

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP AGENDA

Wednesday, 23rd September 2020 at 7.15pm

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, this meeting will be held via Zoom and by the Council's YouTube channel – Braintree District Council Committees.

Members of the public will be able to view and listen to this meeting via YouTube.

To access the meeting please use the link below:

<http://www.braintree.gov.uk/youtube>

Members of the Partnership Development Group are requested to attend this meeting to transact the business set out in the Agenda.

Councillor J Baugh

Councillor G Courtauld

Councillor Mrs M Cunningham (Chairman)

Councillor T McArdle

Councillor Mrs J Pell

Councillor I Pritchard

Councillor Mrs J Sandum

Councillor P Thorogood

Vacancy

Members unable to attend the meeting are requested to forward their apologies for absence to the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email governance@braintree.gov.uk by 3pm on the day of the meeting.

A WRIGHT
Chief Executive

INFORMATION FOR MEMBER – DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Pecuniary Interests (OPI) or Non-Pecuniary Interests (NPI).

Any Member with a DPI, OPI or NPI must declare the nature of their interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Members must not participate in any discussion of the matter in which they have declared a DPI or OPI or participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Member must withdraw from the Chamber where the meeting considering the business is being held unless the Member has received a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer.

Public Question Time – Registration and Speaking:

In response to the Coronavirus the Council has implemented procedures for Public Question Time for its virtual meetings which are hosted via Zoom.

The Agenda allows for a period of up to 30 minutes for Public Question Time.

Participation will be via the submission of a written question or statement which will be read out by an Officer or the Registered Speaker during the meeting. All written questions or statements should be concise and should be able to be read **within 3 minutes** allotted for each question/statement.

Members of the public wishing to participate are requested to register by contacting the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email governance@braintree.gov.uk by midday on the working day before the day of the Committee meeting. For example, if the Committee meeting is due to be held on a Tuesday, the registration deadline is midday on Monday, (where there is a bank holiday Monday you will need to register by midday on the previous Friday).

The Council reserves the right to decline any requests to register for Public Question Time if they are received after the registration deadline.

Upon registration members of the public may indicate whether they wish to read their question/statement or to request an Officer to read their question/statement on their behalf during the virtual meeting. Members of the public who wish to read their question/statement will be provided with a link to attend the meeting to participate at the appropriate part of the Agenda.

All registered speakers are required to submit their written questions/statements to the Council by no later than 9am on the day of the meeting by emailing them to governance@braintree.gov.uk. In the event that a registered speaker is unable to connect to the virtual meeting their question/statement will be read by an Officer.

Questions/statements received by the Council will be published on the Council's website. The Council reserves the right to remove any defamatory comment in the submitted questions/statements.

The Chairman of the Committee has discretion to extend the time allocated for public question time and to amend the order in which questions/statements are presented to the Committee.

Documents: Agendas, Reports, Minutes and Public Question Time questions and statements can be accessed via www.braintree.gov.uk

Data Processing: During the meeting the Council will be collecting performance data of participants' connectivity to the meeting. This will be used for reviewing the functionality of Ms Teams/Zoom and YouTube as the Council's platform for virtual meetings and for monitoring compliance with the legal framework for Council meetings. Anonymised performance data may be shared with third parties.

For further information on how the Council processes data, please see the Council's Privacy Policy. https://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200136/access_to_information/376/privacy_policy

We welcome comments to make our services as efficient and effective as possible. If you have any suggestions regarding the meeting you have attended, you can send these to governance@braintree.gov.uk

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Member Declarations**
 1. To declare the existence and nature of any interests relating to items on the agenda having regard to the Code of Conduct for Members and having taken appropriate advice (where necessary) before the meeting.
 2. To declare the existence and nature of any instruction given by or on behalf of a political group to any Councillor who is a member of that group as to how that Councillor shall speak or vote on any matter before the Committee or the application or threat to apply any sanction by the group in respect of that Councillor should he/she speak or vote on any particular matter.
- 3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Partnership Development Group held on 18th March 2020 (copy previously circulated).
- 4 Public Question Time**

(See paragraph above)
- 5 Annual Report of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership 2019/20** **5 - 73**
- 6 Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport - Draft Report** **74 - 88**
- 7 Urgent Business - Public Session**

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Provide the 2019/20 Annual Report of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership to the Partnership Development Group		Agenda No: 5
Portfolio Corporate Outcome:	Environment and Place A sustainable environment and a great place to live, work and play Residents live well in healthy and resilient communities where residents feel supported	
Report presented by:	Tracey Parry, Community Services Manager	
Report prepared by:	Tracey Parry, Community Services Manager	
Background Papers:	Public Report	
Strategic Assessment CSP Action Plan 2019/20 Annual Report 2019/20	Key Decision: No	
Executive Summary:		
<p>The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is made up of representatives from Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Essex Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Community Rehabilitation Company, National Probation Service, Essex County Council (Partnership Lead and Secondary education), Community 360 and Eastlight Community Homes.</p> <p>The Community Safety Partnership work together to protect their local communities from crime and help people to feel safer.</p> <p>There is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to carry out an annual strategic assessment, as per legislation in the Crime & Disorder Act Revised 2006. The assessment collates and analyses statistical and contextual data from a range of partners and is used to inform key findings and recommendations for priorities moving forward.</p> <p>The CSP priorities for 2019/20 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tackle the trafficking of drugs in the community• Increase confidence in identifying and reporting hidden harms• Drive down violence and disorder within the community <p>The key meetings linked to the Community Safety Partnership:</p> <p>1. RAG (Responsible Authority Group)</p>		

This is a quarterly meeting of the strategic group of the CSP and consists of strategic and operational officers who are collectively responsible for addressing crime, disorder and community safety across the Braintree District. The members have responsibility for agreeing the strategic assessment, identifying the priorities and monitoring the projects and activities in the action plan.

2. North Essex Local Policing Area Tasking Meeting

Partners attend a fortnightly strategic tasking meeting where updates are provided on various issues including: burglary, robbery, domestic abuse, gangs & county lines, child exploitation, organised crime criminality and other specific business. Partners input data and information and actions are agreed.

3. Community Safety Hub Meetings

A wider partnership meeting held on a two weekly basis within the same week as the Essex Police Strategic meeting which enables information to be shared or requested, and actions assigned. The meeting is designed to provide an update as to the delivery of the Community Safety Action Plan, guest speakers from services that may be of benefit to the hub and identification of emerging issues that may require a multi-agency approach or the development of a project or initiative. The meeting also provides the opportunity for partners to put forward individuals of concern who are either causing an issue within the community or are deemed vulnerable and would benefit from a multi-agency approach or hotspot areas within the District.

Funding Allocation

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership received an annual Community Safety Grant from the Office of the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner of £17,739.

