

## Performance and Resources Scrutiny Programme 2023

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

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Crime Prevention Strategy Report</b>
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<b>Chief Officer:</b>	<b>ACC Mariner</b>
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<b>Report from:</b>	<b>Essex Police</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>27/06/2023</b>
<b>Author on behalf of Chief Officer:</b>	<b>A/Insp 290 Christian Denning</b>
<b>Date of Approval:</b>	<b>04/06/2023 ACC Mariner</b>

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

This report provides an update for Q3 and Q4 (October 2022 - March 2023) in relation to the progress of the Essex Crime Prevention Strategy 2021-25 (herein 'the Strategy') which was launched on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### 2.0 Recommendations

No recommendations

### 3.0 Executive Summary

The Strategy prioritises crime prevention activity in 14 key areas. Each of these areas has a thematic force lead, responsible for appropriate oversight, review, and focus to ensure appropriate action takes place within each thematic area, working to improve our response and ultimately prevent crime.

Covid-19 has undoubtedly led to significant challenges within many areas of policing. Q2 2021/22 took us through the government roadmap to a stage where all restrictions were lifted whilst Q3 saw the start of us facing post-lockdown challenges to policing. These challenges and our responses to those challenges continued into Q3 and Q4 of 2022/23. However, we will soon be able to make a straight comparison for year-on-

year changes as we move forward, away from the lockdown segments of previous years.

With the introduction of the new strategy, and in line with the partnership approach to crime prevention we, along with partners, will also be reporting to Safer Essex who have overall governance of the new strategy approach.

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

This report provides a structured update in relation to each of the 14 strands of the Crime Prevention Strategy 2021-25:

- **Insights** to show/illustrate data insights for rolling 12 months.
- **Delivery achieved October - March 2022/23:** to show/illustrate work completed towards the thematic area within the time period.
- **Delivery scheduled April - September 2023:** to show/illustrate planned work towards the thematic area within the time period.

The report also includes updates in relation to any significant issues/challenges faced which do not sit within the 14 strands of the strategy but are of relevance and therefore worthy of note.

#### 5.0 **Current Work and Performance**

Broken down into Thematic strand updates below:

##### 5.1 **Serious Violence**

##### 5.1.1 **Knife Crime**

**Thematic lead: Detective Superintendent Gary Biddle**  
**Insights:**

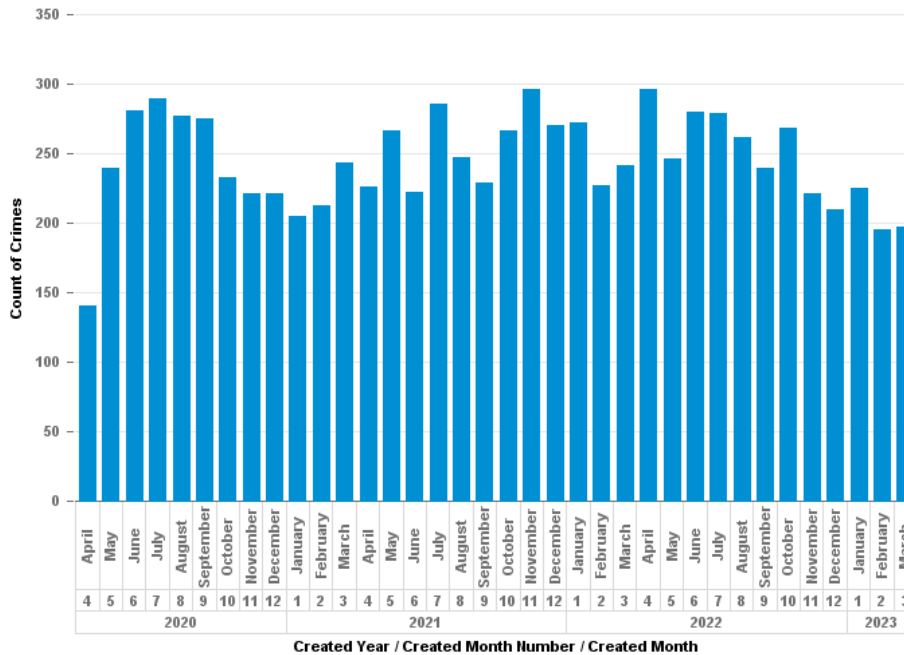
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
3048	2918	-130	-4.3%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' year vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1989	2918	929	+46.7%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



The above statistics show a positive improving picture. Although the 2019 to end of March 2023 statistics show a significant difference, we know this was the result of changes to knife crime recording practices in 2019, that increased knife crime offences by 60%. This is a result of recording practices and not a real term increase, something that effected all forces. What the statistics do show is a downward trend of knife crime offences in Essex, particularly in Essex over the past 12 months.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - March 2022:**

- **Knife Crime Reduction Board** - The development and implementation of a dedicated board which is attended by LPA’s, LPSU, Media, CYP’s, SVU and PAU, and is designed to review data, devise reduction plans and share good practice between the commands. The board works to ensure there is a consistent approach across the force in reducing knife crime.
- **Media Packages** - A bespoke media package with training materials was developed and delivered through the VVU. The bespoke package was aimed at parents regarding the signs when children are involved in knife crime and the support that is available to parents and children. Training packages were produced for all schools across the county, designed to target children involved in knife crime and signpost the support that is available.
- **Dedicated operations** - Dedicated operations were developed in each LPA to target nominals that are habitual knife carriers and are causing harm. OP Mantis in South LPA, OP Tarantula in West and OP Silk in the North LPA.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Handheld Scanning Devices** - Continued engagement with Lassen Peak, to develop and implement a pilot using new technology to assist in the identification of knife carriers. This looks like a handheld scanning device that will assist in stop and search. Essex have been chosen as a pilot force to test the new technology.

- **Knife Crime Dashboard** - A new knife crime dashboard is currently being developed by PAU. This will provide up to date information to LPA regarding crime levels, repeat suspects/victims and hotspots, to assist in the tackling of knife crime.
- **Essex Police Internet Page** - Development of a dedicated Essex Police Internet page that provides details and information on support networks aimed at parents, victims and offenders. This will be supported by leaflet drops across the community and a communications strategy designed to reduce knife crime offending.

5.1.2 Rape

**Thematic Lead: Detective Superintendent Neil Pudney**  
**Insights:**

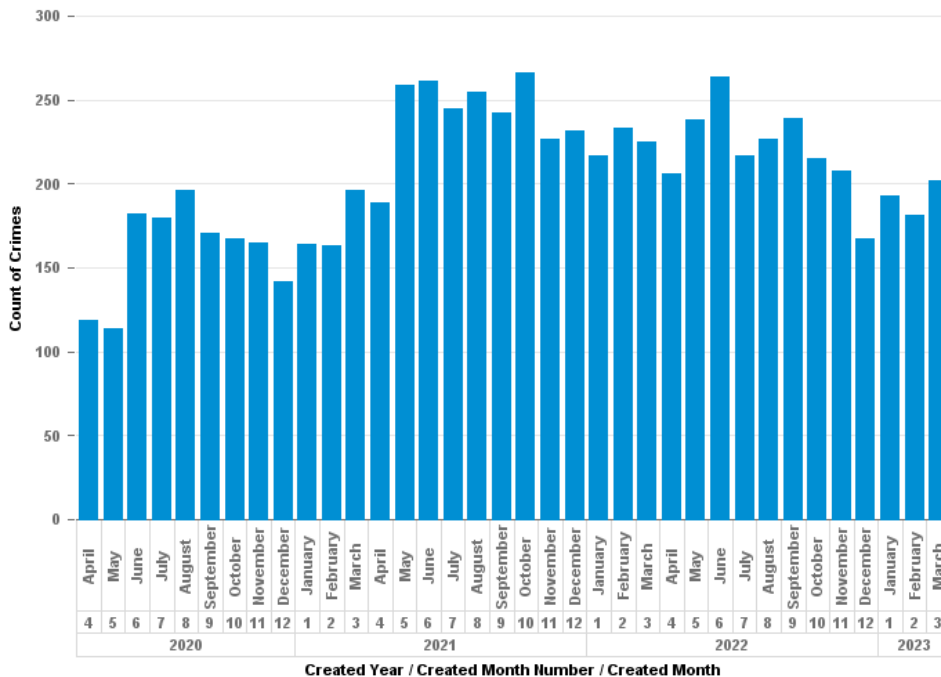
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
2851	2557	-294	-10.3%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' year vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
2045	2557	512	+25.0%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Rape performance continues to improve with a 66% increase in solved outcomes (103 rapes solved over rolling 12 months to April which equates to 41 extra offences). A significant reduction in reported rape has also been delivered during this period with 423 LESS offences. Solved outcomes for other sexual offences have also increased by 12.5% which equates to an extra 52 offences. This is important to note as will have contributed to rape prevention and escalation from non-contact to contact offences. Continued focus remains on the consistent high-quality investigations.

The College of Policing have recognised the early advice process Essex have with CPS as national best practice and this is now recorded within their knowledge bank. One area of concern for the CPS is the quality of sexual offence investigations outside PPIU. LPA Commanders have been contacted to consider providing a supervisory resource to work alongside the RASSO gatekeeper to improve the file quality for these offences.

