

Your local update

15
ISSUE

Colchester, Tiptree, Mersea, Wivenhoe and rural Colchester



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.

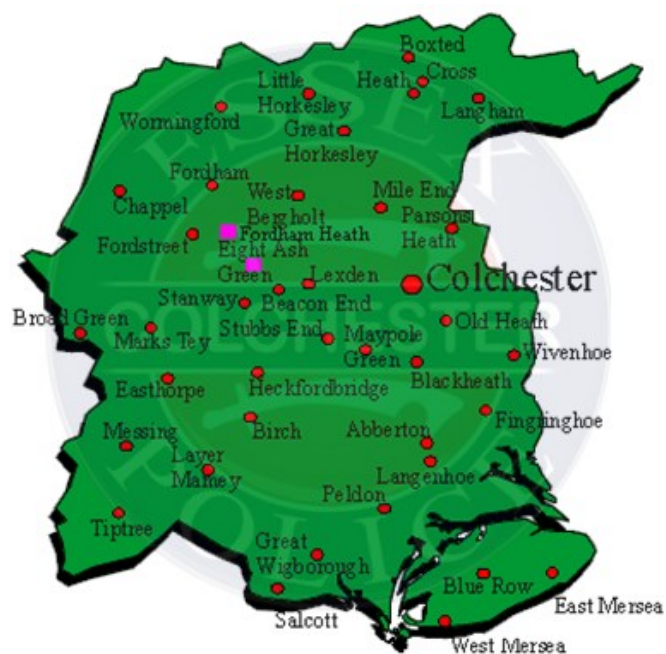
Colchester has a very clear focus on:

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.



This is a map of the area covered by the Colchester's policing team. As you can see we cover areas previously mentioned like the town centre, but also more rural areas such as Boxted and Fingringhoe and also areas such as Tiptree, Wivenhoe and Mersea Island. Along with all of the villages in between.

We continue to ensure all of our communities are kept safe by undertaking patrols of each area and working with our partners in all areas to ensure the Colchester district remains a safe place for people to live, work and visit.





Chief Inspector Rob Huddleston



Essex Police – Colchester



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@EPColchester



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

Welcome to your monthly update,

You will have seen the various stories in the local press around drink spiking and I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the work we and our partners are delivering. We are investigating every allegation, ensuring we secure CCTV from our venues and where possible forensic evidence. I have coordinated our partners and we have licensing, our Business Improvement District Team, Community Safety team, health and our volunteer organisations such as Essex Medusa, SOS Bus and Street pastors. Our venues are all delivering training to their staff, will be clearing unattended drinks faster, and we will be launching a media campaign to keep you informed on the run to Christmas. We see thousands of people enjoying the night time economy and Colchester remains a really safe place for a night out.

We have also been out working in Mersea, Tiptree, Wivenhoe, and our rural communities. In this edition you will read about our response to burglaries in Wivenhoe, work to prevent Anti Social Use of vehicles across the District, and our partnerships.

It was an honour to attend the Remembrance Parade, alongside our Chief Constable, to honour the fallen and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, thank you to all of the community who turned out and made it such an amazing tribute.

We now all turn out attention to the run up to Christmas, as we see our Christmas lights being switched on, with this are darker nights so remember to pull curtains, lock doors and windows and leave lights on to deter burglars, please visit our website for more crime prevention advice

I will be out across the District on patrol and look forward to meeting many of you then

Thanks all



Tackling Anti Social Behaviour



In partnership with Colchester Borough Homes we secured a closure order on a property which was subject to continuous reports of antisocial behaviour. The closure order prohibits anybody from being on the premises (including the tenants) for a three month period apart from the police and the representatives from Colchester Borough Homes. Once the order is in place we continue to visit to ensure the order is being complied with, and those found in breach of the order will be presented to the courts. Partnership working like this is key to prevent anti-social behaviour ruining our communities and is ongoing every day.

You will have seen us undertaking joint patrols in our Town Centre with colleagues from the Royal Military Police and this month has seen joint patrols on the “army estate” of St Michaels where we have carried out disruption patrols following reports of drug paraphernalia being found, luckily the items appeared to be used for medicinal purposes and disposed of in a black sack which an animal has dragged spilling the contents. Advice has been issued around the safe disposal of medical items.



Our local councillors work closely with us to help resolve issues affecting local communities and this month saw PCSO Ling patrol with Cllr Martin Goss around a local school to encourage parents to pay attention to their behaviour towards local residents

when attending the school.

Following an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour in the area of Magdalen street, officers from the community policing team have been undertaking directed patrols and engaging with those in the area to disrupt the behaviour and reassure local residents.



Knife crime

A man has been jailed within two days of being found in possession of a knife in Colchester.

