

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27TH SEPTEMBER 2021

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PARTNERSHIPS

A.1 CRIME AND DISORDER / SAFER COMMUNITIES

Report prepared by Leanne Thornton – Community Engagement Manager

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To address the issues of Anti-Social Behaviour and Domestic Abuse across the district, and to understand the various “Watch Groups” operating in the district.

INVITEES

Acting Chief Inspector Martin Richards (Tendring District Commander) Essex Police

Essex Watch Liaison Officer – North LPA – Terry Fowles.

Acting Chief Inspector Richards will be undertaking a presentation to the Committee as well as answering questions on the recorded crime (including domestic abuse) and levels of Anti-Social Behaviour across the district.

Terry Fowles will be in attendance to answer questions about the various Watch Groups that function in the district including Neighbourhood Watch (NHW).

BACKGROUND

To help inform the emerging Police and Crime Plan, consider the implications of the plan for the district and to examine ways to support the community to address violence in a domestic setting and anti-social behaviour.

To understand the numbers of Police Officers and PCSO's over the last 5 years, what the current establishment of Officers is for Tendring district.

The extent to which Homewatch (or other Watch) groups exist across the District, the information flow to and from them and the support they require.

DETAILED INFORMATION

The Police & Crime Plan has been out for consultation since May 2021, at a recent Safer Essex Meeting the emerging themes were presented and discussed, these themes / emerging priorities were:

Further Investment in Crime Prevention

Our objective is to invest in activities and initiatives that prevent crime from happening in the first place, reducing overall crime and keeping our communities safe.

This objective includes the following:

- delivering more officers on top of the additional officers already delivered since 2016.
- Investing in neighbourhood policing to get crime down.
- Build on the success of our Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) by encouraging increased targeting of hotspots and known offenders to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB).
- Invest further in Town Centre Teams following their success at getting crime down.
- Work with partners to improve community safety by investing in designing out crime.

Improving our Services to Support Victims of Crime

Our objective is to recognise and prevent the harm caused to victims by the crime they experience, and the need to protect those who are most vulnerable to becoming victims.

This objective includes the following:

- Ensure victims are referred to support services tailored to their needs such as Restorative Justice.
- Collaborate with partners to share data and identify those most vulnerable to becoming victims and then delivered tailored, multi agency interventions to reduce the number of people becoming victims.
- Provide extra support and early intervention for people with additional needs or who are at increased risk.

Reducing Drug Driven Violence

Through our Violence and Vulnerability Partnership we will:

- protect vulnerable people from gangs while we deal with the hardened criminals who prey on them.
- Take a public health approach to crime, focusing on keeping young people free from crime and intervening early to help steer them to a successful life course.
- Continue to fund projects across Essex focused on reducing serious violence.
- Fund activity to work with people vulnerable to being groomed into gangs, County Lines and drug driven violence.
- Fund activity to target gang members and help them step away from a criminal lifestyle.

Protecting Rural and Isolated Areas

This objective includes the following:

- Make further investment in fighting rural crimes, such as hare coursing, wildlife crime, heritage crime, fuel theft, unauthorised incursions, and fly-tipping as well as the theft of major plant and equipment.

Improving Safety on Our Roads

Together with the Safer Essex Roads Partnership this includes:

- Collaborate with councils and developers to ensure new and improved road networks are safe and have safety technology built in when they are developed.
- Invest in better speed cameras and upgraded Automatic Number Plate Recognition tracking.
- Co-locate Safer Essex Roads Partnership agencies to ensure a better service to the public.
- Work with rural communities and businesses to understand and improve rural road safety.

Encouraging Volunteers and Community Support

- Continue to grow the Special Constabulary with the aim to have a Special Constable in every town and parish by growing the Community Special programme, and one in every major business through the Employer Supported Policing Scheme.
- Continue to support and collaborate with Neighbourhood Watch and look to develop other watch schemes such as Farm Watch and Pub Watch as well as supporting Crimestoppers.

Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable People and the Victims of Crime

Our objective is to give a voice to those who need protection, support the vulnerable and reduce the number of people who becomes the victims of crime.

