

Colchester District



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

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

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.





Chief Inspector Rob Huddleston



Essex Police – Colchester



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@EPColchester



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

Hello,

We have hijacked Chief Inspector Huddleston's page this month to introduce ourselves as the districts Community Safety and Engagement Officers (CSEO's). While you will have seen some of the content we publish, we thought it would be a good idea to explain who we are and what we do.



PC Brian Speirs began his career with the metropolitan police over 18 years ago. He worked in a variety of roles and spent a large amount of his time in the Met policing Westminster including Oxford street and Soho before swapping policing the big city for the seaside town of Clacton in 2012. Brian moved to Colchester where he worked on the response team, community team and then in March 2020 took on the role of CSEO.



PC Dex Adams has worked for Essex Police predominately in the Colchester district for almost 13 years. Having spent the first 10 years in response policing he moved over to the community policing team around 2 and a half years ago, focusing largely on obtaining warrants and tackling county line activity to make the community safer before moving into the CSEO role in October 2020.

As CSEO's our role is to engage with our communities and oversee the engagement that takes place in our district. We regularly attend meetings with partners to see how we can work together to keep Colchester a safe and enjoyable place to live, work and visit.

We are the link between the community, our partner agencies and our policing teams and try our best to tell you what we have been up to when GDPR allows us! We do this through social media, newsletters and general conversation.

We have played a big part in last year's Christmas Giving tree and are currently running Ballin' with a bobby. We have lots of plans to improve the relationships between the local policing teams at Colchester and the community which were put on hold due to COVID but we are hoping we can now implement some of the initiatives we have been planning while getting out to speak to our communities and understand the issues that affect you.

We are busy planning events all over the district such as Coffee with Cops, multi agency community meetings and alike so if you see us or our colleagues out and about either patrolling or looking for people to talk to, come and say hello and have a chat.

Take care,

Brian and Dex



ASB Awareness Week 2021

The 19th—25th July 2021 was the first national ASB awareness week. We proudly took part and used this as an opportunity to continue and highlight some of the partnership work that takes place across the district to make our communities safer.

Throughout the week we worked closely with Colchester Borough Homes and a number of the housing associations within Colchester.

We conducted joint visits to properties with both Colchester Borough Homes and Eastlight Homes throughout the week, speaking to local residents to find out and encourage reporting of what was going on in their area,

We also held a multi agency “street meet” whereby we were available to speak to members of our community and direct them to the best person to deal with the issue they were experiencing.

We also conducted checks for compliance with a number of the closure orders already in place in the district, showing those responsible we will continue to monitor and deal with any breaches of these orders to ensure they no longer cause harm to their communities.

We continued our high visibility disruption patrols of areas where we have seen an increase of anti social behaviour in the recent weeks and issued community protection warnings and community protection notices to those found causing anti social behaviour.

To end the week we executed a warrant leading to the arrest of two individuals for drug supply offences.

As part of our continued messaging which we delivered in this week—if you are experiencing anti social behaviour, please report it. Sometimes other agencies are better placed to deal with it and we will work with those agencies to make your community safer.

To report anti social behaviour you can call Essex Police on 101 or do it online— www.essex.police.uk