Key Achievements:

- Mobile cameras were purchased and deployed to areas where there is believed to be criminal or anti-social behaviour occurring. The cameras are installed by the Council's street-scene enforcement team following requests from multi-agency partners. To date, useful evidence has been used by police intelligence officers to disrupt the suspected supply of Class A drugs by known gang nominals from London; target prolific shoplifters; and to identify and deter identified individuals from causing anti-social behaviour.
- The theatre group 'Alter Ego' delivered the 'Breaking the Chain' performance around the issues of knife crime in society to secondary schools across the District, targeting approximately 1,180 young people.
- Funding was received from DWP to fund an Intensive Prolific Offender Caseworker to work with a cohort of 10 individuals who meet the criteria of being homeless, offending behaviour, substance misuse issue and ill mental health. This project is managed and delivered by Phoenix Futures and aims to improve outcomes for clients through the use of a person centred approach to improve life chances and support the individuals to secure appropriate accommodation, break cycles of behaviour to help them re-enter and maintain a place in the community.
- Expanded the Spot It Stop It scheme to help raise awareness and stop children and young people becoming victims of exploitation. A covert operation took place with hotels across the District to improve awareness and knowledge of exploitation and to give staff the confidence to ask questions if they are not comfortable with a situation. This partnership work was awarded an Essex Police Chief Superintendent's award.

- Delivered four 'J9' domestic abuse training to raise awareness and help victims of domestic abuse. 62 people attended the training from GP surgeries, veterinary practices, opticians, dental practices and community organisations.
- Introduced the 'DISC' online app to Pubwatch members across the District which allows members real time communication and data sharing to issues taking place, and to reduce the incidents of crime and disorder within our town centres.
- Essex Youth Service started delivery of the Prison No Way education and awareness programme in secondary schools across the District. The aim of the programme is to dispel the myths and glorification of crime, gang life and prison and to highlight the possible consequences of being involved in criminal activity. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, this programme has not been completed; however, we hope to resume this with the schools when convenient and practical.

Towards the end of the financial year, the CSP work was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, as were most other programmes. Whilst this did not significantly alter the outcome and achievements from 2019/20, it will impact on the delivery of our proactive programmes in 2020/21. We will also regularly review what the needs are throughout this year, as we expect them to be altered.

Recommended Decision:

For the Partnership Development Group to review the annual report (appendix 1) and make any recommendations to Cabinet.

Purpose of Decision:

To give an overview of the work of the Community Safety Partnership to Members.

Any Corporate implications in relation to the following should be explained in detail.

Financial:	Future work of the Community Safety Partnership will be delivered within existing resources. The CSP has an allocated budget of £17,739 for 2018/19. If further funding is required, there will be a requirement to apply via external funding.
Legal:	The Community Safety Partnership is a statutory partnership and must adhere to legislation. The Community Safety Hub has an information sharing agreement and standard operating procedures.
Safeguarding:	Ensure that all Community Safety Partners have safeguarding policies and procedures in place.
Equalities/Diversity:	Taken into account within the development of the annual action plan.

Customer Impact:	Enhance the information to the public.
Environment and Climate Change:	N/A
Consultation/Community Engagement:	<p>The Community Safety Partnership has a twitter page which enhances communication within the wider community and monitors public opinion.</p> <p>Information and data for the strategic assessment was provided by Essex Police and other partners via the CSP Analyst for the North Local Policing Area.</p>
Risks:	Loss of funding to the Community Safety Partnership.
Officer Contact:	Tracey Parry
Designation:	Community Services Manager
Ext. No:	2334
E-mail:	trapa@braintree.gov.uk

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership

Annual Report 2019-20

Foreword

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership Annual Report outlines how local agencies have worked together to make the Braintree District a safer place and reduce the fear of crime during 2019-20.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a joint responsibility upon specific agencies and other partners within the community to develop and implement strategies to protect their communities from crime and help people feel safe.

Throughout the year partners have worked together to deliver successful projects and initiatives against the identified priorities to:

- Tackle the trafficking of drugs in the community;
- Increase confidence in identifying & reporting hidden harms;
- Drive down violence and disorder within the community.

Many of these are aimed at raising awareness, education and prevention as we feel these add value to the work delivered by local agencies on a daily basis.

We are proud of the achievements the Partnership has made and look forward to another successful year.



Cllr Wendy Schmitt

Chairman, Braintree District
Community Safety Partnership

Tracey Parry

Community Services Manager
Braintree District Council

Responsible Authority Group

The Responsible Authority Group is the strategic group of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership and consists of strategic and operational officers who are collectively responsible for addressing crime, disorder and community safety across the Braintree District.

These organisations include Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Community Rehabilitation Company, National Probation Service, Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS), Greenfields Community Housing, Essex County Council and Community360 (voluntary sector).

The group has overall strategic responsibility for making sure that the priorities identified from the annual Strategic Assessment are outlined within the Action Plan, and the projects within the Action Plan are delivered.

Strategic Assessment

Each year the Community Safety Partnership is required to produce a Strategic Assessment report about crime and disorder levels in its area. The results of the Strategic Assessment are used by the Partnership to identify themed priorities for the coming year. The Partnership produces an Action Plan which describes how it will deliver on the identified priorities.

Strategic Priorities for 2019-20 were:

- **Tackle the trafficking of drugs in the community**
- **Increase confidence in identifying & reporting hidden harms**
- **Drive down violence and disorder within the community**

Funding

The Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex (OPFCC) allocated grants from its 2019–20 Community Safety Fund to all Community Safety Partnerships across the county. As in previous years the OPFCC set aside a proportion (4%) of this funding for Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). This fund provides: co-ordination of the DHR process; administration of DHR panels; funding for independent chairs; lesson learning seminars; and monitoring and reporting on DHR recommendations implementation.

The funding formula is based on population size, deprivation and crime levels.

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership received a funding allocation of £17,739 for 2019-20.

Action Plan 2019-20

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership produces an annual Action Plan which underpins the priorities and sets out the allocation of budget and how local agencies will work together to meet the actions within the plan.

Actions include specific projects and initiatives put forward by partner agencies, which are then collectively agreed at a meeting of the Responsible Authority Group.

Key Achievements 2019-20

Highlighted below are some of the key projects and initiatives the Community Safety Partnership has delivered throughout the past year. This is not an exhaustive list of the Partnership's work, it is intended to provide an overview of how partner agencies have collectively worked together to address the previously identified Strategic Priorities.

Spot It Stop It – Child Sexual Exploitation scheme

The Community Safety Partnership has continued to expand and deliver the Spot It Stop It scheme to help raise awareness and stop children and young people becoming victims of exploitation. To date more than 135 staff from businesses including restaurants, licensed premises, taxi firms, sports clubs and entertainment venues, have attended training to increase their knowledge of exploitation, including how to look for and report concerns.

Hotel staff's ability to spot potential sexual exploitation of children has also been tested by undercover officers across the district.

Essex Police and Braintree District Council officers attempted to check into rooms accompanied by young cadets while refusing to show identification and paying in cash. Those that failed the test were offered Spot It Stop It training to improve their awareness and knowledge of exploitation.

The partnership work was awarded an Essex Police Chief Superintendent's Commendation in March 2020, and work is now underway to develop a countywide programme to protect young people from exploitation in hotels and leisure establishments.

Full Circle Horizon Project

This year the CSP was successful in applying for funding from the Department for Work and Pensions to fund an Intensive Prolific Offender Caseworker to work with a cohort of 10 individuals who meet the criteria of being homeless, offending, with substance misuse issues, ill mental health and poverty as a common factor.

The project, which is managed and delivered by Phoenix Futures' Full Circle, is a multi-agency model that provides intensive support for individuals with multiple and complex

disadvantages. The service involves up to 10 clients selected for participation by the multi-agency staff in Braintree District. These clients are selected based on their complex needs, being known.

The aims of the project include finding ways to improve outcomes for clients; agree multi-agency support plans for each client; use a person centred approach to improve life chances and support the individual to secure appropriate accommodation; break cycles of established behaviour patterns to help individuals re-enter and maintain a place in their community.