This objective includes the following:

- Have an even sharper focus on promoting awareness of domestic abuse, protecting, and supporting victims and survivors, and their dependents, investing further to strengthen the support available to them.
- Build on the work already started to further develop our understanding of the specific nature and impact of domestic abuse in rural communities and invest in initiatives to prevent and tackle it.
- Continue programme of investment in dedicated officers working in collaboration with other partners to support high volume repeat victims and tackle repeat perpetrators and break the cycle of domestic abuse.

Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls

We will not tolerate male violence against women in any form, from sexual abuse and domestic abuse to verbal abuse and harassment in public places.

Our objective is to support a cultural change within society and provide strong, consistent, and vocal support for the safety of women and girls whether they report crimes against them or not.

Prevent Dog Theft

Our objective is to do more to protect our pets and build confidence in how Essex Police handle dog thefts

Tackle Business Crime, Fraud and Cyber Crime

Our objective is to work with businesses and individuals to tackle the surge in fraud and cyber-crime and to support Essex Police' Business Crime Strategy to help keep

businesses safe.

Data on recorded crime (including domestic abuse), crime survey data and anti-social behaviour levels over the last five years – See Appendix A for detailed breakdown

Numbers of Police and PCSOs over the same period for the District of Tendring.

Statistics are unavailable at this time, however, there are new officers stationed within Tendring and the recruitment drive for PCSO's is ongoing with interviews taking place at present.

Details of measures specifically taken on the issue of domestic violence.

- Tendring Police have a dedicated Domestic Abuse Team (DAIT) stationed at Clacton Police Station – All medium/High Risk DA's are reviewed/Investigated by the team.
- National Centre for Domestic Violence (NCDV) – this organisation take Referrals, however the Officer can only complete a referral on the victim's request.
- Next Chapter' is a Domestic Abuse Charity and take referrals young persons involved in Domestic Abuse, as well as providing Refuge services for adult women. Partnership working has been established with the Young Person's Officer in the North LPA linking in with local schools to help support youths with this pathway.
- National campaign, 'Ask ANI' - Domestic abuse codeword for pharmacies – People can attend a pharmacy showing the sign for "Ask ANI" and the staff within the pharmacy would know this person needs to discuss domestic abuse. Campaign is active in most Tendring Pharmacies.

Details on local watch schemes including Neighbourhood Wtch and Community Speed Watch.

- Two priority road safety campaigns are currently being prepared by the Safer Essex Roads Partnership: * Young Driver * "Street Spirit", focused on Moped riders.
- Intelligence-led multi-agency operations focus on enforcing fatal 4 (speed, seatbelts, drink/drug driving/mobile phones)
- "Extra Eyes" campaign continues to review average 320 incidents supported with footage, prosecuting on average 140 road users.
- Tendring have various Community Speed Watch volunteers, based across Tendring – They work independently and alongside the local PCSO's.

To examine ways to support community schemes to address anti-social behaviour.

- The Children and Young Persons (CYP) officers are working with YMCA (a youth outreach program) and the EP/ECFRS Education team to provide workshops for young people on issues such as; gangs, knife crime, Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Hate Crime. The work aims to build trust and confidence in police for young people so they feel more comfortable in reporting crime if they become a victim.
- Tendring Police have joined forces with The Community Safety Partnership (TDC) for their Street Action Days, this has enabled us to collate information and identify areas effected by ASB.

Reports/use of unlawful e-scooters and enforcement against those who use them.

- E Scooter campaign - Op Solstice carried out across Tendring.
- On 14 June Essex Police commenced a Force wide E scooter campaign (Op Solstice) under the umbrella of Op Sunshade.
The aim of the campaign was to provide a focussed period of enforcement and education activity, aimed at those riders choosing to use e- Scooters in an illegal or anti-social manner.
Essex Police wrote to schools and asked them to brief parents to raise the awareness that private e scooters are illegal and only to be used on private land.
- The Roads Policing Unit led the campaign and provided guidance in relation to legislation but in essence unless the e scooter is part of the government scheme being run by Spin (grey and orange scooters) then it will be illegal, as there is no legal way of obtaining insurance and it can therefore be seized.
- Essex Police did not want to criminalise young children but if there are other offences going on (ASB, Drug running etc) action to be taken.

