



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.

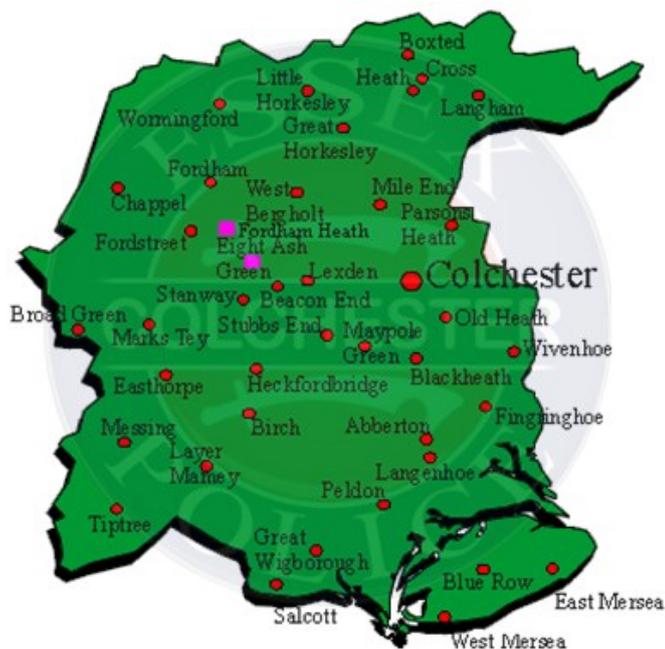
Colchester has a very clear focus on:

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

Christmas is always a busy period and this December was no different, we saw multiple arrests disrupting drug driven violence as an investigation came to fruition, sixteen people spent time with us resulting in numerous charges for violence and drug offences. We also worked with our Safer Colchester Partnership to police our night time economy and ensure those enjoying nights out in the run up to Christmas stayed safe.

We work with a range of partners and have some fantastic volunteers work alongside us, from our Special Constables, Cadets and Active citizens, to our SOS Bus and Street Pastors there are so many people willing to give up their time for their community and this is a great opportunity to say thank you to them all, it was great to see you on our nights of action in December.

Not only do we fight crime we spend time supporting the most vulnerable in our society and Colchester came together to support again with our Christmas Tree appeal ensuring vulnerable young people enjoyed Christmas too.

January sees us deploying as part of a National Neighbourhood Policing Week celebrating the work of our Community Policing Team and we will share some of those stories in the next edition.

I wish you all a Happy and Safe New Year



Tackling Nuisance Vehicles

This month we have continued to make Colchester a safer place to live, visit and work through our continued efforts to reduce anti social behaviour in the town.

Throughout the end of November and December we have been focusing on the continued reports of nuisance vehicles across the district, seeing the most complaints come from Abberton, Blind Lane, Stanway and several business park. We have been speaking to local residents and councillors about how we can work together and resolve the issue.

We have been utilising our roads policing unit and specialist departments who have been deploying with the community policing team to these locations. Some of the reports are regarding the manner in which vehicles are being driven which causes danger for other road users.

Officers have been using their powers under section 59 of the police reform act and issued community protection warnings to those who are around and causing anti social behaviour, meaning if these people continue to do so, we have the power to seize their vehicle, and they could face prosecution.

We have also conducted speeding operations around these area's whereby fixed penalty notices have been issued.

If you witness road traffic offences you can report them to the below website—there is some criteria and evidence you require to submit however it is a great tool to help keep our roads safe www.saferessexroads.org



Throughout the month we have been working with partners to reduce ASB within the town centre by conducting joint disruption patrols and also been supporting local shops and businesses in the build up for Christmas. If you see our officers outside a shop, please feel free to go and say hello and pass on any issues you may be experiencing in your area for us to listen and act where we can.