### **Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **Op Ratify** – Bi-monthly repeat offender process, using data to identify high harm repeat offenders and target them through a 4P Plan and Achilles heel approach. One notable success was by the CSE Proactive Investigation Team on MIAH who's OCG score reduced dramatically from 50 to Zero, as a result of this targeting and the use of a Sexual Risk Order.
- **South PPIU Resilience Team** – Created to take ownership of, and reduce the number of repeat victims, many with complex needs. To understand victims' needs, signposting support services for multi-agency focused intervention, analysing data and creating bespoke trigger plans to manage them. One individual reported 8 rapes and had complex needs with alcohol addiction. Due to intervention work of the Resilience Team and partners there has been no further rape reports.
- **Targeted Joint Prevention Activity** - Op Jaguar engagement events in colleges and university on rape, consent, dangers of alcohol, drink spiking and support networks. Op Sled, a NTE focused campaign identifying high risk locations and victim profiles. Has contributed to 66% reduction in rape offences compared to previous year.

### **Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Investigation Quality and Consistency** – Due to very young and an inexperienced PPIU workforce across all ranks, so there will be an absolute focus on applying principles of the PPIU Standard Operating Procedure, to maintain performance and solved outcomes. In the last 8 months, 12 offenders have been sentenced to over 185 years' imprisonment. Jailing offenders to prevent further offending, building on the work of the last year.
- **POET Team** – Enhancing our use of preventative orders, particularly now the threshold for burden of proof has changed to balance of probabilities through joint working with the new POET team will be an important area to prevent crime and disrupt offenders.
- **Share Learning** – From successful initiatives, such as Op Sled and Op Jaguar, there will be a drive to implement these operations across other districts to deliver a county wide impact.

**5.1.3 Night-Time Economy (NTE)**

**Thematic Lead: Superintendent Sharn Taylor:**

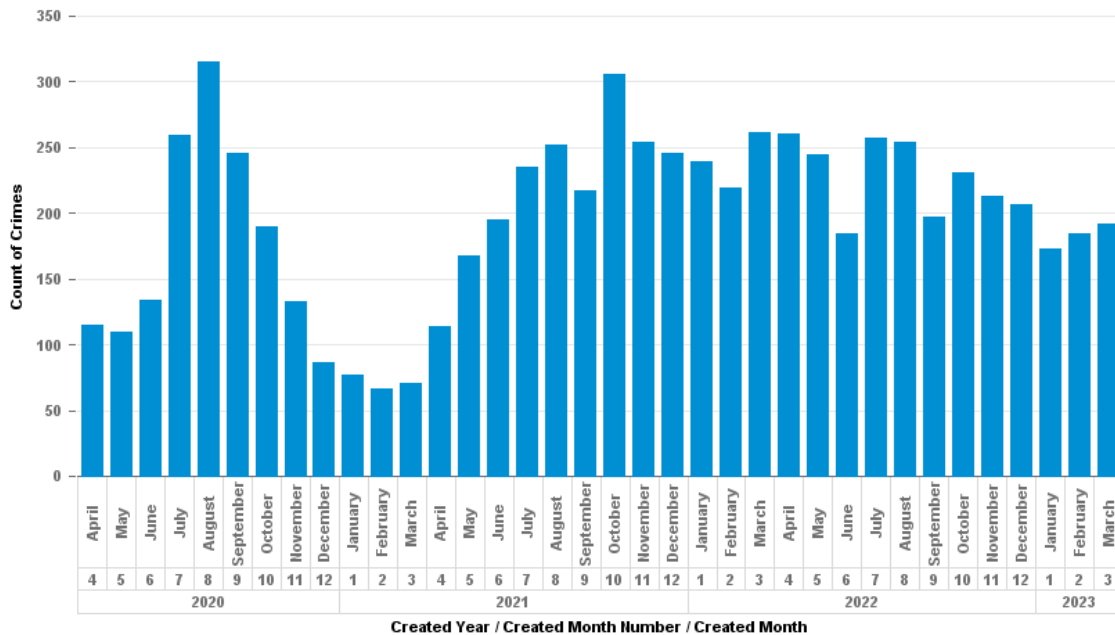
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
2706	2599	-107	-4.0%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
3367	2599	-768	-22.8%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Night-Time Economy (NTE) currently sits with Ch/Supt Stuart Weaver, who chairs the NTE Harm Reduction Group quarterly where each District provides updates on their workstreams. This enables a joined-up approach across the County in relation to this thematic area.

There has been a reduction of NTE offences over the past 12 months. Whilst this is only slight, we can see that compared to the data provided pre-Covid, there is a significant reduction of over 20%. Over the first quarter of 2023, there has been a lower number of NTE crimes recorded which is to be expected. We anticipate that this will be due to increase as we enter the summer months, in line with the data provided from previous years. This is something that is considered within the districts' summer plans.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **NTE Meetings** - As part of their respective CSPs, all districts are taking part in regular NTE meetings with partners. In Southend, there are considerations for partnership working around spiking wristbands.
- **CSE/CCE Operations** - Operations have been run in Chelmsford and Colchester to test premises around CSE/CCE. Whilst there were successes, this has identified the need for education which is being provided by Essex Police and partners.
- **Licensing** - Districts are working closely with licensing around premises which cause concerns. In Harlow, the CPT is working with licensing around a premises that is currently under review. In Chelmsford, a premises had its license suspended and re-instated with over 20 new conditions.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Reviewing the Summer NTE Plan** - Ahead of the summer months, there will be a review of the Summer NTE Plans from the primary districts. This will ensure that there is capacity for the plans to be achieved. A review of domestic violence offending linked to caravan parks and NTE is being undertaken in the Tendring district.
- **Spiking Pilot** - Pilot to be run in Colchester. Testing pots are to be available in licensed premises to capture evidence early. Once pilot is completed, a review of the findings will occur, and the next steps will be formulated.
- **Drug Usage** - Proactive operations to run across the districts to target drug usage within the NTE. Drug usage has a profound effect on the numbers of violent crime within NTE, so plans are to be put in place to target this.

**5.2 Organised Crime**

**5.2.1 County Lines/Exploitation**

**Thematic Lead: Detective Superintendent Gary Biddle**  
**Insights:**

**Trafficking of drugs offences**

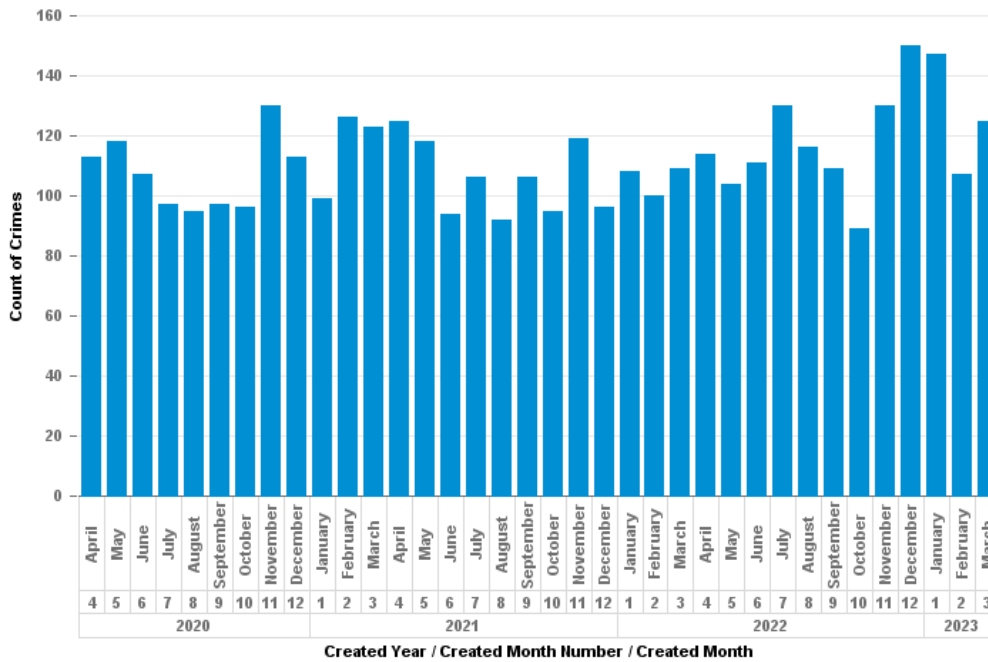
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1268	1432	164	+12.9%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
926	1432	506	+54.6%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Drugs Lines continue to be a threat across Essex. The changing in the ‘County Lines’ definition means this now includes the identification and pursuit of internal ‘drugs lines’ to Essex. By their very definition we know that the offending associated with drugs lines means that they are often very violent and use controlling measures against vulnerable people to carry out their criminality. The criminality committed is mostly contained within those involved in the criminal or drug usage world, and it remains rare that incidents involve members of the public that are not involved in drug usage in some way. There is often a risk of retribution between rival lines, and this contributes towards the levels of violence across Essex. The Serious Violence Unit has a well-versed process of identification and investigation of drugs lines with a significant amount of work being conducted. The teams arrest and RIC rate is significantly higher than regional forces and demonstrates the focus given to drugs lines. Public interest always remains high, but there is dedicated resourcing for drugs lines, in the form of Raptor teams. This capacity is significant and well established. As with all teams, there continues to be limited capacity issues. As the Raptor teams have developed, the training and skills have significantly improved. The team are now developing their skills further to identify the threat posed by on-line activity by drugs lines.

