

Colchester District

January 2021



[essex.police.uk/Colchester](https://essex.police.uk/Colchester)

## Hello!

Welcome to our monthly newsletter, which will keep you up to date on what we're doing to keep communities safe in Colchester. It will focus on:

- The work of the Community Policing Team and Local Policing Team
- Crime trends
- Crime prevention
- How you can contact us

The Community Policing Team includes the Town Centre Proactive Team. Their work includes responding to issues and carrying out proactive work, including public engagement, crime prevention, crime disruption, and safeguarding vulnerable people. The teams include specialist Missing Persons and Children' and Young Person officers, who work with partners in education and social care to protect vulnerable people from harm.

The Local Policing Team's main role is to respond to calls for assistance from members of the public, but they also carry out proactive patrols.

Our Colchester community and local policing officers are supported by detectives working in the Criminal Investigation Department, Domestic Abuse Investigation Team, and Crime and Public Protection Command. They investigate the more serious crimes that occur in north Essex, safeguard victims and bring offenders to justice.

Our priorities —in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership—mirror the Essex Police Force Plan for 2020/21

<p><b>To investigate and tackle:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Violence in all its forms</li><li>• Online crime</li><li>• Anti-social behaviour</li><li>• Gangs and organised crime</li><li>• Safety/crime on the roads</li><li>• Domestic abuse</li><li>• Burglary</li></ul>	<p><b>To support and protect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children and vulnerable people</li><li>• Victims of crime</li><li>• Visible policing in communities</li></ul>
---	---

Colchester has a very clear focus on:

**Violence** – disrupting those who commit serious organised crime and to dismantle the supply of controlled drugs in the district. We will target those who carry knives and commit violence, ensuring Colchester remains a safe place for all.

**Vulnerability** – we will ensure we engage with our communities to understand their needs and deliver policing to safeguard those who are vulnerable in our community.

**Victims** – we will provide victims with a first-class service.

**Visibility** – we will be visible in our communities to provide reassurance and reduce the fear of crime.





T/Chief Inspector Jon  
Evans

“We are here to help you,  
keep you safe and catch  
criminals”.



Essex Police – Colchester



Follow **@CInspHuddleston** or  
**@EPColchester**



<http://www.essex.police.uk>

Dear All,

The team continue to strive to keep the public of Colchester safe throughout the pandemic. Officers are issued with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to keep themselves and the public we come into contact safe.

The Community Policing Team provide regular visible patrols across the district in conjunction with COVID 19 patrol plan and investigate reports of anti-social behaviour across the district.

Our Local Policing Teams respond to emergency incidents 24/7 and investigate the volume crime matters.



There are a number of ways to report incidents to Essex Police, dialling 999 for an emergency incident or 101 for a non emergency.

What classes as an emergency incident?

Does it feel like the situation could get heated or violent very soon? Is someone in immediate danger? Do you need support right away?

I would encourage non emergency incidents, concerns or reports of Anti-social behaviour to be reported online at [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk).

There is also a 'live Chat' facility available to speak to a member of our team.



**Colchester District has seen a decrease in all recorded crime from December 2019 to 2020 by 7.3%.**

HELP NEEDED—How can my teams best engage with you as the community we serve efficiently and effectively? We use social media, newsletter, partnership meetings, parish council, Neighbourhood watch, radio just to name a few!

We would welcome suggestions on how to further engage with all of our community by emailing: [Colchestercommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk](mailto:Colchestercommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk)





### Three Cannabis factories found in January

Colchester community policing team have taken over 2,000 cannabis plants off of the streets this month valued near to half a million pounds!

It started at a warrant being executed by the team at the old rectory, Spring lane, Colchester whereby in excess of 1,800 plants were recovered. Three males were arrested and have since been charged and remanded in custody.

We then received some intelligence to say there was a factory in a flat located on top of a care home in Highwoods. Over 40 plants were found to be growing in the property. A male has been arrested and remains under investigation in regards to this.

To end the month acting after community intelligence the team executed a warrant on The Willows, finding over 300 plants being grown. A man has been arrested, charged and remanded in custody in regards to this.

These factories are linked to organised crime groups who profit from these illegal activities.



### Patrolling our beautiful villages

This month we have been enjoying patrolling our beautiful villages and rural towns. We have also emailed all of our parish councils and held online Q&A sessions for all of our rural villages and towns to give them the opportunity to explain and discuss any issues they have within the rural communities. We continue to patrol all areas of our district so if you see us out and about please say hello or give us a wave.



### Dealing with Anti social behaviour

Following reports of anti social driving around Stanes park, Stanway we have put up signage that will warn drivers if their vehicles are driven in an anti social manner they could be seized under section 59 police reform act 2002.