A 6-month qualitative review of the project found that communication between agencies had improved since the project began, with better understanding of the roles other agencies and improved knowledge sharing between them.

One of the main themes that emerged was the positive outcomes for clients, no matter how small - clients are now planning for their future recovery and they are having solution-based discussions. Client engagement is better due to the shared supervision, the alleviation of pressure on one single agency, information sharing and the communication pathways, teamwork and support that agencies give each other.

In relation to outcomes for clients, they are slowly facing up to their responsibilities, reducing their re-offending and thinking more positively about their futures. Clients are getting to know who is a part of the Horizon project and are aware that services work together much more closely due to the sharing of information. People who have previously never engaged with services are now engaging.

Source: 'Qualitative analysis of Horizons Project – 6 month Review'

'J9' Domestic Abuse training

The CSP has continued to commission the charity Safer Places to deliver 'J9' training – an initiative to raise awareness and to help victims of domestic abuse. The initiative was originally set up following the death of Janine Mundy, in Cornwall, in 2003.

To date the CSP has worked with Safer Places to deliver four training sessions to help raise awareness and increase knowledge and understanding of domestic abuse for 62 individuals from the public, private and voluntary sectors including GP surgeries, veterinary practices, opticians, dental practices and community organisations.

Where the J9 logo is displayed in a premises it alerts victims that they can obtain information which will help them to access a safe place where there can seek information and the use of a telephone.

Pubwatch 'DISC' scheme

The CSP funded the introduction of an online app, DISC, which has been used to help prevent crime and disorder at licensed venues across the district. DISC is an online database, accessible via an app, which provides Pubwatch members a platform to communicate in real time and securely share data in order to reduce incidents of crime and disorder in the town.

The app has so far been successfully utilised in other areas of the county including Southend, Harlow, Brentwood, Chelmsford and Colchester, not only enabling local communication between businesses, local authorities and police, but also the sharing of best practice too.

It also helps to support and implement the Behave or Be Banned scheme (BOBB). Operators and managers of bars, pubs and nightclubs have always been able to refuse entry to problematic people.

Using the DISC app, licensed businesses are able to access data in real-time to prevent those banned from entering the venue and so prevent any potential disorder.

Mobile cameras to tackle crime and nuisance

The CSP funded the purchase of mobile cameras to be deployed to areas where there is believed to be criminal or anti-social behaviour occurring. The cameras are installed by the Council's street-scene enforcement team following requests from multi-agency partners.

To date, useful evidence has been used by police intelligence officers to disrupt the suspected supply of Class A drugs by known gang nominals from London; target prolific shoplifters; and to identify and deter identified individuals from causing anti-social behaviour.

'Breaking the chain' knife crime awareness

Greenfields Community Housing delivered a preventative initiative aimed at raising awareness of gangs and knife crime. The theatre group 'Alter Ego' was commissioned to deliver 'Breaking the Chain' performances around the issues of knife crime to secondary schools within the district, targeting more than 1,180 pupils, as well as parents and carers. The project was jointly funded by the CSP and Greenfields Community Housing.

Community Safety Hub

Multi-agency working is essential in the prevention of crime and disorder. The Braintree District Community Safety Hub continued to maximise the benefits of collaborative working with partners, and developed improved information sharing and closer working practices to tackle key issues identified in the CSP Action Plan, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's (PFCC) Police and Crime Plan, and from emerging crime trends and patterns.

Membership of the Hub is varied and includes representation from partner organisations of the CSP, other statutory services and the voluntary sector.

The Hub is coordinated by Braintree District Council who has the necessary community knowledge and oversight to set the agenda and coordinate the work of the hub to deliver against the Strategic Priorities.

Improved access for offender management

The CSP has made available meeting rooms for use by offender managers from Essex Community Rehabilitation Company, and National Probation Service to meet their clients who reside in Braintree District. This has improved access and engagement and reduced travelling times for all involved.

‘Prison No Way’ educational programme

The CSP has part-funded a ‘Prison No Way’ education and awareness programme for local young people of secondary school age, which is due to take place in the near future.

The aims of the programme are to dispel the myths and glorification of crime, gang life and prison, and to show the possible consequences of being involved in criminal activity. Young people explore how being involved in criminal activity can lead to detention or prison and the realities of both prison life and their future thereafter.

The programme, which runs across 10 sessions, aims to give young people sufficient information to enable them to make informed life choices and decisions, resulting in the development of personal and social responsibility.

Secondary schools will nominate individuals who they feel would benefit from the programme, via the Behaviour and Attendance Partnership which enables local schools to work together with other services to address the needs of pupils with challenging behaviour. They also provide local solutions to behaviour and attendance priorities.

Moving Forward

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership has received a funding allocation of £17,739 for 2020-21 from The Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex.

In 2020-21 the Strategic Priorities of Braintree District Community Safety Partnership will be:

- **Tackle the trafficking of drugs in the community**
- **Increase confidence in identifying & reporting hidden harms**
- **Drive down violent and acquisitive crimes within the community**

These priorities, along with the core responsibilities of the CSP – to reduce crime and disorder, to reduce re-offending and combat the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances – will inform Braintree CSP's Action Plan for 2020-21.

The Partnership will address these priorities through the identification of agencies and resources that are best placed to respond and deliver improvements.

Finding out more

If you would like further information about us and our services, please get in touch:

Write to us at:

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership
c/o Braintree District Council
Causeway House
Bocking End
Braintree
Essex CM7 9HB

Tel: **01376 552525**

Email: communityservices@braintree.gov.uk

[@BraintreeCSP](https://twitter.com/BraintreeCSP)



Braintree Strategic Assessment 2019-20 PUBLIC VERSION

Document Owner: Community Safety Partnership Manager Tracey Parry

Reference: 42-12875-19

Authors: Community Safety Officer Chris English
Criminal Intelligence Analyst Christopher Sykes

Contributor: Criminal Intelligence Analyst Kim Stalabrass

Date: 31st January 2020 (Version 1.8)

This cover sheet must not be detached from the report to which it refers.
No part of the report should be disseminated or copied without prior approval of the document owner.

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Aim & Purpose

The aim and purpose of this document is to assist the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in understanding crime, disorder, Anti-Social Behaviour and community safety issues affecting the District, and to enable it to identify and determine the strategic priorities for the coming 12 months.

These priorities will inform the Partnership's 2020/21 Action Plan, which will assist in the allocation of appropriate resources to tackle the issues identified.

1.2 Data Sources

Analysis has been completed based on data ranging from **1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019** to consider the most recent data available to inform the Partnership's identification of priorities for 2019/2020 and to inform the allocation of appropriate resources to tackle those issues.

Where different data parameters have been used this will be indicated at the beginning of the section.

Data has been taken from the following sources –

- Essex Police Athena crime reporting system
- Essex Police STORM incident reporting system
- iQuanta (Home Office)
- Office for National Statistics
- Open Source (reference provided)
- Partner contributions (reference provided)

Relevant data or input sources are identified at the start of each section.

1.3 Key Findings

Further detail relating to these Key Findings can be found within the document itself.