Statistics for October to March 2023

- Arrests – 291
- RIC’s – 184
- Searches – 179
- Cash Seized - £408,000
- Weapons Seized – 51
- Drugs seized – 7,800g.



**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **External Training** - Delivery of bespoke training to partner agencies, business and companies regarding the signs of exploitation and drugs lines violence. This is focused on areas where exploitation is prevalent such as hotels, train stations and other transport hubs.
- **OP Grip Operations** - Bespoke operations targeting OP Grip zones where drugs lines and gangs operate. This has seen successful operations, particularly in the Chelmsford area with partner agencies and local MP's, conducting high visibility preventative patrols and other police tactics to prevent offences being committed.
- **Op Firefly** - Joint work with Essex MPLO's to identify those that are missing and at risk of exploitation by Drugs lines. This has resulted in the successful safeguarding of children and the charging suspects for modern slavery offences.
- **Op Cloud** – Developing and delivering a preventative text messaging to those involved in drugs usage within the local community. Essex is now leading the region in the use of this tactic. This is designed to provide bespoke advice to deter people from offending and offer support through treatment services.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Partnership Working** - Closer working with Phoenix Futures and Open Road to provide immediate support and diversion to those vulnerable people in the community following police enforcement activity. This is designed to provide immediate support and intervention, but also to prevent further crimes being committed and exploitation. Both agencies will work with police during the enforcement phase to provide prevention opportunities to the local community.
- **Online Strategy** - Continued develop of On-line strategy designed to identify those that are being exploited by drugs lines nominals to safeguard and prevent further crimes from being committed.
- **London School of Economics** - Development of work with the London School of Economics using a network analysis approach to identifying High-Risk nominals within county lines, and to develop enforcement and prevention opportunities aimed at those nominals. This approach will assist in reducing serious violence being committed within local communities.

**5.2.2 Serious Organised Crime**

**Thematic Lead: Detective Superintendent Ian Dyball  
Insights:**

Essex Police Serious Organised Crime Unit is activity linked to the disruption of Organised Crime groups; the total results are as follows:

- 124 arrests.
- 77 Warrants executed.
- 141 charges.
- 280 years in sentences.
- £395,752 seized.

- 7 Firearms recovered.
- 36 people safeguarded.
- 23Kg class A drugs seized.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2022:**

- **Dismantled OCG** - In this reporting period the serious Organised Crime unit have dismantled an OCG that were supplying firearms to the wider county and region. The removal of multiple firearms from the streets of Essex has undoubtedly prevented serious violence and a reduction in the homicide rate.
- **Arrests** - The unit have also arrested several persistent violent offenders and secured convictions for firearms offences. These interventions have taken high harm offenders off the streets of Essex.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Priority OCG's** - Within the next reporting period there will be maintaining focus on tackling organised Crime Groups that supply firearms and large amounts of class A drugs, as well as the ongoing threat of organised immigration crime and modern slavery.
- **Eastern European Criminals** - We will be focusing on the emerging threat of eastern European criminals and OCGs that are suspected of committing a range of serious offending and impacting on communities.
- **Partnership Working** - The unit will be working with Partner agencies and Local Policing to identify OCG's that can be disrupted at an early stage thus preventing any escalation and reducing the harm they may cause.

**5.2.3 Cybercrime and Fraud**

**Thematic Lead: Detective Chief Inspector Ashley Howard  
Cyber/Online Offences**

**Insights:**

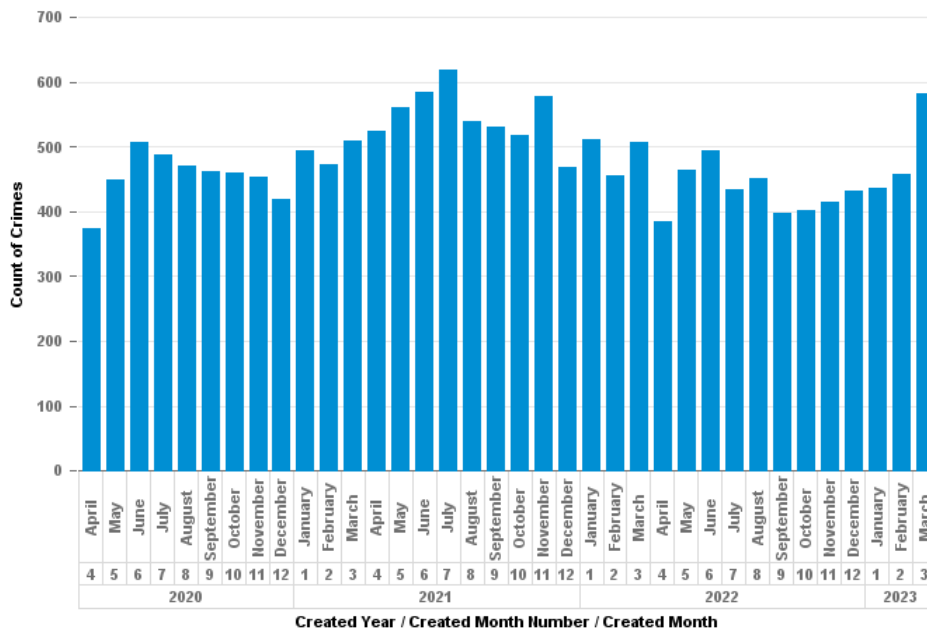
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
6394	5349	-1045	-16.3%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
4331	5349	1018	+23.5%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



The above data relates to all online crime and therefore is higher than if just showing cybercrime. The top reported Cyber Dependant crime types remain the same with social media take overs being the primary type reported, followed by Computer Virus’/Malware/Spyware and the hacking of personal accounts.

The number of online reported offences has dropped significantly during the past 12 months but due to the continuing national issue we have with the accurate reporting of cybercrime by businesses, it is hard to attribute this to any one thing – a reluctance to report or our effective prevention messaging. We continue to develop our relationships within the business community to gain their trust and inform them of basic cyber security measures.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **SASIG Conference** - On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023, Essex Police and PFCC hosted a Security Awareness Special Interest Group (SASIG) conference “Combatting Cyber Fraud through Collaboration”.
- **2-year Business Plan** - In January 2023 we launched our “2-year Business Plan”, which is aimed at developing relationships with local businesses, gaining their trust and delivering cyber security advice, with an aim to significantly increase the reporting of cybercrimes by businesses, so that we then have an accurate picture of the real issue.
- **Cyber Ambassador Program** - Launched the Cyber Ambassador Program, which aims to train up Police Cadets and members of the Young Essex Assembly in how to stay safe online. They will then impart this knowledge to their peers and so spreading prevention advice.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Cyber Insurance Partnerships** - Working with several Essex based Cyber Insurance companies to look at their business models, their processes and claim handling, so that we can reduce Cyber frauds and scams. These Cyber Insurance Companies will also look to offer free advice re cyber security to the wider business community.
- **Education in Schools** - To gain a further foothold within schools, to promote the Cyber Choices scheme, aimed at students misusing their computer skills. There will also be an offering of online safety advice, where allowed during assemblies and PHE lessons.
- **Computer Misuse Act Training** - Improve awareness and training of detectives and uniformed officers of how Computer Misuse Act offences can relate to domestic incidents. Through this DAIT Cyber program, we aim to increase DA conviction rates for offences and reduce repeat victimisation.

**Fraud**

**Insights:**

Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1429	1818	389	+27.2%

\*This data relates solely to offences recorded on Athena

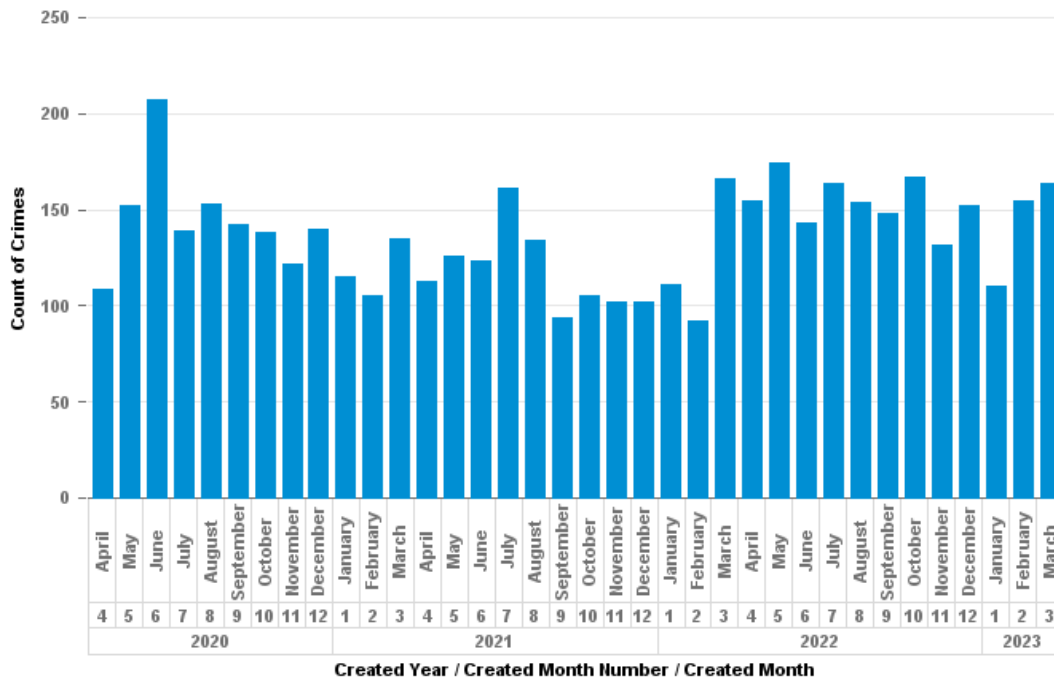
12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
9362	7886	-1476	-15.76%