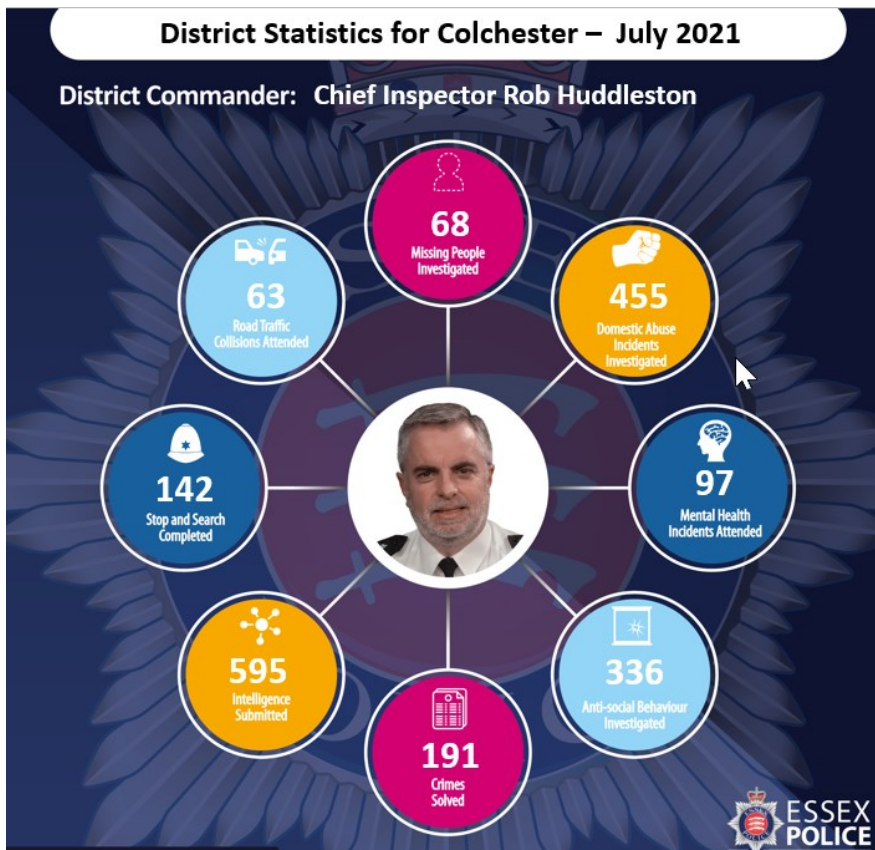


Charges under new legislation

This month officers were called to an address in Colchester for an unrelated matter. Once at the address they suspected things were not as they seemed so using powers available to them conducted some searches which led to the arrest of three individuals for possession with intent to supply class A drugs. During a search they discovered two zombie style knives, which previously would have been legal to own in your home and only been illegal to possess when you left the house with the weapon.

Following the investigation while the three sat in the cells our officers secured charges against one female from Colchester and two men from London for two counts of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs and also two counts of possession of an offensive weapon in a private place.

All three appeared at Colchester Magistrates court and were remanded to prison while they await their next court hearing. A really good result and utilising the powers that are given to us to keep you and our community safe.



Working with our parish councils to keep communities safe.



Water Safety

While we know the summer is here and it is nice to get into the water to cool down and have fun, whether it be a swim or on a paddle board or boat, we urge you to be careful.

This month our Marine unit were called to Mersea Island to assist two paddle boarders who had not planned their journey very well. The tide had taken them further than they wanted, neither had life jackets on and both become very cold with the "fresh" sea air.

We have also had reports of teenagers jumping into some of our rivers while in big groups. Please remember it is not easy to tell the strength of the current, or what may be just below the surface of the water, while we want people to enjoy themselves, we also want people to be safe and to not put themselves or others at risk.

The Marine Unit have been busy with the River Colne this month after receiving complaints of nuisance jet ski's they have identified a rider and will be catching up with him soon.

For this reason we joined Essex Fire in Abberton earlier this month to raise awareness of water safety.

We will also be in Rowhedge and Dedham with Essex Fire to discuss the same due to concerns being raised so keep an eye on our facebook page for more details on these upcoming events.



Police Engagement

We have been out engaging with our communities in a variety of different ways this month.



We have been out completing our “Cops outside Shops” initiative which not only provides reassurance for our shops and their customers, but also gives you the opportunity to speak to an officer, whether its just to say hello, or report and discuss an issue in your area, we are always happy to have those conversations.



We were please to be invited by Stanway parish council to the opening of the outdoor gym equipment in Stanway which is a brilliant outdoor area for the community to come together and use.

We have also been at West Bergholt Village fete and also at Wormingfords Village fete showing children the police vehicles and uniform discussing what police officers do, and giving members of the community opportunity to speak with us.

We have seen the launch of Ballin’ With A Bobby—a project with Essex Rebels Basketball to increase and improve the relationship with officers in the community through sport.

While on the mentioning sport we also attended Colchester uniteds PL Kicks programme to engage with the young people and again improve relationships through sport.



We were fortunate to be invited to a multi agency meeting in Tiptree to discuss the provision for young people in Tiptree in an attempt to try and keep them busy and avoid getting into trouble.

We have had the pleasure of Project 21 coming into the police station to show some of their service users around the station and explain what policing is.



While all of the above are some of the activities you see, other activities take place such as joint patrols and meetings with a number of partner agencies to keep you safe and to try and resolve issues within your communities.

We are busy planning our next lot of engagement activities such as coffee with cops and alike, if you would like police to attend your community or community group please let us know—Colchestercommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk



Some recent activity on social media



Essex Police - Colchester District
21 July at 18:04 · 🌐

After reports of Anti-social behaviour and suspicious activity #Colchester's Town team executed a Drugs warrant at an address in Chapel Street South in Colchester.

They have seized class A & B drugs, several mobile phones, Drugs paraphernalia , cash and weapons.

One male suspect has been arrested for Possession with Intent to supply class A & B Drugs

One female suspect has also been arrested for being Concerned in the Supply of class A & B Drugs.

#epcolchester



Essex Police - Colchester District
24 July at 12:50 · 🌐

Colchester Town Policing Team have been out this week listening to the concerns of those that use our town Centre. One of the topics that come up frequently was the use of push bikes through Castle Park. Therefore working with the Zone Team from Colchester Borough Council and the Park Rangers from Colchester Castle Park they have been out educating those riding push bikes through the park. We all want Colchester to be a safe and enjoyable place and will continue to educate those in the area of the park around how to behave with their push bikes in a sensible and polite manner.