Vehicle offences 3% higher than force average	In the rolling twelve months to October 2019 there have been 764 recorded investigations of Theft, this makes up 13% of the selected crime, compared with 10% across the force (see crime proportionality charts on page 18)
Violence with Injury is top crime type	According to the crime severity scores (a measure of crime that takes into account both the volume and the severity of offences, by weighting offences differently) Violence with Injury is ranked number one crime type with a score of 1.99
Braintree ranks 4th lowest for iQuanta data in Essex	iQuanta compares Braintree with the other Essex districts with levels of crime per 1,000 residents. This comparison puts at 69.83 crimes per 1,000 residents which is above the average for Essex of 92.24.
Braintree ranks 6th for iQuanta data in MSGs	MSGs or Most Similar groups are districts with similar socio-economic characteristics. iQuanta compares against other districts with levels of crime per 1,000 residents. This puts Braintree at slightly above the average of 69.434 across the MSG.

1.4 Strategic Priorities

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places responsibility on the Community Safety Partnership to annually review levels and patterns of crime and disorder. This will support local communities to counter the perception, threat and consequence of criminal and anti-social behaviour by striving to reduce both crime and the fear of crime, and to reduce reoffending.

Community Safety also encompasses anti-social behaviour, disorder and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances.

The findings of this assessment have informed the decision to select the CSP priorities for 2019-20 which will be –



The priorities in the previous Strategic Assessment were –

- 1 Tackle the Trafficking of Drugs in the Community
- 2 Increase confidence in identifying & reporting Hidden Harms
- 3 Driving Down Violence and Disorder within the Community

To assist the identification of the Community Safety priorities, a Risk Matrix of crime types was completed. A Risk Matrix is a visual risk assessment tool that allows the user to define the level of risk associated to multiple factors (e.g. types of crime), against a range of criteria. The following areas scored the highest for Braintree District (see Appendix B):

1. Domestic Abuse
2. Trafficking of Drugs
3. Rape
3. Burglary - Residential

The highest scoring areas from 2018-19 were:

- Violence with Injury
- Rape
- Domestic Abuse
- Trafficking of Drugs

1.5 Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Priorities

Data Source: Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner provides funding to Community Safety Partnerships.

This funding should be used to support activities that deliver against the priorities in the PFCC's Police and Crime, as well as local priorities. It is not necessarily practical for a CSP to undertake a range of activity that will address each one of the seven priorities identified. It is, however, expected that each activity funded using PFCC resources will respond to either a priority in the Police and Crime Plan, or a priority which has been identified through the Strategic Assessment as being a local need.

The PFCC's priorities are outlined in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020:

- Priority 1 - More Local, Visible and Accessible policing
- Priority 2 - Crack down on Anti-Social Behaviour
- Priority 3 - Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Abuse
- Priority 4 - Reverse the Trend in Serious Violence
- Priority 5 - Tackle Gangs and Organised Crime
- Priority 6 - Protecting Children and Vulnerable People from Harm
- Priority 7 - Improve Safety on Our Roads

Other strategies issued subsequent to the Police and Crime Plan and supported by the PFCC highlight some other significant issues for Essex, including Rural Crime, Waste Crime and Crime Against Businesses.

It is acknowledged that the above priorities are subject to change in 2020, when a new Police and Crime Plan will be published. If CSPs wish to respond flexibly to any new priorities the PFCC will look favourably on requests to re-allocate funding within a district, but this will not be an expectation.

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner has other functions which link to the work of CSPs.

The **Community Safety Development Fund** offers community groups an opportunity to access funding to deliver local projects that support the Police and Crime Plan Priorities. CSPs are encouraged to provide comments on bids received, helping to ensure that those projects which have the support of CSPs and which help to deliver CSP aims are looked upon favourably by the panel.

The **Restorative and Mediation Service** offers structured communication between those involved in a crime or anti-social behaviour in order to repair harm. Run by experienced staff and delivered by trained and qualified volunteers, the service is open to referrals from CSPs. As well as working with offenders and victims, the service can be used to prevent local disputes (such as between neighbours or communities) becoming more serious.

2 THE PARTNERSHIP

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Community Safety Partnerships to complete an annual Strategic Assessment. The legislation also places a joint responsibility upon specific agencies to work together to protect the local community from crime, and to help people feel safer.

The Braintree Partnership consists of representatives from –

- Braintree District Council
- Essex Police
- Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
- Essex Community Rehabilitation Company
- Essex County Council
- Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group
- National Probation Service
- Greenfields Community Housing
- Education
- Community 360 (voluntary sector)

Current Partnership Structure



RAG (Responsible Authority Group)

The RAG is the strategic group of the Community Safety Partnership and currently meets three times a year. The group consists of strategic and operational officers who are responsible in law for collectively addressing crime and disorder, substance misuse and reoffending in the Braintree District. This group have overall strategic responsibility for making sure that the priorities identified from the Strategic Assessment are outlined within an action plan and delivered.

Community Safety Hub

Multi-agency working is essential in the prevention of crime and disorder. The Braintree District Community Safety Hub aims to maximise the benefits of collaborative working with partners, develop better information sharing and closer working practices and tackle key issues identified in the CSP Action Plan, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's (PFCC) Police and Crime Plan, and from emerging crime trends and patterns.

Membership of the Hub is varied and includes representation from partner organisations of the CSP, other statutory services and the voluntary sector.

The Hub is coordinated by Braintree District Council which has the necessary community knowledge and oversight to set the agenda and coordinate the work of the hub to deliver against the Strategic Priorities.

3 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

3.1 District detail

Data Source: Essex Police Performance Analysis Unit



Braintree is a large, mainly rural district that covers 612 square kilometres in north and mid Essex, and is the second largest Essex local authority in terms of geographical area. Whilst large in area, the district is only the fifth most populated of the 12 Essex local authorities.

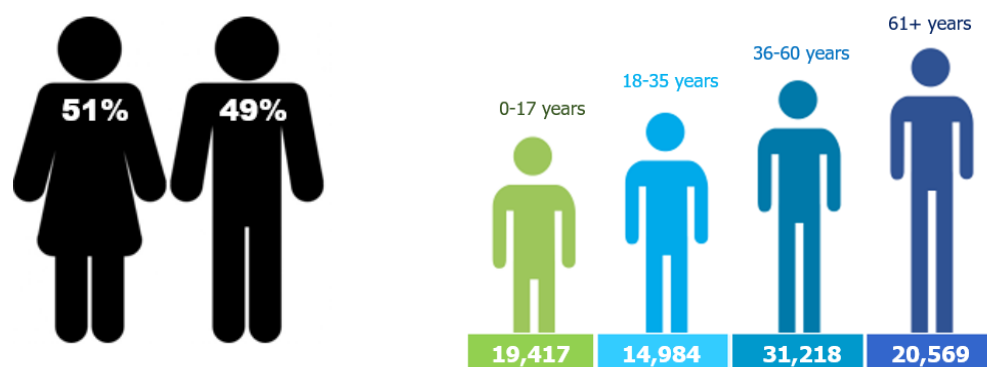
The district consists of the two large market towns of Braintree and Halstead along with the 1970's urban 'expanded town' of Witham interconnected with many smaller villages and rural areas. Crossing the southern portion of the district are the two main arterial roads of Essex, the A12 and the A120 which provide the area with quick access to the rest of the county, London and Stansted Airport.

Braintree District has been one of the fastest growing areas in the country over the past decade. The population is projected to increase from 150,700 people (in 2014) to 175,600 people by 2035.

3.2 Population Information

Data Source: Office for National Statistics - Mid-point report produced in 2016 as the most recent data source.