Tendring “Watch” – Information provided by Terry Fowles – Essex Watch Liaison Officer

Listed below are the various “Watches” running in the Tendring District and numbers of members in each watch.

- Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) = 117 Co-Ordinators with approximately 3,000 members across the district
- Dog Watch = 217
- Farm & Rural Watch (mostly farms) = 22
- Heritage (mostly site owners/managers) = 7
- Marine Watch = 5
- Caravan Watch (Mostly Sites/Holiday Camps, a few private owners) = 21
- Allotment Watch = 1 (requires promotion)
- Business Watch – Being developed at present (requires promotion)

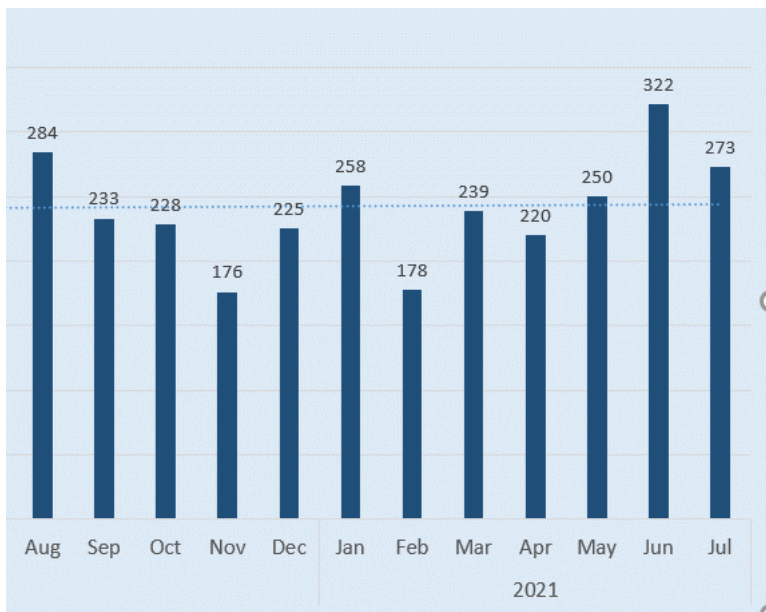
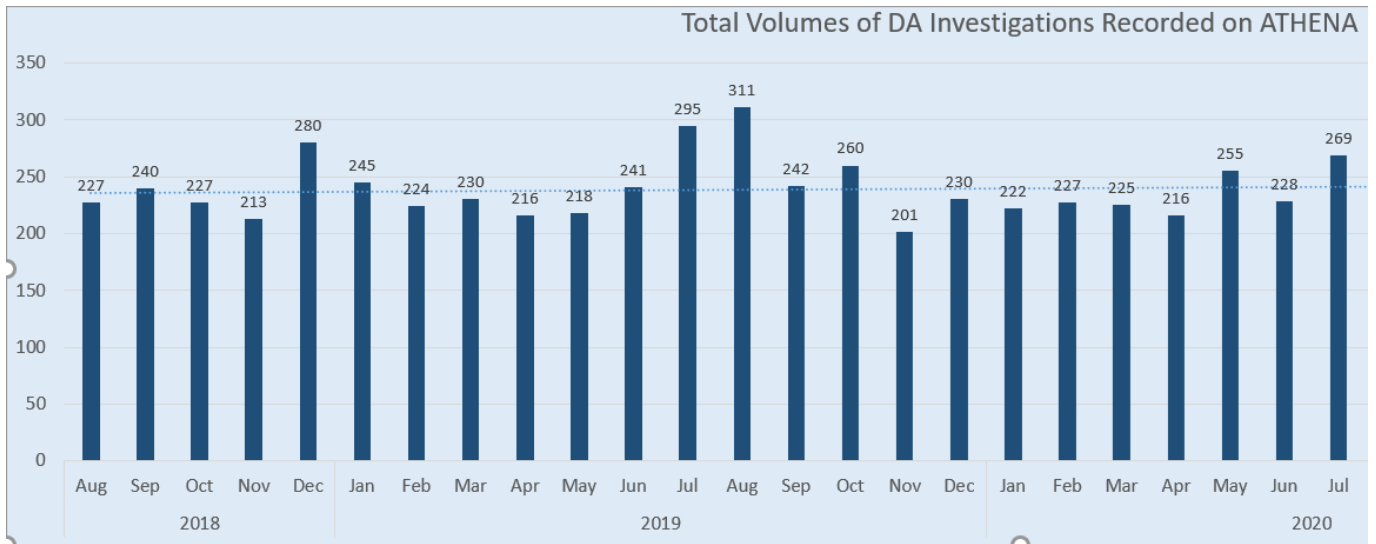
RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee determines whether it has any comments or recommendations it wishes to put forward to the relevant Portfolio Holder or Cabinet.