\*This data reflects the total crime as recorded by Action Fraud

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
2011	1818	-193	-9.6%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Consumer fraud, advance fee fraud i.e., online shopping as well as Banking fraud are the main bulk of fraud offences, whilst romance fraud is not shown in great numbers but still of significant concern. This is due the special support that is needed around vulnerable victims in terms of time spent per victim and the emotional impact. Therefore, we continue to promote and enhance the Romance Fraud Peer Support Group. It is to be noted that all crimes of fraud are recorded with Action Fraud, with a small proportion disseminated for recording on Athena for investigation or enhanced victim care.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **Romance Fraud Peer Support Group** – the group continues to thrive, offering support, camaraderie, advice and a place to voice concerns. The BBC did a segment about Romance Fraud for Valentines Day, using a “survivors’ story” from one of the group’s members.
- **Fraud Volunteers** - 3 Specialist Fraud Volunteers have now been recruited to work with both the Fraud Investigation Teams and the Prevent and Protect Team.
- **#FraudFriday** - Partnership working with Essex Media Dept to help spread fraud awareness in conjunction with the UK Finance “Take 5” initiative. This messaging is available through our Essex Police website, our social media sites and via digital messaging boards at Essex University.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Reverse Banking Protocol** - Continued development of the Reverse Banking Protocol and move towards implementation. Pilots have been completed in Sussex and Surrey and results are being evaluated.
- **Fraud Prevent Online Tool Kit** - Launched April 2023, this offers step by step process advice to officers at scene dealing with the various types of frauds. Each

Fraud is broken down into what needs doing by the officer and advice to be given to the victim to prevent repeat them becoming a repeat victim.

- **Essex Neighbourhood Watch coordinators** - Will be trained to become Fraud Ambassadors, so they can give fraud prevention advice to vulnerable residents within local hotspot areas.

**5.3 Complex Needs**

**5.3.1 Child Abuse/Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

**Thematic Lead: Detective Chief Inspector Dan Morrissey**  
**Insights:**

**CSE Offences**

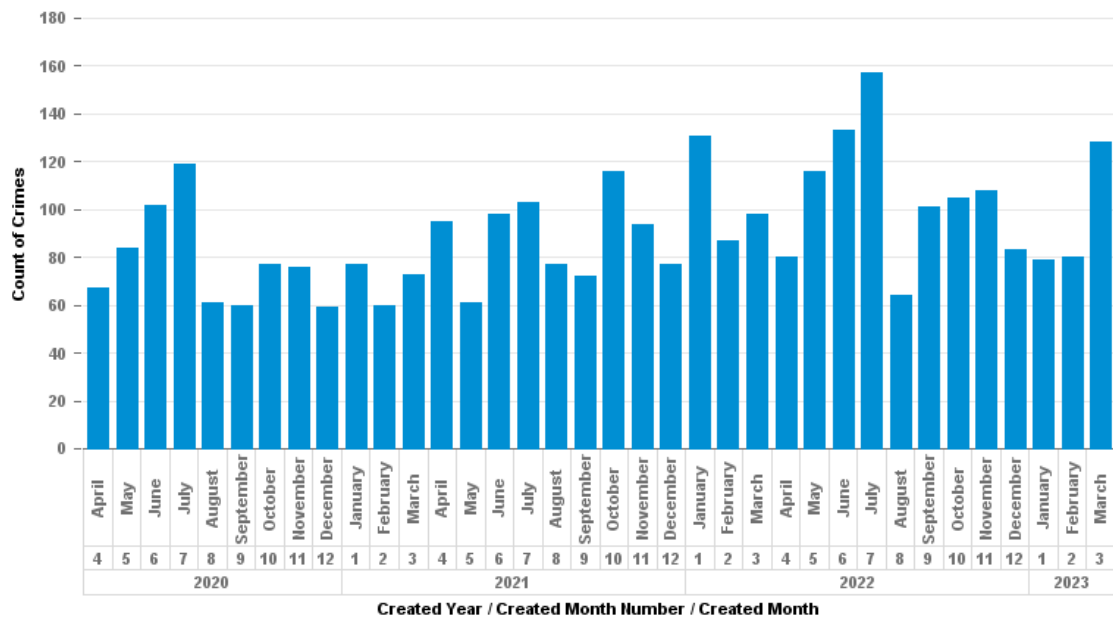
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1109	1234	125	+11.3%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1091	1234	143	+13.1%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Britons are the third largest consumer of indecent images of children behind only America and Canada. The NCA estimates that there are 300,000 people in this country who pose a sexual threat to children online and UK referrals of child abuse images online are up 1000% since 2013. The NCA has identified that the 10 most horrific dark web platforms have 2.88 million registered accounts. The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse has found that of the millions of indecent images of children circulating online, the majority were on the open web.

The improvements in industry identification of indecent images and artificial intelligence means that service providers are finding more illegal images on their sites than ever before. This, together with the public and political pressure on service providers to address this issue, will inevitably mean that referrals to the NCA will continue to increase.

The Essex Police Online Investigation Team (POLIT) investigate all offences of possessing, making, taking, or distributing indecent images of children (unless the offence is linked to another more serious offence). The team is also responsible for the investigation of all Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) related Undercover Online referrals (UCOL) and, since 1st January 2022, all Online child activist group (OCAG) offences.

Most offences investigated by POLIT come from industry referrals that are routed via the National Crime Agency (NCA). Nationally there have been significant year on year increases in the volume of these referrals and Essex has broadly followed this trend. There have been increases over the last 6 years and are forecast to increase again over the next 2 years.

The total investigations dealt with by POLIT in 2022 was 372 (reactive referrals and proactive investigations) which is forecast to increase to 421 in 2023 with further increases over the next 3 years.

POLIT is a successful team with a strong solved rate. As of November 2022, the rolling year the overall POLIT solved rate was 82.35% and 100% for OCAG's. In the financial year 2021-22 POLIT solved 320 investigations.

POLIT have strong safeguarding links with agencies and make referrals to partners such as Children's social care, including LADO's. They also complete regular intelligence checks around outstanding suspects as part of their supervisory review process to manage the threat, harm and risk around offenders.

#### **Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **CSAE Dashboard** - Created by the Performance Analysis Unit
- **Op Henderson** - Local outreach workers and community police engaged with passengers, businesses and young people at train and bus stations along identified key routes in Essex, raising awareness about the signs of exploitation and where to report concerns.
- **Op Makesafe** - This national initiative is a test purchase operation designed and implemented to help owners and employees within the hotels and hospitality sector identify potential victims of child exploitation and, to understand how to appropriately report concerns to the police to ensure intervention prior to any child

or young people coming to harm. The operation is used to establish the basic compliance state amongst hotels and can then be used to develop better awareness around Operation Makesafe and child exploitation.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

Primary focus is around the increase in Online offending of CSAE.

- **Prevention Activity** - Engagement with Schools within Essex. Providing education and signposting for CSAE
- **One Minute Guide** - The Essex Safeguarding Children's Board (ESCB) are developing a 'One Minute Guide' for professionals to aide young people feeling able to reach out for help when something happens online that worries them. They are also exploring the tools used by professionals working with children regarding sexual vulnerability and to look at what principles/messaging we would like partners to adopt working on this issue with children and how we can promote this with partners and with young people, such as in school etc. The aim will be to identify sexual vulnerabilities early enough for right support at right time to reduce escalation of risk and promote YP reaching out to adults for support.
- **DOT.COM Transition Pack** - All Schools have been given the DOT.COM transition pack for year 6 students around online safety". The Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) CSAE partnership are reviewing what is currently available in each of our services and separating them into 3 cohorts; Schools/Teachers/Education; Children and Young people and Adults/carers. Our findings have been reported back to the Essex Child Safeguarding Board (ESCB) Manager who is in consultation around what material/resources should be shared with schools. The purpose of this exercise was to ensure SET have a consistent and comprehensive approach to Online CSEA awareness and training for the three different cohorts.
- **MACE 2** has created a Task and Finish Group has been set up to consider how to reach out to parents of home-educated children to highlight how being out of Education can affect vulnerability to exploitation. This will include a review of existing materials, particularly those from The Children's Society, to identify what is working well, and how this can be communicated to parents and carers. The MACE 2 Partnership Plan which is being led by the South Lead for Partnership Delivery, is working to identify what is currently in place to offer support to all victims and their parents, as well as to under-18 suspects of online exploitation to triage further support needs.
- **ESCB** - The ESCB is leading on a large piece of work to ensure consistent messaging with buy-in from Partners. Develop an agreed approach to messaging in schools by key providers.
- **Inspection Review** - The Audit and Inspection Team will conduct a series of reviews which will encapsulate examining the effectiveness and the decisions made by Essex Police at selected areas of their interactions with children, it will include, initial contact through to the investigation of offences against them.
- **Technology Review** - Conducting a review of the technology we have available within POLIT and MOSOVO, looking efficiency and effectiveness.



