorts, to then apply the appropriate focus to prevent further offending. The introduction of the DA Proactive Teams allows for greater targeting of those high risk individuals.

#### **Op Hampshire**

Op Hampshire aims to inform our tasking process to ensure we are targeting those who pose the greatest threat of serious violence through gangs and county lines.

Criminal Gangs Analysts use a scoring system known as the Hampshire Matrix which inputs 42 fields of data to risk assess and score Gangs and County Lines. This system is used across the Eastern Region allowing us to understand our regional footing in terms of Threat, Harm and Risk. It also identifies high risk gang nominals and potential victims of exploitation, which are all flagged and then tasked against through our Serious Violence Teams.

#### **MoRiLE**

MoRiLE (Management of Risk in Law Enforcement) is the new SOC system tasking approach to scoring Organised Crime and the level of organisational confidence in the response. Used for OCGs, it has potential to be expanded to other areas of business.

## OFFICIAL

MoRiLE seeks to identify those most dangerous organised crime groups and individuals to ensure we are proactively targeting them.

## **APPENDIX 3**



## Homicide Prevention – Strategic Activity

	Driver Area	Strategic Activity
1	Domestic Abuse	Learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews
2	Domestic Abuse	Early identification of indicators that may lead to an escalation of violence in DA offences
3	Domestic Abuse	Problem solving approach to the Highest Risk cohort of victims and perpetrators
4	Domestic Abuse	Review of stalking offences and identification of cases at risk of escalation to violent offences
5	OCGs	Identifying and Tackling OCGs supplying County Lines
6 Gangs & County Lines Identify Young Males linked to multiple drugs investigation		Identify Young Males linked to multiple drugs investigations
7	Gangs & County Lines	Implement the PPPT Team
8	Gangs & County Lines	Knife Crime Diversion/Exit Referral Pathway
9	Mental Health	Identifying signs of escalation and increasing risk of violence in individuals who have multiple interactions with police and partners in relation to Mental Heath

## OFFICIAL

	10	Mental Health	Identify opportunities with partners for funding and resources to make more Section 136 beds available
11		Mental Health	Identify intervention opportunities for Licenced Firearm holders with Mental Health concerns
	12	Night Time Economy	Community Stakeholder Engagement Plan - Partners, Stakeholders, Media, Comms
	13	Night Time Economy	Data - High quality data and intelligence to be fed to Community Policing Teams to inform response and deal with emerging threats
	14	Night Time Economy	Education – Dissemination of educational material to local authorities and third-party support networks on recognising the early warning signs of potential violence