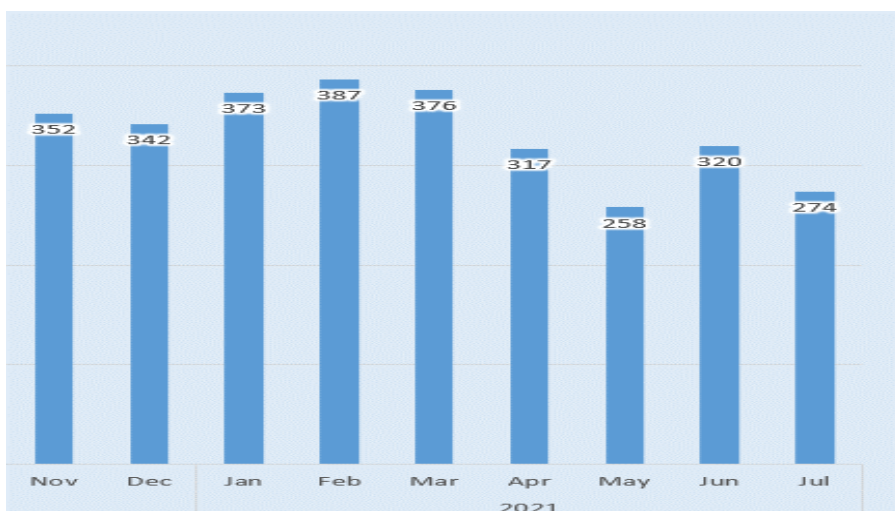
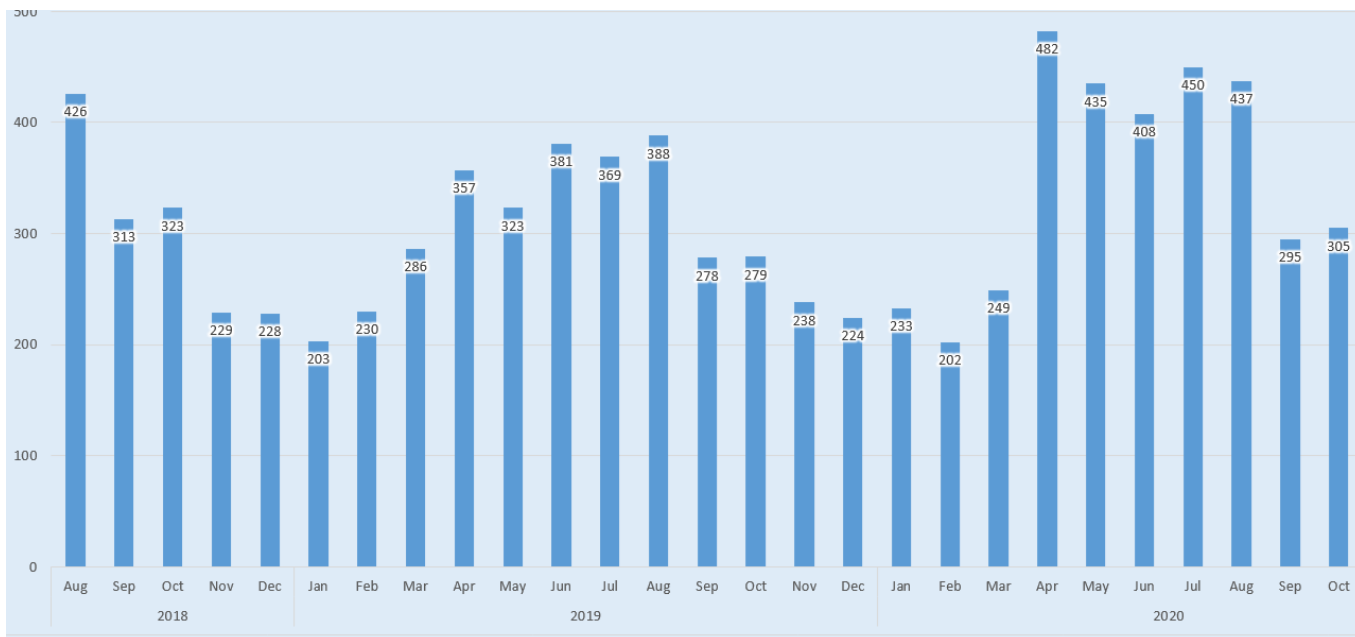
APPENDIX A