Regular patrols take place to reduce this behaviour and we work closely with Colchester borough council, the safer Colchester partnership and the local neighbourhood watch schemes to tackle ASB in all areas of the town.





## Some of this months activity on social media

**Essex Police in Colchester #StayAlert @EPColchester · Jan 27**

Officers from Colchester CPT and @3RMP2 have been out conducting socially distanced high visibility patrols around the St Michaels estate in Colchester.

#Jointworking  
#teamwork



**Essex Police - Colchester District**  
28 January at 17:05

Patrols ( or Puntrols) have been carried over land and water throughout the Colchester district today.

Our Marine unit took a "pacific" route down the river colne today and managed to patrol our waters without "oar-deal".

"Canoe" guess what village they have photographed while out on the river, if you struggle we "wrecker" we will give you a "crew". ... (Its in the photo's, Sea if you can spot it)

We are "ferry" pleased to say "no fin" was untoward and the "knotty" "bouys" and girls "mast" have stayed home.

#stillKnotSorry  
#epcolchester



**Essex Police in Colchester #StayAlert @EPColchester · Jan 8**

Colchester LPT D Shift today have charged a male for breaching #Covid legislation and assaulting an officer following his arrest for these offences. The male was found at an address outside the Covid guidelines, and thought it acceptable to cough at the officers.

**Essex Police in Colchester #StayAlert @EPColchester · Jan 27**

Pcso Ling has been out again after calls of further parking issues in Milend, please park your vehicles in a sensible manner. This type of parking causes pedestrians to walk in the road, putting them in danger.

#yousaidwedid #ColchesterCPT #Colchester



**Essex Police - Colchester District**

26 January at 18:13

Following reports of Hare Coursing in #LayerMarney we have used "the long arm of the law" to recover a vehicle.

We were called to Layer Marney regarding a vehicle in a field believed to be there for the sole purpose of letting his dogs chase and kill hare's. Unfortunately for this individual they had not taken into account the poor weather, and poor off road wheels on his vehicle, resulting in his vehicle getting "stuck in the mud".

A local farmer has kindly assisted us in getting the vehicle off of his land, out of the mud, and placing it into our custody, meaning to get the vehicle back he will have to pay us a little visit as we have some questions waiting.

#opvocal  
#RuralPolicing  
#epcolchester



**Essex Police in Colchester #StayAlert @EPColchester · Jan 26**

A shift CPT have been to Chappel completing high vis patrols and speed checks.



**Essex Police - Colchester District**

11 January at 12:14

Over the weekend officers from your Community Policing Team have been patrolling our more rural locations. They conducted some speed checks in #Wormingford whereby we spoke to motorists driving through the village. On this occasion no enforcement action was required. The team then conducted some disruption foot patrols in #Tiptree speaking to local residents and businesses that were open giving them the opportunity to discuss any current issues.

#opvocal



## Weapon Surrender scheme

### THE OFFENSIVE WEAPONS ACT WILL MAKE IT UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS

- SPECIFIC TYPES OF KNIVES
- CERTAIN RAPID FIRING RIFLES
- OTHER OFFENSIVE WEAPONS

KEEPING DANGEROUS WEAPONS OFF THE STREETS

In a bid to make our streets safer the new offensive weapons act makes it illegal to possess a range of weapons in your home, which were previously legal to own.

If you own certain style knives, even for decoration they could now be illegal to have in your house. The government is offering compensation for the surrender of these weapons before 9th March 2021.

For more information on what items are now illegal to own and also the surrender scheme please check the following website : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/offensive-weapons-act-surrender-and-compensation-scheme>

## Staying safe online

There is a new website called **OMEGLE.COM** which allows users to log in to web cam chats and chat groups without having to register. An incident involving a young child being coerced into exposing themselves online and being exposed to males engaging in sexual activity has been reported to the police. The description given by the website is: **Omegle is a free online chat website that allows users to socialize with others without the need to register. The service randomly pairs users in one-on-one chat sessions where they chat anonymously using the names "You" and "Stranger" or "Stranger 1" and "Stranger 2" in the case of Spy mode.**

This means that this website could be accessed by anyone with any intention without personal information needing to be handed over. The website is not based in the UK meaning that any young persons who log on are likely to be talking to persons from all over the world.

This website can be easily accessed by anyone and maybe a trend amongst young persons. Please be vigilant and ensure that the correct safeguards and precautions are being taken. With the correct safety settings on WIFI and parental controls the website will likely be blocked. We are unsure on how young persons are aware of the website and how they are accessing it at this time but Investigations are ongoing into these incidents.