Ben Goodspeed was stopped by officers from our North Disruptor Team in a car in Mersea Road on Tuesday, 2 November, after the car was driven away from officers going the wrong way in a one-way street.

The 22-year-old, of Monkwick Avenue, in the town, was found with the blade whist on licence for a serious assault which took place Osborne Street, Colchester, in January 2018.

He had admitted GBH with intent after stabbing his victim and was jailed for seven years in November of that year.

On Thursday (4 November), he admitted the knife offence at Colchester Magistrates' Court and was jailed for 18 weeks.

Sergeant Lee Palmer, of the North Disruptor Team, said:

"Goodspeed committed this offence whilst out on licence for a serious offence.

"Within two days, he was in front of the court and was handed another prison sentence.

"Rest assured that successful stops such as this are just one of the many duties that my team carries out across the north of the county to keep our communities safe."

Disruptor Teams, which were launched in May this year, investigate and tackle crimes such as antisocial behaviour within our communities across the county.



Officers from the community policing team and Colchester United Football Club delivered United Against Knife Crime, a talk we encourage schools and youth groups to promote. 25 young people aged between 12-16 years old attended the talk which covers a range of topics and is an educational piece around the dangers of knife crime. It also includes information as to who young people can confide in if they have information around knife crime in their communities such as telling parents, police, teachers and crime stoppers anonymously.

If you know, or suspect somebody is carrying a knife, please report it. A high percentage of knife wounds are caused by somebodies own knife, so this may be the best way to protect them. If you do not feel confident in reporting it to the police, crimestoppers can take reports where you remain 100% anonymous and this information is passed to us anonymously.

CrimeStoppers.
Speak up. Stay safe.

0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.



Rural Policing



This month we have been out patrolling our rural villages and responding to community concerns which include speed deployments in Great Tey and dealing with dangerous parking in Fin-gringhoe. We have been speaking with some of our community speed watch groups and are pleased to hear some of the groups have new members.

We have been conducting high visibility patrols around Blind lane, Birch and Abberton as well as visiting Chappel, Wakes Colne, Pel-don and many other of our villages.



If you are experiencing non urgent issues in your area the best ways to report these to the police are through the following methods. Please remember in an emergency please dial 999.

Telephone—101.

Online—www.essex.police.uk—here we have two options, to fill out an online report, or between 7am-11pm we utilise a live chat function, so you can speak to somebody through chat online about the issue.

In person—You can visit our police station on Southway, Colchester or speak to one of our officers or PCSO's while they are out carrying out patrols in your area.

We also speak regularly with your parish councils, and they often report things on your behalf, so we encourage you to keep them updated and follow your parish council newsletter.

Policing West Mersea

We have been out patrolling West Mersea on foot over the past months, as the island see's less visitors as the warm weather fades away, we are there to remind local residents and businesses that we are here to help you, and keep you safe. On one set of foot patrol we even managed to re-unite a dog with its owner after the dog had decided to take itself for a walk.



We have also been continuing to work closely with our partners in environmental health and the GLAA around the illegal distribution of oysters that are picked from around the island. This work continues all year around and we support our partner agencies in various deployments throughout the year.



Policing Tiptree

This month community policing inspector, Jon Evans, met with Rob Williams, the clerk to Tiptree Parish Council to discuss issues and policing in Tiptree and how best we can ensure Tiptree residents and businesses can feel safe. They even went for a joint patrol around Tiptree while looking at the amazing facility at Grove road playing park.

Our PCSO's have been completing a number of high visibility patrols in Tiptree over the month speaking to local residents and businesses.



Policing Wivenhoe

This month we saw PCSO Emma Wright undertake a “cops inside shops” at the Co-op on the high street to speak to residents about home security and she had some selcta DNA kits to hand out to concerned residents. She has also been out door knocking on residents with Essex Fire and rescue again offering home security advice. We have seen an increase in reports of burglaries in Wivenhoe and while we have made arrests in connection to these, enquiries are still ongoing and we are reminding residents to keep their properties safe.

You will have seen us carrying out a number of high visibility patrols in Wivenhoe, and you may have seen us conducting speed checks too. This ensures road safety and helps people coming into, or leaving Wivenhoe see a visible police presence.

We have arrested two people in connection with the burglaries reported in Wivenhoe and they both remain under investigation while our CID department continue to gather evidence.



We are delighted to announce our Community Safety and Engagement Officers will be holding monthly surgeries in West Mersea, Tiptree and Wivenhoe starting in January 2022. While this is not a place to report crime—it gives the communities more chance to come and speak with the officers about local issues, crime prevention advice, or just for a chat.