All Crime - 12 months to July 2021 - Tendring

Crime/Incident Type	# offence		# diff	% diff	District vs Force %	Per 1000 Pop.	District vs Force Per Pop diff
	Trending 12M						
	2020	2021					
ALL CRIME	13727	13712	-15	-0.1	2.6	93.6	10.0
Violence with Injury	1467	1353	-114	-7.8	-3.6	9.2	1.7
Violence without Injury	2427	2600	173	7.1	7.1	17.7	3.1
Stalking and Harassment**	2285	2759	474	20.7	2.8	18.8	4.2
Sexual Offences	402	541	139	34.6	18.4	3.7	0.8
Robbery	100	69	-31	-31.0	-23.6	0.5	-0.2
Residential Burglary	535	350	-185	-34.6	-4.1	5.6	-0.9
Business and Community Burglary	231	127	-104	-45.0	-18.1	0.9	0.0
Dwelling Burglary (pre-Apr 17 definition)	371	240	-131	-35.3	-1.1	3.9	-0.4
Other Burglary (pre-Apr 17 definition)	395	237	-158	-40.0	-15.4	1.6	-0.1
Theft from a Vehicle	425	255	-170	-40.0	-24.8	1.7	-1.3
Theft of a Vehicle	223	142	-81	-36.3	-22.4	1.0	-1.0
Theft from the Person	72	44	-28	-38.9	-22.5	0.3	-0.2
Theft of Pedal Cycles	134	108	-26	-19.4	-3.8	0.7	-0.1
Shoplifting	569	465	-104	-18.3	-6.3	3.2	-1.0
Other Theft	885	808	-77	-8.7	-1.8	5.5	0.1
Criminal Damage (incl. arson)	1476	1484	8	0.5	12.8	10.1	2.3
Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	3866	4034	168	4.3	-11.6	27.5	-1.9



Domestic Abuse Statistics – 2018 - 2021



Top 20 Beats Last 3 Years	Monthly Rate	
Pier	1781	49.47
Golf Green	878	24.39
Rush Green	732	20.33
Alton Park	577	16.03
Harwich West Central	574	15.94
Harwich East	571	15.86
St Marys	486	13.50
Harwich East Central	486	13.50
Walton	446	12.39
St Osyth and Point Clear	427	11.86
St Pauls	369	10.25
Brightlingsea	355	9.86
St Johns	342	9.50
Bockings Elm	312	8.67
Peter Bruff	304	8.44
Ramsey and Parkeston	270	7.50
St James	268	7.44

Anti-Social Behaviour Statistics – 2018 – 2021

Trending Q4 2020/21 Public Perception Survey Results

The following dashboard summarises data collected as part of the Essex Police Public Perceptions Survey 2017/18 – 2020/21. The results represent the combined sample of interviews across each year. The annual sample size for the survey is 7,710 Essex residents – approx. 550 annually from each of the 14 Districts. Significant trends have been highlighted in the Key Insights section – changes of (+/-) 6% should be considered significant.