The population of Braintree District is 150,999 as per the mid-2016 estimates, and home to 10% of Essex residents. In terms of population density, there are 247 people per square km. The median age of the population of Braintree is 43 years old; this is higher than the United Kingdom median age of 40 years old.



3.3 Health Profile

Data Source: Public Health England

This profile gives a picture of people's health in Braintree. It is designed to act as a 'conversation starter', to help local government and health services understand their community's needs, so that they can work together to improve people's health and reduce health inequalities.

Visit <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles> for more area profiles, more information and interactive maps and tools.

Health in summary

The health of people in Braintree is varied compared with the England average. 12.4% (3,400) of children live in low income families. Life expectancy for men is higher than the England average.

Health inequalities

Life expectancy is 5.5 years lower for men and 5.0 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Braintree than in the least deprived areas.

Child health

In Year 6, 17.7% (293) of children are classified as obese, better than the average for England. The rate for alcohol-specific hospital admissions among those under 18 is 25*. This represents 8 admissions per year. Levels of GCSE attainment (average attainment 8 score) and breastfeeding are worse than the England average. Levels of smoking in pregnancy are better than the England average.

Adult health

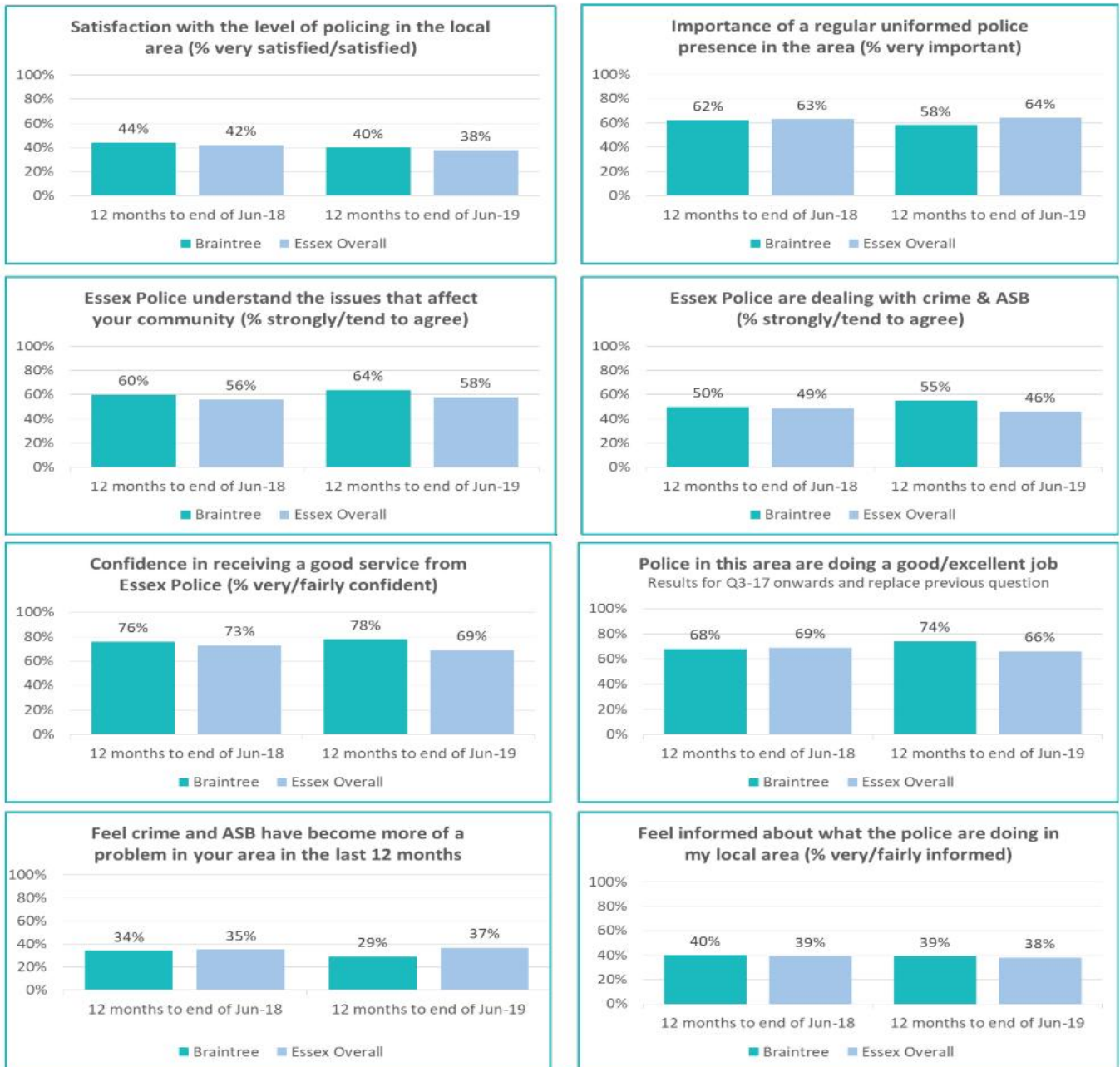
The rate for alcohol-related harm hospital admissions is 587*, better than the average for England. This represents 885 admissions per year. The rate for self-harm hospital admissions is 145*, better than the average for England. This represents 209 admissions per year. The rates of new sexually transmitted infections and new cases of tuberculosis are better than the England average. The rates of hip fractures in older people (aged 65+) and killed and seriously injured on roads are worse than the England average. The rates of statutory homelessness, violent crime (hospital admissions for violence) and employment (aged 16-64) are better than the England average.

* rate per 100,000 population

3.4 Public Perception – Essex Police

Data Source: Essex Police Strategic Change Directorate

The following dashboard summarises data collected as part of the Essex Police Public Perceptions Survey 2017/18 – 2019/20. 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.



Key Insights

- Almost two-thirds of Braintree residents surveyed (64%) agree EP understand issues affecting their community – highest of all Districts
- Over half (55%) agree EP are dealing with crime and ASB in their area – highest of all Districts
- Over three-quarters (78%) are very/fairly confident of receiving a good service if they were to report a crime – highest of all Districts
- Around three-quarters (74%) think local police are doing a good or excellent job – highest of all Districts

4 COMMUNITY PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Data Source: Braintree Community Safety

Spot It Stop It – Child Exploitation awareness scheme

The Community Safety Partnership launched the "Spot It Stop It" scheme to raise awareness of child exploitation. The scheme encourages businesses to sign up, where they will receive awareness training to increase their knowledge of CSE including the signs to look out for and how to report concerns. This will also enable them to reassure the public, parents and carers that their premises are a safe place for young people to visit and that your business takes child exploitation seriously and it will not be tolerated.

To date we have trained over 135 staff members from several businesses including restaurants, hotels, and entertainment venues including a cinema.

To be part of the scheme, businesses will need to attend staff training awareness sessions; follow a set of standards to ensure that children and young people are safe in their establishment and to deter perpetrators from operating in and around their premises.

Horizons project

The Horizons project is a multi-agency model delivered by charity Phoenix Futures that provides intensive support for individuals with multiple and complex disadvantages. The service involves up to 10 clients selected based on their complex needs, being known to all services involved, and being some of the most challenging clients to work with. The multi-agency staff meet regularly to agree a joint support plan for each client; to enable flexible responses from local agencies, swift access to appropriate services and to overcome any barriers to service provision.