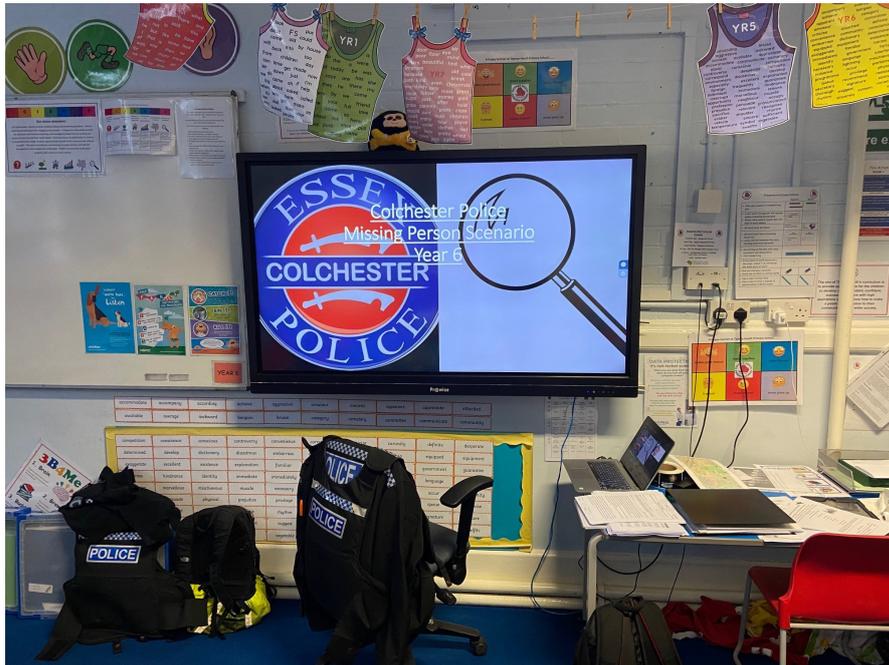


Working with Schools

Our CSEO's have been lucky enough to visit several primary schools around the district and complete some work with them.

We visited Cherry Tree Primary School due to their school council having concerns about speeding motorists passing their school. We have completed speed checks here before but we thought this time we could make it more impactful. The school council at Cherry Tree joined us for our speed deployment, learning how to use the radio's, complete checks on cars and how to use the speed guns.

The children caught in excess of 10 drivers speeding in the hour we were out, all of whom were spoken to by the children who explained the dangers of them speeding in front of their school.



We have also been continuing our work in educating young people in the way their behaviour outside of the home can affect their community. We have been running a missing person scenario with Year 6 children whereby they investigate the circumstances of a teenage boy going missing—luckily each time so far we have found him, however to hear some of the things he has been up to, creates a very interesting conversation each time with the classes to hear their thoughts and experiences of anti social behaviour and peer pressure. The schools we have recently conducted this include Tiptree and Montgomery Junior school. On the next page of this news-

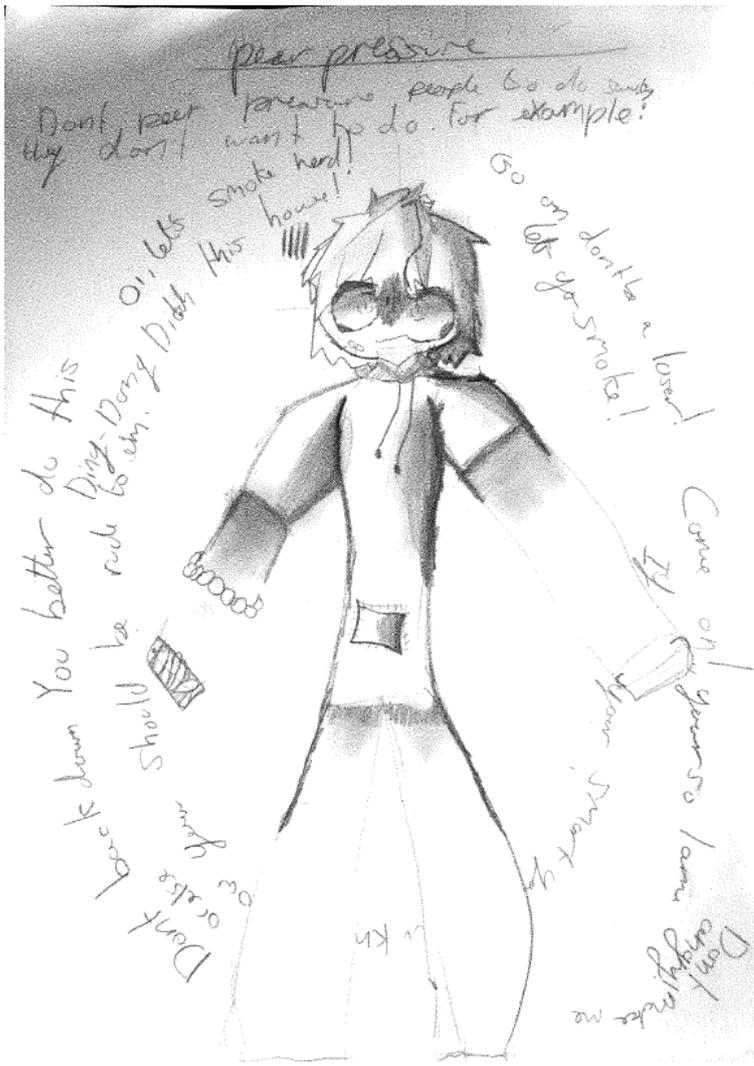
letter you can see some of the fantastic work children from **Montgomery Junior school** have completed around what they have learnt from the session about anti social behaviour and peer pressure.