**5.3.2 Domestic Abuse**

**Thematic Lead: Detective Superintendent Matt Cornish  
Insights:**

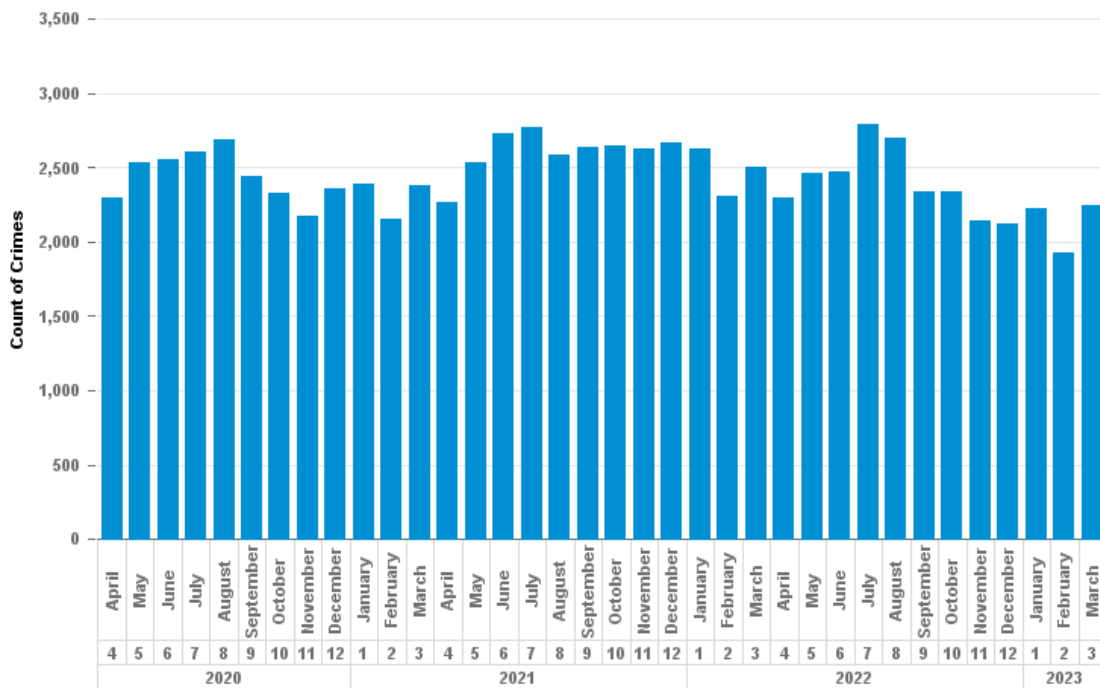
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
30889	28053	-2836	-9.2%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
29744	28053	-1691	-5.7%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



DA reports have shown a 'reduction' trend for 5 months in a row, each month being a slight increase on the previous.

A recent change in recording process for stalking/harassment cases is a factor here. However, analysis of this suggests this accounts for around 4% of the total reduction, so even when this aspect is removed, we can confidently state that there is a 'true' reduction in reports of DA across Essex.

Whilst we don't have formal data from our MSG at this time, peer-to-peer conversations highlight the Essex reduction is greater than the 1-2% seen in other

forces, even when factoring in the inflated figures caused by the change in recording process.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **DAPST Performance Framework** - Designed and implemented a performance framework for DAPST, based on the OCG/Gangs disruptions matrix. This matrix is specifically designed for DA offenders and awards disruptions (Severe/Moderate/Slight) based upon the intervention. Examples include voluntary referral to behaviour change program (Severe), DVDS disclosure (Moderate), perpetrator home visit by DAPST (Slight).
- **IDVA Additions** - Following the successful Ministry of Justice funding, additional IDVA now recruited and trained, working collaboratively with DAPST.
- **DASH to DARA project** – the project continues to move forward. ‘Go live’ date for DAIT uplift and creation of DART is 24<sup>th</sup> July, with resources identified and posting dates provided. DARA go live is 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023, with the formal NCALT training program mandated for all police officers of Inspector rank and below.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **CRU to DART** - Continue to finalise the transition from CRU to DART through the change projects. Majority of work strands agreed, however, solutions still required for Op Encompass and HBV safeguarding.
- **DASH to DARA Project** - ‘Go-live’ and post implementation review commences.
- **Procedure Changes** - Change in process / procedures for DVDS (Clare’s Law). This will align Essex Police to the new national guidance, which leans far more heavily on the need to disclose and increases the information that should be disclosed (not just convictions). The different mechanisms in place are ‘Right to know’ (proactive disclosures to be led by DAPST) and ‘Right to Ask’ (reactive disclosures led by DART).

**5.3.3 Drugs and Alcohol**

**Thematic Lead: Chief Superintendent Simon Anslow**

**Insights:**

The Drugs and Alcohol strand includes efforts to prevent crime in the Night-time Economy and to reduce knife-enabled crime, both themes that are reported on separately within this report. The below quantitative indicators are available for drug-related offences, but don’t fully represent the breadth of this thematic area.

Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

	12 Month ending March 2022	12 Month ending March 2023	Diff.	% Diff.
Trafficking of Drugs	1204	1426	+18.4	+0.9%
Possession of Drugs	4255	3892	-363	-8.5%

The offence types represented in this data are largely led by the policing activity in this area, rather than public reporting. The data shows a significant increase in prosecutions for the supply of drugs, activity primarily led by our Operation Raptor teams, whilst the number of possession offences, typically detected through street-based proactive activity, has reduced.

Work is ongoing to reduce the harms caused by those supplying drugs (an enforce to prevent approach), to divert people away from drug and alcohol misuse and linked offending and to improve the partnership approach to tackling drug and alcohol misuse through the newly established Greater Essex Drug and Alcohol Partnership.

### **Delivery Achieved Oct 2022 – March 2023:**

- **Drug Testing on Arrest** - Work in partnership with Essex, Southend the Thurrock councils and commissioned treatments services has allowed us to utilise Home Office funding to re-launch Drug Testing on Arrest (DToA) across all custody suites. The force has been able to fund a dedicated DToA co-ordinator, to purchase testing equipment and introduce training for Custody staff and all Local Policing Teams. The launch has also been supported by our internal communications team. The DToA legislation allows tests to be carried out on all persons detained for 'trigger offences' (typically Theft Act offences), but also allows for testing where an Inspector has reasonable grounds to suspect that misuse of any specified class A drug caused or contributed to the offence. The force intends to exploit this 'non-tigger' authority to target class A drug use in connection with violent offending, particularly offences in the Night-Time Economy and Domestic Abuse.
- **LPT Training** - Phoenix Futures have provided training to all Local Policing Team officers through the Flex Training Days. The training covered how and when to make a referral and gave an input intended to reduce the stigma surrounding drug use, with a view to improving engagement with drug users and increasing the likelihood of positive referrals from outcomes. The training was positively received, with 84% reporting an improvement in their knowledge and that they would apply that knowledge in their role.
- **Operation Novice** - An initiative, run with the Children's Society in Basildon to divert young people found in possession away from drug use, has now concluded. The operation saw frontline officers in Basildon apply a more in-depth resolution for suitable cases, referring young people to the Children's Society, who then offered interventions for that individual and the wider family. The approach saw extended interventions with 15 individuals across the 6-month trial period. The Children's Society reported that 80% showed an improvement in at least one area of need - 60% reported an improvement in the area of mental and emotional health and other improvements seen are split amongst the other 8 areas of safety, hopes and dreams, having my say, where I live, education, family/carers, friends and physical health. Following introduction of Project Turnaround, a 3-year Ministry of Justice project that funds Youth Justice Services to intervene earlier and improve outcomes for children on the cusp of entering the formal criminal justice process, Op Novice has been closed, with referrals now being made to the funded project.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Drug Testing on Arrest** - Launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, so the next 6 months will see close attention to the application of this process in our custody areas. Areas of specific focus will be the application of ‘non-trigger’ opportunities, authorised by an Inspector or above, for violent crimes, together with the level of compliance and connected enforcement of non-compliance.
- **Postal Service Initiative** - The Serious Violence Unit are looking to exploit opportunities from the *Home Office Innovation Fund to Reduce Demand for Illicit Substances*. The SVU have identified that there is a marked increase in the number of packages containing drugs seized by the postal service. Analysis by Greater Manchester Police suggests that a large proportion of intended recipients are under 18yrs of age. The intention is to explore opportunities for a small intervention team that will consider reported cases and engage with other services to divert individuals away from long-term drug use.
- **Greater Essex Drugs and Alcohol Partnership** - Having now been established, covering the Southend, Essex and Thurrock local authority areas. Essex Police has been well engaged in drafting the new Southend Drugs and Alcohol Strategy and will now work with wider Essex partners to develop and implement their shared strategy. Outside of our enforcement responsibilities, the needs assessment in Southend identified above average rates of drug-related death in the city and Essex Police are engaging with greater Essex partners to participate in a drug death panel. This will help identify and codify some of the risks connected to drug lines operating across the county.