Funding was secured in late 2019 to deliver the project across the district for an initial period of 12months.

J9 Domestic Abuse awareness training

We have continued to deliver J9 training to local businesses across the district.

The J9 initiative helps raise awareness of domestic abuse and support victims.

The initiative is named in memory of Janine Mundy who was killed by her estranged husband in June 2003 while he was on police bail.

If you see the J9 logo displayed in a building it means that building has a 'safe place' for people threatened with domestic abuse. The safe place provides access to a phone and advice on getting support.

Pubwatch 'DISC' scheme

We have funded the introduction of an online app, DISC, which has been used to help prevent crime and disorder at licensed venues across the district. DISC is an online database, accessible via an app, which provides Pubwatch members a platform to communicate in real time and securely share data in order to reduce incidents of crime and disorder in the town.

The app has so far been successfully utilised in other areas of the county including Southend, Harlow, Brentwood, Chelmsford and Colchester, not only enabling local communication between businesses, local authorities and police, but also the sharing of best practice too.

It also helps to support and implement the Behave or Be Banned scheme (BOBB). Operators and managers of bars, pubs and nightclubs have always been able to refuse entry to problematic people.

Using the DISC app, licensed businesses are able to access data in real-time to prevent those banned from entering the venue and so prevent any potential disorder.

Mobile cameras

We have funded the purchase of mobile cameras to be deployed to areas where there is believed to be criminal or anti-social activity occurring. The cameras are installed by the Council's street-scene enforcement team following requests from multi-agency partners.

To date, useful evidence has been used by police intelligence officers to disrupt the suspected supply of Class A drugs by known gang nominals from London; target prolific shoplifters; and to identify and deter identified individuals from causing anti-social behaviour.

5 CRIME

5.1 National Trends

Data Source: The Office for National Statistics most recent publication of Crime in England and Wales (released 18/07/2019):

Overall levels of crime showed falls in recent decades, but levels have remained broadly stable in recent years. While in the last year there has been no change in overall levels of crime, this hides variation seen in individual crime types. The latest figures show a mixed picture, with continued rises in some types of theft and fraud and falls in computer misuse. Consistent with the rising trend over recent years, there were increases in some of the less frequently occurring but higher-harm types of violence, including offences involving knives and sharp instruments.

Headline figures

Over recent quarters, estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) have indicated rises in theft. While the latest estimate showed no significant change in the last year, theft showed a 13% increase compared with the year ending March 2017. Despite this increase, estimates of theft remain much lower than 20 years ago.

Police recorded crime figures give a reliable indication of trends in some types of offence involving theft that are thought to be well-reported and accurately recorded by the police. In the latest year these data show:

- a 2% increase in vehicle offences, which includes an 8% increase in the subcategory of “theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle”
- an 11% increase in robbery
- a 3% decrease in burglaries, following rises seen in the previous two years

The CSEW shows that the level of lower-harm violent offences (for example, violence without injury and assault with minor injury) did not change. However, police recorded crime gives more insight into the lower-volume but higher-harm violence that the survey either does not cover or does not capture well. These data show:

- a 4% decrease in the number of homicides following a period of increases over the last four years (Includes the London and Manchester terrorist attacks)

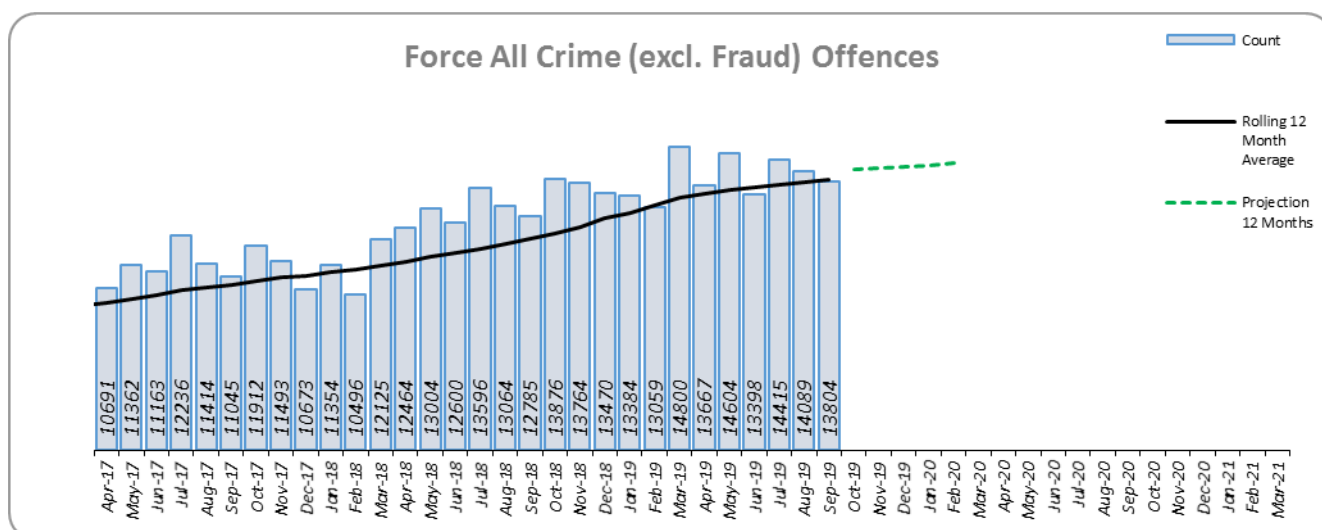
- an 8% increase in the number of police recorded offences involving knives or sharp instruments (This figure excludes Greater Manchester Police)
- a 3% increase in the number of police recorded offences involving firearms

Many of these lower-volume, higher-harm types of violence tend to be concentrated in metropolitan police force areas such as London, the West Midlands, West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester.

Police recorded crime can be affected by changes in recording practices, policing activity and willingness of victims to report. A rise or fall in recorded crime does not necessarily mean the actual level of crime in society has changed. For many types of offence these figures do not provide a reliable measure of trends in crime.

5.2 Essex Trends

Data Source: Essex Police Performance Analysis Unit.



Similar to the national trend, a mixed picture can be seen in Essex. Looking at the most recent results there has been an increase yearly, but this fluctuates throughout. The increase in recorded crimes is predicted to continue in the coming twelve months.

5.3 District Comparison

Data Source: Home Office iQuanta system

Comparison to other districts can help identify the significance of the crime figures. There are 2 sets of districts we can compare to; other districts in Essex and districts in the rest of England and Wales which have similar in socio-economic factors (Most Similar Groups (MSG) described below).

iQuanta¹ compares Braintree District with other Essex Districts, this specifies 69.833 crimes per 1,000 residents for Basildon in the year ending September 2019. This is below the average of 92.236 across all Essex Districts. Braintree District ranks 4th lowest amongst the 14 Essex Districts.

iQuanta also indicates that Braintree is very slightly above the average of 69.434 across the MSG grouping. Braintree District ranks 6th highest amongst the MSG grouping (of 15).

Most Similar Groups (MSGs) are groups of Districts that have been found to be the most similar to each other based on an analysis of demographic, social and economic characteristics which relate to crime. MSGs are designed to help make fair and meaningful comparisons between Districts. It can be more meaningful to compare a District with other District which share similar social and economic characteristics, than, for example, a neighbouring Force or other Districts in the County.