If you would like us to complete an activity within your school please contact us

at : colchestercommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk



Some work from Montgomery Junior School following completion of the missing person scenario.



Peer Pressure

Don't do it!
 you'll ruin someones life,
 you'll make them hurt,
 you'll make them cry,
 you'll make them want to die.
 Don't do it,
 Making them do something
 will make you less,
 will make them hurt,
 will make them cry,
 will make them like you less.
 Don't do it!

One of the effects of peer pressure.



Help

How can you help even if it's be dealt with?
 Even if it is dealt with are you helped enough by an adult?
 Learn to help and you will be a helper although your help can help against you.
 Pressure is what you go through in most situations so learn to do it!

JUST SHOUT OUT FOR
 HELP
BE THE HELPER



Anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behavior is where you do something that will annoy someone else



If someone forces you to do this such as kicking a ball on someone's lawn or making loud noise late is anti-social behavior

If you get caught you can be in serious trouble or pay a fine even if you don't

Things like digging ditches or playing away from them

Anti-Social behaviour and why not to do it

Please don't run away from home or school you will get in trouble!

Stand up for yourself and be a big stander!

Don't let someone make you do anything!

Police visit

The Force Behind the Badge
 NOW RECRUITING
 www.essex.police.uk/detectives

ESSEX POLICE

Some people are horrible and they pressure you to do something you wouldn't want to do.

Peer pressure

What you think is okay might not be, take responsibility for your actions.

Look around to see if anyone is getting what you are up to!

Do not let anyone make you do anything!

Do not let anyone make you do anything!

Do not let anyone make you do anything!



Anti-Social Behaviour

What is anti-social behaviour?
 Anti-social behaviour is when people act in a way that affects others negatively. This could be small like knocking on a door and missing, it could be big like vandalism but either way it is unacceptable.



How to stop it
 Anti-social behaviour is stoppable. But the only way to do it is for everyone to think about their actions and think from other people's perspective



Driving down drug driven violence

Officers in Colchester have arrested a number of people as part of a coordinated strike against drug-driven violence in the town.

On 9th December 2022, officers from Essex Police Serious Violence Unit, Colchester Community Policing Team, North Disruptor Team and Operational Support Group executed ten warrants at addresses across the town which we suspect to be linked to drug dealing and associated violence. During the warrants we seized a large amount of suspected Class A and Class B drugs and more than £20,000 in cash. Among those arrested this morning are two men, aged 31 and 24 and from Colchester, on suspicion of GBH with intent.

In addition to our strikes 9th December 2022 we conducted a further number of warrants were executed on 14th December whereby further class A and B drugs were recovered.



In total we charged 16 people with a range of offences, including charging people with GBH with intent, Supplying Class A drugs and possession with intent to supply class A drugs.

Not stopping at the charges laid, we have also worked with the licensing team and Colchester Borough Council and given notice on two licensed premises for their licenses to be reviewed due to the information gathered during the investigation.

Chief Inspector Rob Huddleston, Colchester District Commander, said:

“Colchester has an incredibly lively town centre – one which we know attracts many people from outside the town.

“And while the vast majority of people visiting our town and our venues are enjoying themselves safely and are simply out to have a good time, the reality is some are not; some people are intent on using the town to sell drugs.

“We have been consistent in our message to drug dealers; you are not welcome here. Drug dealing and the violence which goes with it are not welcome in our town.

Today, we have carried out a large-scale operation which involved many teams from across the force coming together in coordinated action in support of local officers, to keep Colchester safe.

“But it is just one element of our operation, which will remain ongoing.

“Where appropriate, we will offer support to those who need it, but we also need to bring justice for the communities which are being impacted.

“My priority is to ensure our incredible town remains safe for the people who live, work and study here and the thousands of people who visit it each year.”