Tiptree Library—First Tuesday of every month 10:00-11:30.

Wivenhoe Library—First Thursday of every month 10:00-11:30

West Mersea Library—First Thursday of Every month 13:00-14:30.



Night Time Economy Policing

Colchester enjoys a vibrant Town Centre Night Time economy with a range of restaurants, bars, clubs, theatres and cinema. There are also events throughout the year and last month saw the addition of the fireworks display in Castle Park which regularly attracts more than 10,000 to watch. Your community Policing Team, and Special Constables worked with organisers, to ensure those who attended had a safe and enjoyable evening and that everybody got home without issue.



Over weekends we have a visible presence in the Town Centre engaging with our venues, volunteers, and working side by side with a range of partners to ensure visitors enjoy their night out safely. We visit licensed premises, and engage through pub watch ensuring that businesses in our town work within their licences and uphold their responsibility to keep you safe inside their venue. Security at the venues work with us and each other and we have seen an increase in venues searching people before they enter the premises in response to allegations of drink spiking in the town. This is something we support and will work with security in bring those to justice who try and take illegal items into pubs, bars and nightclubs.

Colchester Borough Council, licensing and safety teams, work to ensure those working are also safe, licensing taxi's to keep you safe but also responding to ensure drivers are safe. CCTV monitor and ensure we get early notice of emerging incidents.

You will see us around the town centre and we are always there to help and have a conversation. If you have concerns and cannot find us, you can speak to members of the SOS bus or security at any venue who will be able to help keep you safe until we arrive.



As part of our plan to keep you safe in the town we run regular road traffic operations to deter anybody that is coming into Colchester with bad intentions and we also deploy plain clothed officers into the town and surrounding areas to observe for any suspicious people around.

Colchester remains a safe town to live, work and visit however this does not mean you should not take some simple steps to keep yourself safe, such as never leaving your drink unattended or ensuring you have a taxi booked to take you home.

Remember if you see anything suspicious report it—either to door staff at a venue or direct to police at the earliest opportunity.



Remembrance Parade



Sunday 14th November 2021 saw the remembrance parade assemble at the cenotaph at the top of the high street. It was attended by veterans, soldiers, youth groups and many members of the public to show their respects to those who have tragically lost their lives serving the country.

Our community policing team, special constabulary, police cadets, district commander and Chief Constable all attended the service to work with the royal military police in ensuring the parade and service were carried out with the respect those we remember deserve.

In Colchester we are lucky to have such a close affiliation with the military due to Colchester being home to the 16th Air Assault Brigade. As a police service we have strong and close working relationships with the military and the royal military police in Colchester and it is great to see from the high street being filled with people the support our military community receive.



As a policing team we really enjoy supporting this event every year and we will continue to do so.



Colchester Community Christmas Giving Tree

**PRESENTS
WANTED**



**ESSEX
POLICE**

Protecting and serving Essex

Colchester Community Christmas Giving Tree

Donate a small unwrapped toy or gift so we can
deliver to a vulnerable child this Christmas

Donate before
Sunday 5th December 2021

DROP OFF POINTS –
Colchester Police Station
Sainsbury's Tollgate
Tesco's Highwoods
Tesco's Greenstead

Working with volunteers and partners to make Christmas in Essex special for everyone

We are pleased to be running the Colchester community giving tree once again this year. Last year in Colchester alone we managed to provide a gift for over 900 vulnerable children within our community. This was all done to the community spirit and generosity of our residents to kindly donate gifts. As one of the officers involved last year, I can truly say I was blown away by the kindness of those who donated.

However another year has passed and we are now looking to improve on what we have done last year. So we have already been in touch with our partners at social care, domestic abuse charities, local schools to find out how many children will be in need of a gift this year so they have something to open on Christmas day.

Last year we could not have done it without YOUR help, and we are again asking if you can and you would like to donate a small gift to brighten a child's Christmas. If you would like to details of drop off points are above, or visit our facebook page—Essex Police—Colchester District for the link to the amazon wishlist.



In Your Area



Engaging with our communities

This month has seen us engage with a number of different communities.

We were pleased to attend Monkwick youth club in company with Cllr Dave Harris where we engaged with the young people of Monkwick playing games and speaking about policing in general.

We also attended the youth activity run by African families in the UK whereby we played basketball and then delivered a seminar around stop and search and peoples rights, discussing the positives and negatives of stop and search.

PC Mond attended the Castle Gate Centre to speak to adults with learning disabilities and their carers and joined in activities within the group.

We have visited a number of pre schools, primary schools and secondary schools speak about policing, including presenting to a group of secondary school children about policing as a career choice, and inspired primary school children by getting them to explore their detective skills by investigating a missing person, which leads nicely into a talk about anti social behaviour and peer pressure.