**5.3.4 Mental Health**

**Thematic Lead: Detective Superintendent Natalia Ross**

**Insights:**

**Mental Health Investigations – Detention under S136 Mental Health Act 1983**

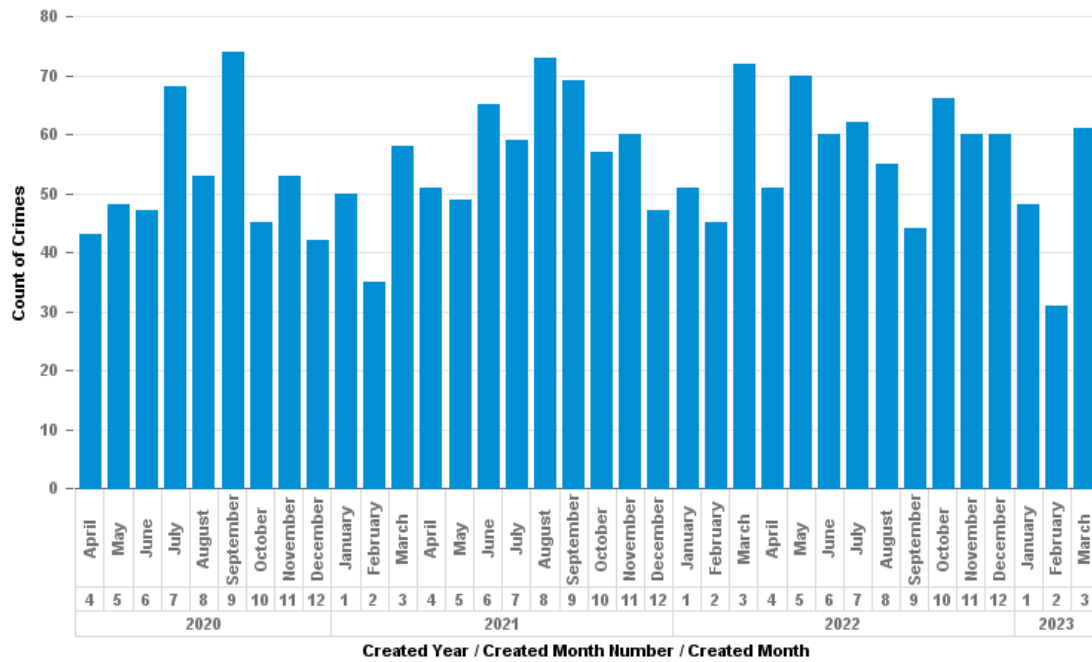
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
698	668	-30	-4.3%

Table comparing data to previous ‘pre-Covid’ vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
691	668	-23	-3.3%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



**Mental Health Incidents**

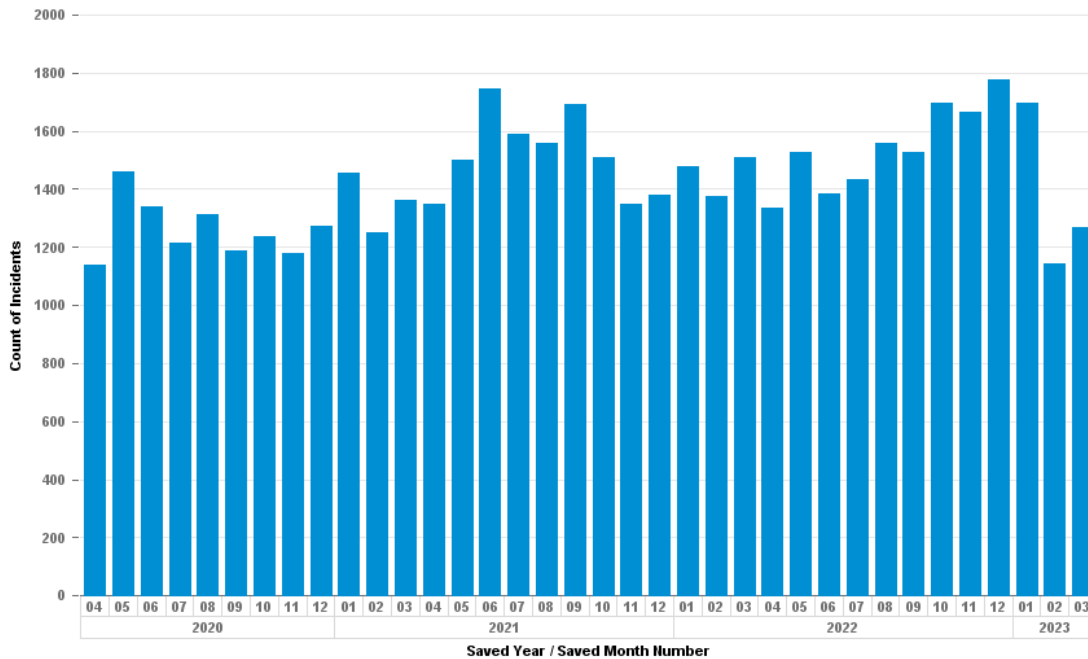
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
18027	18016	-11	-0.1%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
15178	18016	2838	18.7%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



The data above shows a clear reduction in the volume of s136's, by 4.3% the year previously and by 3.3% since COVID. There has been a focus at a partnership level, through comms and education to drive and ensure we are only detaining individuals under s136 when all other diversionary tactics have been exhausted. An officer information card was created for all frontline officers to explain who to contact when dealing with a MIH Crisis as well as who to escalated to when they have carried out a detention. MH incidents have also seen a very slight reduction in the last 12 months, but still is greater 18.7% higher than during COVID.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **Prevent** – A new force Mental Health Team under Crime and Public Protection was agreed whose strategic aims look at elements including:
  - Identify repeat Victim/Suspect/Contact cohorts within MH.
  - Improve the service level agreement and processes around s135/s136.
  - Reducing violence in health care settings
  - Improve service to victims and suspects in MH.
  - Improve information sharing between agencies.

The team are regularly supporting with s136 escalations and hearing cases under the ad-hoc Mental Health Risk Management Board subgroups, looking at opportunities for risk mitigation and proactive action, pushing back to partner agencies where appropriate.

- **Investigate** – Essex Police has supported EPUT with amending the multi-agency Information Sharing Agreement, which has been developed to include more agencies and cover a broader level of scenarios, such as sharing cohort of individuals of concern. This allowing for a more proactive approach for agencies to share information when identifying individuals who may have indicators of serious violence. The MHT have also developed an internal referral form known as the

MHT1. This is a simple referral process for officers and staff to raise any concerns around individuals with MIH, signposting them where necessary, and identifying opportunities for intelligence development and further proactive partnership work by the MHT.

- **Response** – The Thematic lead for MH, in conjunction with the C&PP Mental Health Team have developed and rolled out the Operational information cards which provide details of what officers should do when dealing with an individual in a MIH crisis as well as embedding the agreed 3 step multi-agency escalation process. This is being used daily by officers of all ranks and is being included within the s136 multi-agency policy. This has been shared through e-mail, SharePoint, CPD, briefings, force procedure and direct feedback to officers to ensure knowledge of its existence. Compliance with this process is monitored by the MHT and raised to duty gold daily.

### **Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Prevent** – Formalising the Mental Health Risk Management Board subgroups aligned to the set ICS areas, through the C&PP Mental Health Team making these a weekly feature alongside MAPPA to allow for a consistent oversight and monitoring of individuals of concern within MIH. These subgroups will be the forum for agencies including police to refer individuals with identified risk factors such as serious violence or homicide, who do not qualify for the MAPPA or PDP processes. These groups will then meet to discuss the risks posed and develop a 4P plan to mitigate the risks posed.
- **Investigate** – The C&PP Mental Health Team are working in conjunction with Eastern Region Forces to develop and roll out Op Cavell which is the national response to assaults within health care settings. This sets out a four-pillar framework under the mnemonic PACT, Putting the victim first, assuming capacity, consider all the options and take positive action. This work will look to improve the response for victims to both violence and hate crime in these settings.
- **Response** – Essex Police Strategic Change team have been commissioned to conduct an internal review in the Mental Health Street Triage provision, assessing its viability and value for money following HMIC recommendations. This review was due to commence in November 2022 however this was delayed due to other ongoing projects. This review will look at the opportunities for development, such as extending the services hours and the viability of co-locating with partners into a single location under a multi-agency response hub model. Work is also being led by DSU Rob Kirby on SCD on the Op Beaumont video for force wide dissemination. This piece focuses on a number of elements including what the role of the Mental Health Team are and the value/importance of information sharing.

## **5.4 Vulnerabilities**

### **5.4.1 Places**

**Thematic Lead: Superintendent Richard Melton**

#### **Insights:**

The Manchester Arena Inquiry [Vol 2] have provided a clear set of recommendations that police (and wider partners) need to review and address any local gaps. Supt

Melton has overseen three multiagency JESIP Senior Leaders forums which are systematically review all 149 recommendations to see what action must be taken to ensure that lessons are learned. This is also fed into single agency strategic leaders and the Essex Resilience Executive Board.

149 strands are relevant to the recommendations in Q2, albeit only 23 relate directly to policing now recorded in Q3.