Operation Matterhorn



Operation Matterhorn saw more than 140 Special Constables work alongside Police Staff, Cadets and Active Citizens to target different areas of policing including high harm offenders, drugs, and County lines and ASB.

Colchester saw a team of 15 officers deployed to two main locations within the district in uniform and plain clothes supported with a knife arch to look to disrupt and deter criminality. The team used the deployment to create brilliant engagement opportunities to re-assure the public.

The team of volunteer officers worked over 120 hours, carrying out 7 stop and searches. Three of these stop and searches were positive for Cannabis, MDMA and Drug Paraphernalia in various forms. Police Information reports were submitted, and the team reported engaging with over 330 members of the public.

Further officers from our special constabulary undertook patrols in our rural villages and even found a disqualified driver driving around. Safe to say the officers seized his vehicle and have completed the paperwork to ensure the driver gets another court appearance.



Special constables are volunteer police officers so what they have achieved in one weekend is a great example as to the value they add to the force. They have all of the same powers, uniform and equipment as your full time police officers and sacrifice their own time to make our communities safer.

If you are interested in becoming a special constable all we ask is that you volunteer a minimum of 16 hours per month you can find out more information here—www.essex.police.uk



Colchester Community Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to all who participated in our Christmas Giving Tree ensuring vulnerable and disadvantaged children received a gift for Christmas, it is your generosity and support that makes this a success.

Officers wrapped over 2,500 presents and delivered those to over 500 children working alongside local schools, social care and wider children's services

Thank you all again for your generosity which had such a positive impact for so many children this year



African Families in the UK Christmas Party



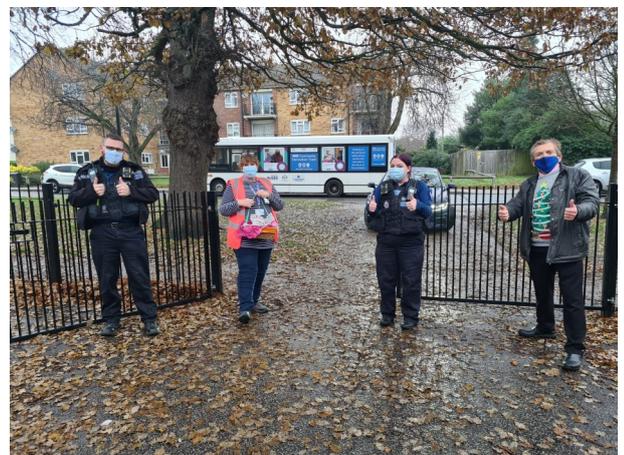
Thank you to African Families in the UK for their invitation to join their Christmas party, it was a great opportunity to share experiences with the young people and understand their challenges, and concerns.

Rachel Wolton (co founder) presented Chief Inspector Huddleston with her recently published book, *The Ambassador—How to grow community leaders*. The officers joined in with the group in their activities of making cup cakes, playing basketball, break dancing and many more activities.

Night Time Economy Policing

Throughout December we have continued our high visibility presence within the town centre while our pubs and nightclubs are open. We have run a number of partnership activity evenings whereby we patrolled with members of our dog section, Community policing team, special constabulary road policing team, NHS, mental health professionals, Colchester Borough Council staff, members of the licensing team and the royal military police.

Throughout the evenings we visit a number of venues to discuss how they are keeping their customers safe and also using new equipment whereby we have been carrying out random testing on drinks to ensure they have not been spiked.



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** so why not come and join us and have a conversation over a cup of coffee.

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.