We also enjoyed our monthly visit to our local woman's refuge speaking to victims of domestic abuse and building trust between them and the police.



Upcoming Events

Below are some of our pre planned events for our communities to come and speak to us in person. Please note events are added regularly so please check our social media accounts for up to date events.

On the first Monday of EVERY month (excluding bank holidays) we will be in the C360 hub on long wyre street, Colchester town centre (the old Poundland building) between 11am and 12pm having a cup of coffee—so please come and say hello and join us either for a conversation about your local area, anything police related, or just to say hello.

From January 2022 we will be in the local Libraries as per below:

First Tuesday of every month between 10:00-11:30 at Tiptree Library.

First Thursday of every month between 10:00-11:30 at Wivenhoe Library.

First Thursday of every month between 13:00-14:30 at West Mersea Library.

Saturday 20th November 2021— Cops outside Shops—Sainsbury's Tollgate—3pm-4pm

Saturday 27th November 2021—Cops outside Shops—Tesco's Tiptree -12pm-1pm

Saturday 4th December 2021—Cops outside Shops—Sainsbury's Tollgate—4pm-5pm

Sunday 12th December 2021—Cops outside shops—Sainsburys Tollgate—10am-11am

Sunday 19th December 2021—Cops outside shops— Tesco's Tiptree- 12pm-1pm

You can report all non urgent matters via our website—www.essex.police.uk, by either completing an online report or utilising the live chat option between 7am-11pm.

If you do not have access to internet you can still use the 101 telephone system.

In an emergency always use 999.



Report

Digital 101
essex.police.uk

Report anti-social behaviour online
Do it online at:
essex.police.uk



Cycle Security – New bike for Christmas?



Cycle security is always an issue with many being stolen from locations including the town centre, residential areas, and educational establishments. Commonly cycles are not secured properly, don't make it easy for thieves: - 1. Double lock it - using two locks slows thieves down and makes your bike less of a target. Use two quality locks, at least one of which is a D-lock. Thieves are less likely to carry multiple tools, so use two different types of lock if possible. 2. Lock the lot - lock the frame and both wheels to a secure cycle stand. 3. Secure it - secure your bike as close to the stand as possible to give any thieves little or no room to manoeuvre. 4. Take removable parts with you - Take parts that are easy to remove with you, such as wheels, lights, baskets, or the saddle. Or use locking skewers or nuts which can increase security by securing the bike's components to the frame permanently. 5. Park securely - Lock your bike at recognised secure cycle parking. It should be well lit, overlooked and covered by CCTV.

Where do they go? Number of places: - locally, in a container abroad, to another part of the country, stored in premises for later sale or sold as either a cycle or cycle parts via the internet, or third parties.

By taking some appropriate precautions and using good quality security products, and using them well, should help you to keep your property safe. Use the best security you can afford. Don't secure a £2,000 bicycle with a £10-£20 lock! As a guide look to spend 10-15% of the value of the item on its security. Look for a "Sold Secure" certified chain **and** padlock or "D – Lock" preferably gold rated but certainly not below silver.

Make a note of the frame number, security mark the cycle, there are a number of different methods available such as www.datatag.co.uk, www.bikeregister.com, (others are available and can be found on the Secured by Design website below) and you can register property including cycles free of charge at www.immobilise.com. Take a photograph of the cycle and any areas of damage or marks of identification, some insurance companies may require one with the owner in the picture with it.

Don't forget at home: 1) don't leave garage doors open for long periods showing your expensive cycle and other property, 2) consider a "Ground anchor" or "Shed shackle" within your shed or garage to secure your cycle to, 3) look at your shed or garages security and ensure you have good locks and that the hinges are protected, 4) consider a shed alarm.

Check with your insurance company to see what security standards they require for your insurance cover to be valid.

For suitable security products see www.securedbydesign.com or www.soldsecure.com.

For further advice see: <https://www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/how-safe-is-your-bike/>, <https://www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice/bike-security> and <https://securityforbikes.com/bicycle-security-advice.php>





A FUTURE WITHOUT
DOMESTIC ABUSE

All I want for Christmas is to be safe.

We work with survivors of domestic abuse to help them make choices to reclaim their lives and begin their next chapter.

We offer the following support services:

- > Refuge Accomodation
- > Community Outreach
- > Counselling
- > Training and Awareness
- > Children and Young People's Services

We're here for you

Get in touch with Next Chapter Duty Team: **01206 500585 opt 2**

COMPASS Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline: **0330 333 7444**

www.thenextchapter.org.uk Live web chat service available

Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm & 1:30pm – 4:30pm

COMPASS



In partnership with