#### **Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **JESIP/MAI Inspector post (18mths)** - Inspector Andy Watkins now leads all MAI/JESIP operational work and will be working closely with CI Kelly Thurston at Fire HQ/OPC. This includes all elements of JESIP training / JOPS/ Op Plato review and operational/command Forward command training.
- **Review of Police Command Structures** - New command roles/structures circulated in summary format to CONTEST group. New command structure has already been proven to provide enhanced capability to command oversight to a major incident/CT attack in Essex and how/where face to face command will take place with wider Cat 1 partners [FCP and Zoning etc]. Essex Review of Op Plato now underway to reflect changes through new Inspector.
- **Ex Geopony** – was undertaken on the 28/04/23 with over 70 key players/observers at Fire Service HQ. This saw both live Strategic and Tactical Co-ordinating groups operate in a hydra setting in response to a bomb being detonated in the main terminal building at Stansted airport. This exercise involved most of the Cat 1 and wider partners.

#### **Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Project Minerva** - Continues with good momentum across Essex. This project tackles VAWG within the county by intuitively mapping areas that are at elevated risk of experiencing VAWG. The mapping tool has been created by Nottingham Trent University in conjunction with Essex Police and will feed into Local Community Safety Partnerships for prevention activity. Safer Essex oversee this project and it is led by members of the collaboration team.
- **Debrief of Ex Geopony** - And 3 x live operational multiagency deployments that occurred in Q3 to establish joint organisational learning and how we can better respond to major/critical incidents in the future. All learning will be captured by the Joint Organisational Learning SPOC's and raised through the Next JESIP Senior Leaders Board scheduled for July.
- **Martyn's Law** - Is to be introduced across the UK having received approval in statute. Named after Martyn Hett, one of the victims of the 2017 Manchester Arena bombing, Martyn's law was implemented in the spring of 2023. The new law requires all nightlife venues to draw up preventative action plans against terror attacks, assessing the potential risks, dangers and scenarios to improve protection of the public. Plans are in place for ECC and Local Authorities to liaise with the P & P lead for Essex (Supt Melton) to cascade information throughout organisations.
- **Public Access Locations Assessments** - process is still being reviewed by National CT Policing to better assess the location within local forces that would qualify as 'crowded places' This new PALs assessment will direct forces toward considering mitigation as to crowded place attacks, along with wider



responsibilities being shouldered by Local Authorities under Martyn’s Law. Once new PALs locations are established, P & P lead will.

5.4.2 **Dwelling Burglary and Street Robbery**  
**Thematic Lead: Detective Superintendent Bonnie Moore**

**Burglary (Dwelling) Offences**

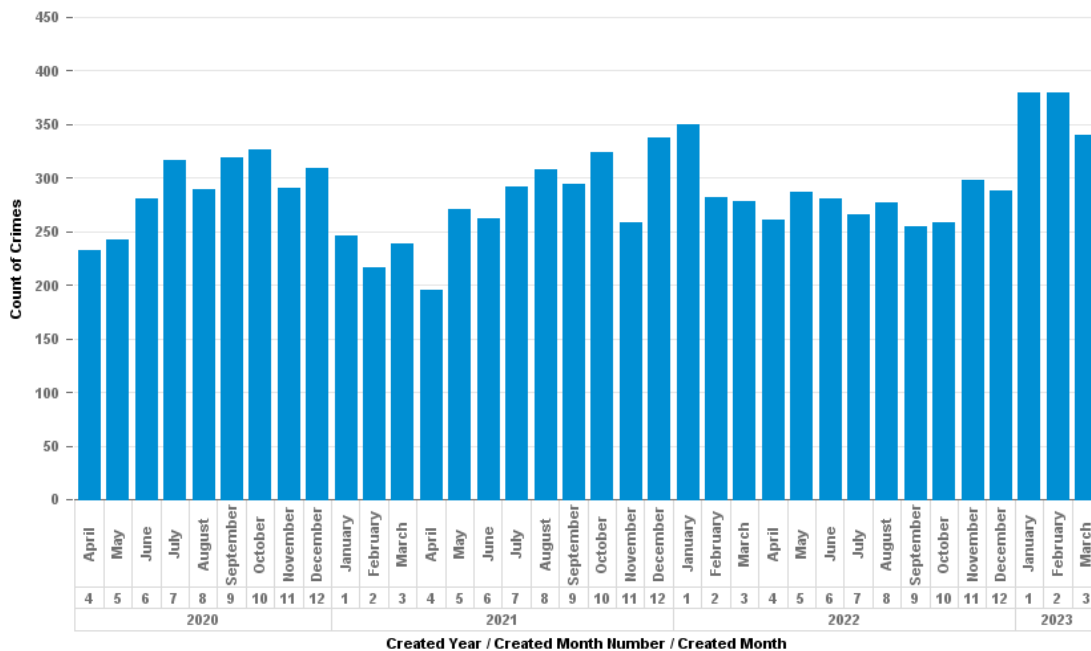
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
3452	3572	120	+3.5%

Table comparing data to previous ‘pre-Covid’ vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
5615	3572	-2043	-36.4%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Dwelling burglary offences remain far lower than they were pre-COVID. There has been an increase in offences from the same period in 2022 to 2023 (+3.5%), albeit, that increase is smaller than that from 2021 to 2022 (+6.6%). There has historically been a statistical peak in offences between January and March, which is reflected in this current period. January and February saw particularly high offence volumes; it is suggested that this may be attributable in part to the increases in cost of living. It is a consideration that offence volumes may continue to increase for acquisitive crime during this period of financial difficulty.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **Restorative Justice** - Investigators across the force have been trained in Restorative Justice and the process of taking offences into consideration. Where applied appropriately, this could positively impact on victim satisfaction and solved outcomes.
- **Incident Attendance Policy** - Since the incident attendance policy was amended, we are now attending over 90% of reports of residential burglary, where it previously averaged approximately 75%
- **Op Reassure** - A commitment has been made to support the roll out of Op Reassure force wide and training of staff outside the pilot district is underway (Op Reassure involves a PCSO visiting a burglary victim to provide crime prevention advice and reassurance)

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **Op Mille** - This operation is scheduled to take place in June '23 which is an intensification period that will heavily impact on aggravated burglaries and is anticipated to provide a far richer intelligence picture about this offence type.
- **Victim Aftercare** - A piece of academic research recently concluded showed that follow up text messages to burglary victims with details of support and other relevant information slightly improved victim satisfaction with service. A project proposal is being developed to allow this to be embedded as a business-as-usual option that is very low cost.

**Street Robbery**

**Thematic lead Supt Tim Tubbs**

**Insights:** 12 months to end of March 2023:

**Robbery (Personal) Offences**

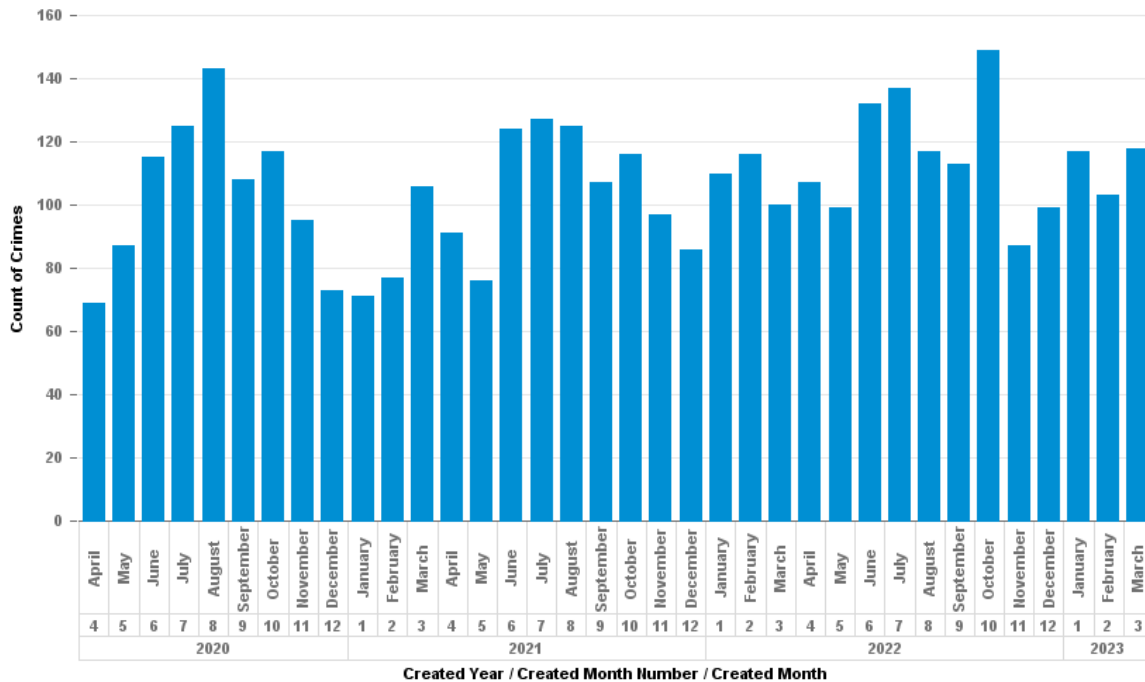
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1275	1378	103	+8.1%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
1567	1378	-189	-12.1%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Robbery offences remain far lower than there were pre-COVID. There has been an increase in offences from the same period in 2022 to 2023 (+8.1%), albeit, that increase is smaller than that from 2021 to 2022 (+12%). There continues to be significant variation in offence volumes, with more densely populated districts regularly suffering the greatest numbers of offences. There is concern that the cost-of-living crisis may impact acquisitive crime offence volumes.