12th January 2022 - 1415-15:30—Coffee with Cops – Great Horkesley village hall

15th January 2022 - 1600-1700 Cops outside shops- Tesco's Highwoods

22nd January 2022 - 1600-1700 Cops outside shops – Wivenhoe Co-op

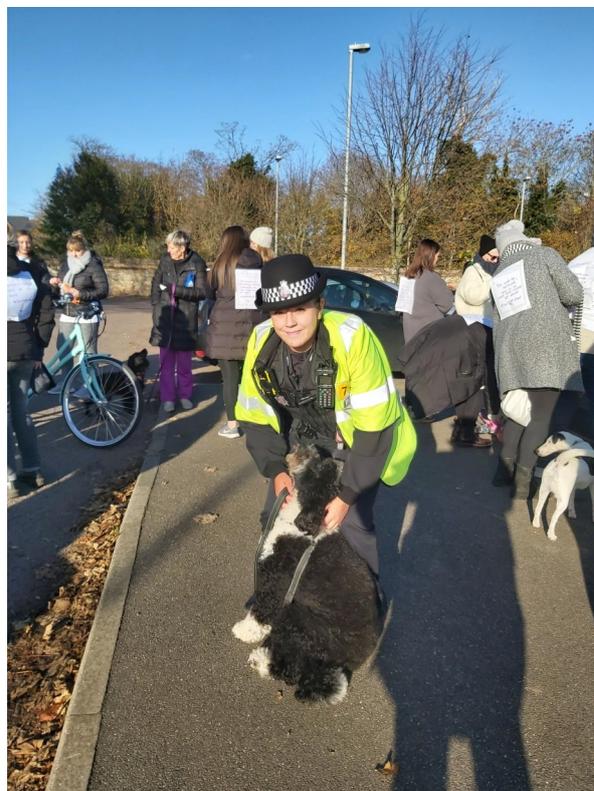
26th January 2022 - 1000-1230 Coffee with cops – St ANDREWS HALL Stanway.

29th January 2022 - 1100-1200 Cops outside shops Tiptree Tesco's

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.



A day in the life of:

This is a new section of our monthly update where we hope to be able to put a face to some of the roles within the police station at Colchester and help you get to know those who are keeping you safe in the community.

PC Dex Adams



Role: Community safety and engagement officer

Department: Colchester Community Policing Team

Length of service: 13 years

Favourite food: “tough choice between chocolate or biscuits (chocolate biscuits of course).

Hobbies: I used to play a lot of sport when I was younger (and ate less chocolate), now I enjoy watching most sports but I mainly watch Basketball and Football—The less I say about football the better given the team I support.

What do you do on a day to day basis: My working day will usually start with me checking my emails, responding to emails from members of the public, councillors and partner agencies and the topics can range from enquiries about an incident to seeing how we can resolve issues in a community to make it safer. I really enjoy engaging with communities and engagement projects, as you would have seen in this newsletter, I designed and deliver the missing person scenario’s in schools and had the pleasure of working with schools in the speed watch activity. Throughout the summer I organised Ballin with a Bobby in partnership with Essex Rebels basketball club. I really enjoy working with others and bringing communities together which is what this project achieved. While I am not at these activities I will be meeting with parish councils, Colchester Borough Council and many other partners to discuss how we can deliver an effective service within Colchester.

Favourite part of the job: It used to be driving around on blue lights and being first to arrive at a scene to help those in need, however its been a while since I've done that and as I mentioned above, I really enjoy engaging with communities, especially working with schools to teach that the police are here to help people and keep them safe, as well as catch criminals.



Look after that new stuff from Christmas

Over Christmas you may have been lucky enough to have received some new IT and other gifts, but have you helped protect them yet?

Where applicable have you registered your purchase with the relevant company it may help with future possible updates and the serial number will be assigned to you with the company. Depending on the item and value have you considered adding it to your home or other insurance?

Have you thought about **recording the serial numbers or property marking** it? Be it a cycle, electrical goods, tools, garden equipment or mobile phone it may have a serial number. There are a number of secure asset recording companies such as www.immobilise.com , www.bikeregister.com. Property can also be marked in a number of different ways depending on the item of property such as engraving, marking with indelible or UV pens, and there are marking products such as: SelectaDNA, SmartWater, CRE mark by CRE products to name but a few (always check the suitability of the method of marking for the property item).

With jewellery and antiques don't forget to **take photographs** of it, include an "Object ID card" or ruler in a photograph to give it a scale. Some of these property marking products may also be suitable for these and you can now upload photographs of your property to Immobilise too.

Many TV's, personal music devices, computers and other electronics come pre-loaded with security and/or tracking software, make sure that it is activated. **If you are storing valuable college work or other on a laptop or mobile device don't forget to back up your work elsewhere just in case you lose it or it is stolen.**

Smart phones/mobile devices: Don't forget to make a note of the **IMEI number** of a mobile phone, to find it key in *#06#, with this if it's stolen you can block it. You can **download an "App" on mobile phones** to find your phone and more importantly wipe that data stored on it, check your "App store" or mobile phone provider. A little reminder -When texting or talking on phones or listening to music **remain "in touch" with your surroundings**, a number of road accidents, thefts and assaults occur when we fail to note what's going on around us, don't forget to pass this advice on to children.

For further crime prevention advice see www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/ or www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice and for suitable security products see www.securedbydesign.com/ or www.soldsecure.com/ .