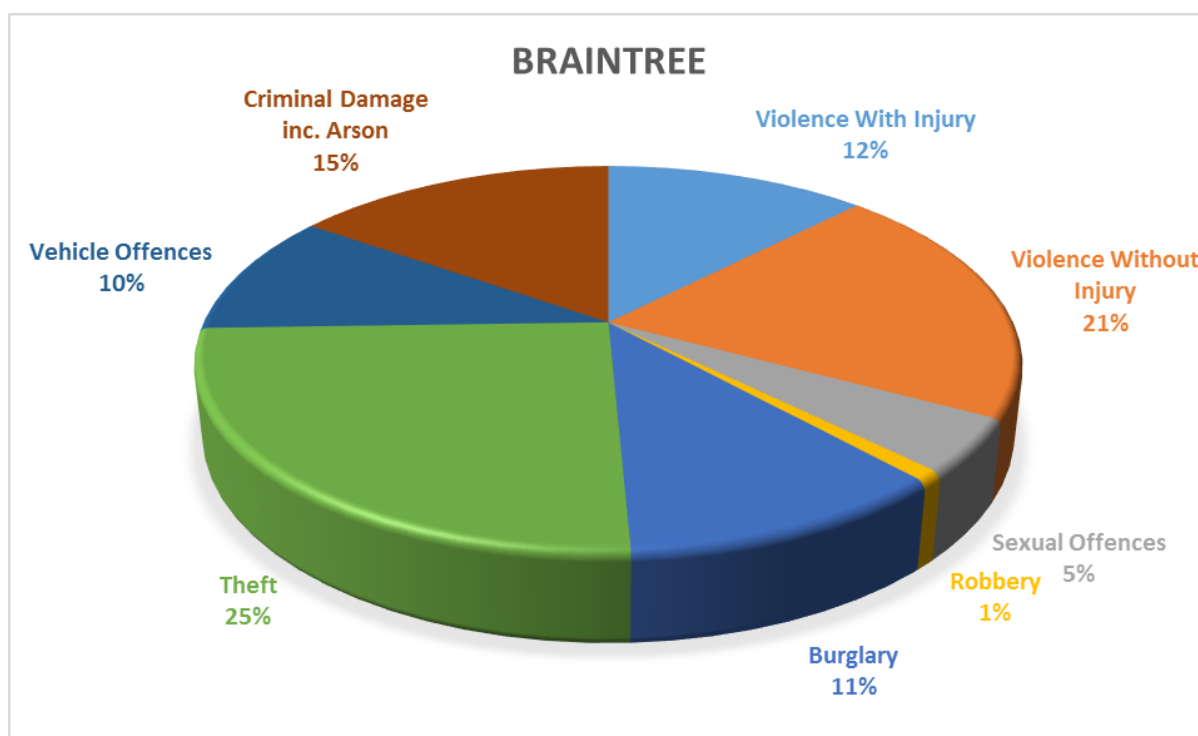
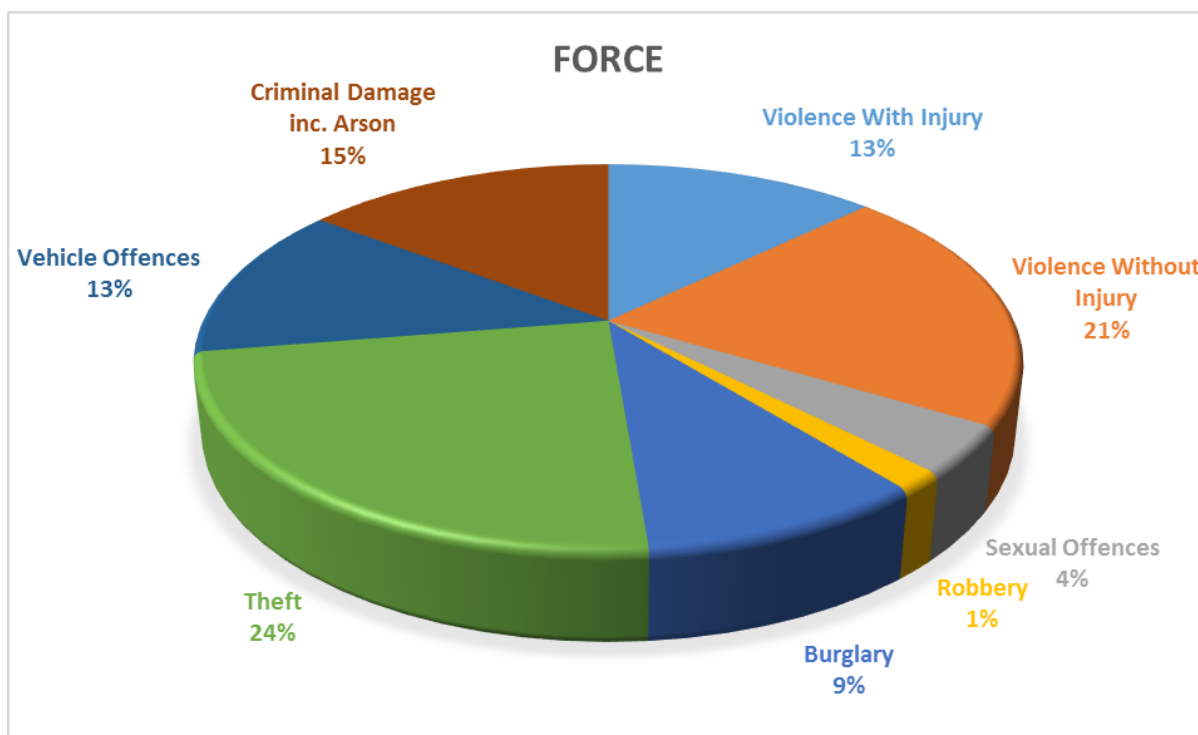
5.4 District Level Police Data

Data Source: Essex Police Performance Analysis Unit.

The below table provides an overview of crime recorded by Essex Police for the 12 months to the end of September 2019, compared to the 12 month period to the end of September 2018. The outcomes section provides the volumes of positive outcomes; the Solved Rate section provides the percentage of the offences which recorded a solved/positive outcome compared the number of offences recorded.