#epcolchester



Essex Police - Colchester District
23 July at 18:11 · 🌐

PC De-Freitas & PC Chilver from #Colchester local policing team attended a safeguarding-concern for welfare and discovered an elderly gentleman at the location with no food or hot water.

They contacted Colchester Foodbank who were only to happy to help supply food and toiletries . Emergency accommodation was also arranged for the Gentleman.

#WorkingTogether

#HelpingTheCommunity



Essex Police - Colchester District
25 July at 13:00 · 🌐

Earlier this week PCSO Woolford conducted some joint patrols around the farms in West Horkesley with the rural team from Chelmsford.

They even deployed the Drone to help locate some cows that had managed to escape from a local farm.

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Essex Police - Colchester District
19 July at 14:00 · 🌐

Vehicle seized for no insurance in #Colchester by Essex Special Constables.

Find out more about the Special Constabulary
<https://essex.police.uk/.../ca/careers/special-constabulary/>

#epcolchester ... See more



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🐦 @EPColchester



Dates for your diary

Your community policing team are busy planning events and more are to be added—

Wednesday 11th August 2021—14:30-15:30 – Joint street meet with EP Marine unit and Essex Fire—Rowhedge Quay.

16:00-18:00—Ballin’ with a bobby—Old Heath Recreation Ground

Saturday 14th August 2021—10:00-11:00—Cops Outside Shops—
Tesco, Highwoods.

Sunday 15th August 2021—10:00-11:00—Cops Outside Shops—
Tesco, Tiptree

Wednesday 18th August 2021—16:00-18:00—Ballin’ With a Bobby -
Old Heath Rec.

Friday 20th August 2021—12:00-16:00—St Annes Fun day— The Oak Tree Centre.

Saturday 21st August 2021—15:00-16:00—Street Meet—Culver Square.

Sunday 22nd August 2021—12:00-15:00—Windrush Day—Firstsite

Wednesday 25th August 2021—16:00-18:00—Ballin’ With a Bobby - Old Heath Rec.

Saturday 28th August 2021— 10:00-1600—Colchester Pride—First Site

Wednesday 1st September 2021—16:00-18:00—Ballin with a Bobby—Old Heath
Rec

16:00-17:00—Street Meet—Go4 Café—Old heath rec.

Saturday 11th September 2021—12:00-15:00—Wivenhoe Fun day—King George playing fields.

Monday 20th September 2021—15:00-16:00—Coffee with Cops—Orpen Memorial Hall, West Bergholt.

Future dates will be advertised in future editions.



2021 Summertime Home Security Advice

With the removal of most Covid19 restrictions and as we start to spread our wings a little don't get complacent with your home security, unfortunately there are those that will take advantage of this newfound freedom to seek opportunities to commit crime.

Even if you are at home, home working or enjoying a 'staycation' still consider your home security for as it gets warmer, we get to see a rise in the number of "Creper Burglaries" where burglars take advantage of open gates, windows and doors. An open or insecure garden gate will provide the thief with access to the back of your home. **Before going out or turning in for the night don't forget to check all doors and windows**, someone may have closed it, but did they lock it?

A few tips for keeping your home secure:

Don't attract a thief with insecure pedal cycles or cars or gates on display.

Keep side or rear gates, sheds and garages shut and securely locked.

Doors - Leave any accessible external door open or insecure and an opportunist thief could pop in and anything lying around would be gone. You may have only popped out, or down the end of the garden or having a quick shower; it only takes a second for a thief to steal. Don't forget that with a PVCu multi-locking door you may have lifted the handle but until you turn the key (or on some doors a thumb turn on the inside) you have not locked all of the locking bolts in place.

Windows - If you have unoccupied rooms that are accessible to others from outside or off flat roofs make sure the windows are closed, if you need ventilation in these rooms whilst at home at least lock the larger window and only have the small window open even during the daytime. If you only have bigger opening windows, consider a lockable window restrictor and a small alarm sensor on the window to detect entry. Before going out or 'turning in for the night' lift the blinds or open the curtains and check windows and patio doors are closed, the sun may have been on the TV when it was hot, and so the curtains were drawn whilst the window was open.

If you have an intruder alarm activate it when going out and activate the zone for any unoccupied areas whilst in.

Car keys - **don't** take them to bed with you, where possible leave them in noisy drawer/location. Keep the keyless car fobs in a "Faraday" bag.

If you do hear a suspicious noise in the house that you are not happy with dial 999 and make a noise, shout out, it could cause any intruder to flee, they may not have known you were home, remember your life is more important than your property. If safe to do so, get a good description of the person/s and if possible the car index number and direction of travel.



Make sure in case of fire that keys to windows and doors are readily accessible to occupants at all times but not in view of possible burglars.

For further crime prevention advice see: www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/ or