**Delivery Achieved Sept - Mar 2023:**

- **Op Calibre** – This took place in December 22 which was an intensification week to target robbery offences. During the week, several direct arrests were affected, as well as planned arrests for outstanding suspects. There was an increase in targeted patrols in known hot spot areas, and several stop and searches were completed, and a good deal of intelligence was generated.
- **Localised Targeting** - Local Commanders have an excellent grasp of hot spots and repeat offenders through the tasking process, and there has been some good practice developed in particularly challenging areas, where there has been an innovative approach to problem solving with our partners, which has been shared across the force (for example, Op Mantis in Basildon)
- **Restorative Justice** - Investigators across the force have been trained in Restorative Justice and the process of taking offences into consideration. Where applied appropriately, this could positively impact on victim satisfaction and solved outcomes.

**Delivery Scheduled Apr - Aug 2023:**

- **Internal Partnerships** - There has been a recent change in force lead for the thematic area. Working with colleagues in our Serious Violence Unit and

considering the overlap and crossover in opportunities with knife enabled offences, actions, and opportunities to improve outcomes will be reviewed.

- **Allocation Processes** - A small pilot is being commenced which amends allocation processes, but which may allow investigators to have a more holistic understanding of offenders at a local level that may assist with improving outcomes.

### 5.4.3 Prevent

**Thematic Lead: Superintendent Naomi Edwards**  
**Insights:**

There continues to be an increase in concerns from the Far-Right Wing (FRW) and the increased traction from groups such as Patriotic Alternative who are using the cost-of-living crisis and critical situation within the NHS to increase their support across the county. This is the prime example to show the close connection between hate crime and radicalisation.

PREVENT training across CPTs is being refreshed and referrals from non-frontline business groups is being encouraged.

#### Delivery Achieved Oct - March 2023:

- **Increased Referrals** - from non-frontline business groups
- **Prevent Training** - Prevent training across Community Policing Teams arranged.

#### Delivery Scheduled April - Sept 2023:

- **Review** - SPOC list and facilitate up to date training.
- **Prevent Training** - across Community Policing Teams to be rolled out.
- **Prevent Ambassadors** - Increase amount of prevent Ambassadors across the force.

### 5.4.4 Hate Crime

**Thematic Lead: Superintendent Naomi Edwards**  
**Insights:**

#### Hate Crime Offences

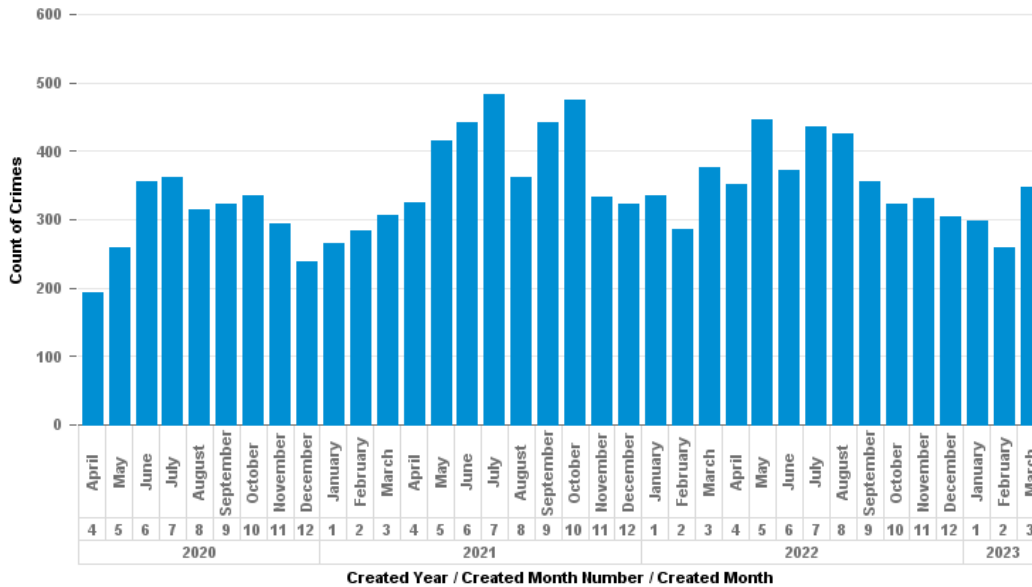
Data for 12 months to end of March 2023, in comparison to the previous 12 months:

12 Month ending March 22	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
4598	4253	-345	-7.5%

Table comparing data to previous 'pre-Covid' vs 12 months to end of March 2023:

12 Month ending December 19	12 Month ending March 23	Diff.	% Diff.
2982	4253	1271	+42.6%

Bar chart showing crimes recorded each month:



Hate crime reports for the 12-month period to March 2023 have reduced by 345 crimes, a percentage of 7.5%. This is indicative of the work between Essex Police and partners to increase the amount of knowledge / learning around the subject.

Essex Police continues to work with partners and communities which gives those with protected characteristics a greater confidence to report.

For the period ending March 2022 the solved rate for hate crime was 8.7%, in the corresponding period ending March 2023 this was 11.3%, however the 6-month period to March 2023 is currently at 17%.

The continued level of reporting and the increase in solved rates for hate crime are positives for EP and partners.

**Delivery Achieved Oct - Mar 2023:**

- **OP Knowledge** - Joint operation with CPS to improve the quality of Hate crime investigations and increase submissions to CPS. Positive feedback from both victims and Police received. Strong links remain.
- **Force reduction** - 8% for outcome 15 and 16.
- **Increase in Solved outcomes** - to 11%

### **Delivery Scheduled Apr - Sept 2023:**

- **HRIC Review** - HRICs will be supported and reviewed to continue reporting of Hate crime in Essex.
- **Implementation of Challenge Panels** - for protected characteristics of Trans, Race and Disability.
- **Improvement in Solved Rates** - to above 15%.

### **5.5 Delivery/Challenges by Exception**

#### **5.5.1 Covid Recovery**

As previously mentioned, and predicted in previous reports, the lifting of restrictions has resulted in a rise in certain areas which have benefited from lesser volumes during lockdown, e.g., NTE related offences and mental health. This is less prevalent now as opposed to the previous report but is still a factor to recognise.

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

There are no strands at risk across 14 thematic strands.

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

The thematic strands deliver against the priorities identified within the Police and Crime Plan, namely:

- Further investment in crime prevention
- Reducing drug driven violence
- Protecting vulnerable people and breaking the cycle of domestic abuse
- Reducing violence against women and girls
- Preventing business crime, fraud and cybercrime
- Increasing collaboration

#### **6.2 Demand**

Not applicable

#### **6.3 Risks/Mitigation**

Overall, if areas of the strategy are not delivered then there is potential risk of crime figures increasing in relevant areas, and ultimately potential risk to members of the public. This, in turn has a potential reputational risk to the organisation. Each thematic strand has a force lead responsible for their individual areas, enabling appropriate oversight, review, and focus to ensure appropriate action takes place within each thematic area to identify and mitigate these risks, working to improve our response and ultimately prevent crime.

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

There are no protected characteristics adversely affected by the strategy. Whilst there are no specific equality and/or human rights implications identified, any actions which take place in relation to the strategy will take account of such matters, ensuring

compliance with relevant legislation and the force Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Strategy.

## **6.5 Health and Safety Implications**

No Health and Safety Risks identified.

## **7.0 Consultation/Engagement**

Thematic leads have all contributed to this report.

Knife Crime:	Detective Superintendent Gary Biddle
Rape:	Detective Superintendent Neil Pudney
Night-Time Economy:	Superintendent Sharn Taylor
County Lines and Exploitation:	Detective Superintendent Gary Biddle
Serious and Organised Crime:	Detective Inspector Ian Dyball
Cyber Crime and Fraud:	Detective Chief Inspector Ashley Howard
Child Abuse and CSE:	Detective Superintendent Dan Morrissey
Domestic Abuse:	Superintendent Matt Cornish
Drugs and Alcohol:	Chief Superintendent Simon Anslow
Mental Health:	Detective Superintendent Natalia Ross
Places:	Superintendent Richard Melton
Dwelling Burglary and Street Robbery:	Detective Superintendent Bonnie Moore
Prevent:	Superintendent Naomi Edwards
Hate Crime:	Superintendent Naomi Edwards

## **8.0 Actions for Improvement**

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

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

See section 5 for overview of delivery scheduled for current quarter in relation to each thematic area.

The new Crime Prevention Strategy is based upon a whole system approach, with a strong focus on partnership working, using intelligence and evidence to predict the future challenges we face over the next five years, and prepares us for the anticipated increase in volume and complexity of crime within a significant political, economic and community recovery period post-Covid. Work is ongoing via Safer Essex to enhance our partnership working/reporting.

New process of governance within Essex Police will take place from May 2023. This will see a Star Chamber approach to all areas of the strategy, where each thematic lead will be asked to account for current performance and highlight areas of challenge and opportunity. Chaired by ACC Mariner, supported by CS Leighton Hammett and Pippa Brent-Isherwood. This six-monthly process is expected to highlight cross cutting opportunities and identify further partnership opportunities.