¹ Based on iQuanta data – data parameters of 01/11/2018 to 30/11/2018

Top Level		Offences					Solved Outcomes					Solved Rates %		
Crime Type	% DA 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	% pt. diff.
Anti-Social Behaviour (incidents)	-	48565	43010	-5555	-11.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Crime (excl. Action (NFIB) Fraud)	17.2	144053	168237	24184	16.8	100.0	21287	23581	2294	10.8	100.0	14.8	14.0	-0.8
- State Based Crime	7.5	20154	26031	5877	29.2	15.5	6876	8629	1753	25.5	36.6	34.1	33.1	-1.0
- Victim Based Crime	19.0	123899	142206	18307	14.8	84.5	14411	14952	541	3.8	63.4	11.6	10.5	-1.1
Victim Based Crime		Offences					Solved Outcomes					Solved Rates %		
Crime Type	% DA 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	% pt. diff.
Violence Against the Person	35.9	48202	63169	14967	31.1	37.5	7089	7415	326	4.6	31.4	14.7	11.7	-3.0
- Homicide	26.3	18	19	1	5.6	0.0	16	9	-7	-43.8	0.0	88.9	47.4	-41.5
- Violence with Injury	34.8	13835	15214	1379	10.0	9.0	2839	2530	-309	-10.9	10.7	20.5	16.6	-3.9
- Death or Serious Injury caused by unlawful driving	0.0	37	32	-5	-13.5	0.0	19	33	14	73.7	0.1	51.4	103.1	51.8
- Violence without Injury	38.0	18862	24822	5960	31.6	14.8	2820	2969	149	5.3	12.6	15.0	12.0	-3.0
- Stalking and Harassment	34.6	15450	23082	7632	49.4	13.7	1395	1874	479	34.3	7.9	9.0	8.1	-0.9
Sexual Offences	18.3	3867	4758	891	23.0	2.8	251	256	5	2.0	1.1	6.5	5.4	-1.1
- Rape	33.9	1465	1972	507	34.6	1.2	48	43	-5	-10.4	0.2	3.3	2.2	-1.1
- Rape - Under 16 yrs	2.8	435	496	61	14.0	0.3	20	21	1	5.0	0.1	4.6	4.2	-0.4
- Rape - Over 16 yrs	44.3	1030	1476	446	43.3	0.9	28	22	-6	-21.4	0.1	2.7	1.5	-1.2
- Other Sexual Offences	7.3	2402	2786	384	16.0	1.7	203	213	10	4.9	0.9	8.5	7.6	-0.8
- Other sexual offences : Under 13	1.7	622	636	14	2.3	0.4	41	45	4	9.8	0.2	6.6	7.1	0.5
- Other sexual offences : Under 16	1.5	630	825	195	31.0	0.5	62	82	20	32.3	0.3	9.8	9.9	0.1
- Other sexual offences : Age 13 to 17	0.0	21	21	0	0.0	0.0	4	2	-2	-50.0	0.0	19.0	9.5	-9.5
- Other sexual offences : Over 13	17.0	873	994	121	13.9	0.6	72	57	-15	-20.8	0.2	8.2	5.7	-2.5
- Other sexual offences : Over 16	12.5	11	8	-3	-27.3	0.0	0	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- Other sexual offences : Not Age Specific	3.6	245	302	57	23.3	0.2	24	27	3	12.5	0.1	9.8	8.9	-0.9
Robbery	1.3	1564	1863	299	19.1	1.1	214	204	-10	-4.7	0.9	13.7	11.0	-2.7
- Robbery of business property	0.0	191	176	-15	-7.9	0.1	46	39	-7	-15.2	0.2	24.1	22.2	-1.9
- Robbery of Personal Property	1.5	1373	1687	314	22.9	1.0	168	165	-3	-1.8	0.7	12.2	9.8	-2.5
Theft Offences	2.4	54395	54960	565	1.0	32.7	5135	5444	309	6.0	23.1	9.4	9.9	0.5
- Burglary	1.6	12365	11332	-1033	-8.4	6.7	626	724	98	15.7	3.1	5.1	6.4	1.3
- Burglary Residential	2.2	8810	8256	-554	-6.3	4.9	408	474	66	16.2	2.0	4.6	5.7	1.1
- Burglary Business & Community	0.0	3555	3076	-479	-13.5	1.8	218	250	32	14.7	1.1	6.1	8.1	2.0
- Burglary Dwelling (pre-Apr 17 definition)	3.0	6409	5958	-451	-7.0	3.5	378	438	60	15.9	1.9	5.9	7.4	1.5
- Burglary Other (pre-Apr 17 definition)	0.1	5956	5374	-582	-9.8	3.2	248	286	38	15.3	1.2	4.2	5.3	1.2
- Vehicle Offences (incl. Interference)	1.0	14794	15381	587	4.0	9.1	319	340	21	6.6	1.4	2.2	2.2	0.1
- Theft from a Vehicle	0.2	7984	7694	-290	-3.6	4.6	109	102	-7	-6.4	0.4	1.4	1.3	0.0
- Theft of a Vehicle	2.6	4781	5435	654	13.7	3.2	183	191	8	4.4	0.8	3.8	3.5	-0.3
- Vehicle Interference	0.0	2029	2252	223	11.0	1.3	27	47	20	74.1	0.2	1.3	2.1	0.8
- Theft	3.4	27236	28247	1011	3.7	16.8	4190	4380	190	4.5	18.6	15.4	15.5	0.1
- Theft from the Person	2.4	1598	1343	-255	-16.0	0.8	40	24	-16	-40.0	0.1	2.5	1.8	-0.7
- Theft of Pedal Cycle	0.3	2226	2229	3	0.1	1.3	57	51	-6	-10.5	0.2	2.6	2.3	-0.3
- Shoplifting	0.0	10208	11150	942	9.2	6.6	3282	3570	288	8.8	15.1	32.2	32.0	-0.1
- Other Theft	6.8	13204	13525	321	2.4	8.0	811	735	-76	-9.4	3.1	6.1	5.4	-0.7
Criminal Damage inc. Arson	11.9	15871	17456	1585	10.0	10.4	1722	1633	-89	-5.2	6.9	10.8	9.4	-1.5
- Criminal Damage	12.9	15356	15982	626	4.1	9.5	1689	1597	-92	-5.4	6.8	11.0	10.0	-1.0
- Arson	1.3	515	1474	959	186.2	0.9	33	36	3	9.1	0.2	6.4	2.4	-4.0
Victim Based: Under Reported		Offences					Solved Outcomes					Solved Rates %		
Crime Type	% DA 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	% pt. diff.
Racial/Religiously Aggravated Offences	1.0	1225	1558	333	27.2	0.9	190	261	71	37.4	1.1	15.5	16.8	1.2
Hate Crime HO Definition	3.8	2333	2933	600	25.7	1.7	314	367	53	16.9	1.6	13.5	12.5	-0.9
Domestic Abuse	100.0	21552	28930	7378	34.2	17.2	3142	3127	-15	-0.5	13.3	14.6	10.8	-3.8
- High Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	2266	2521	255	11.3	1.5	855	776	-79	-9.2	3.3	37.7	30.8	-7.0
- Medium Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	4440	5049	609	13.7	3.0	1085	1017	-68	-6.3	4.3	24.4	20.1	-4.3
- Standard Risk Domestic Abuse	100.0	13540	19470	5930	43.8	11.6	1091	1121	30	2.7	4.8	8.1	5.8	-2.3
- No Risk Assessment	100.0	1306	1890	584	44.7	1.1	111	213	102	91.9	0.9	8.5	11.3	2.8
State Based Crime		Offences					Solved Outcomes					Solved Rates %		
Crime Type	% DA 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	# diff.	% diff.	% All 2019	2018	2019	% pt. diff.
Drug Offences	0.0	3501	5417	1916	54.7	3.2	2943	4721	1778	60.4	20.0	84.1	87.2	3.1
- Trafficking of Drugs	0.0	714	834	120	16.8	0.5	419	578	159	37.9	2.5	58.7	69.3	10.6
- Possession of Drugs	0.0	2787	4583	1796	64.4	2.7	2524	4143	1619	64.1	17.6	90.6	90.4	-0.2
Possession of Weapons	1.3	2077	1707	-370	-17.8	1.0	1438	1086	-352	-24.5	4.6	69.2	63.6	-5.6
Public Order	8.7	11442	15085	3643	31.8	9.0	1941	2184	243	12.5	9.3	17.0	14.5	-2.5
Miscellaneous Crimes against Society	16.0	3134	3822	688	22.0	2.3	554	638	84	15.2	2.7	17.7	16.7	-1.0



The charts above take data from the Crime tree – rolling 12 months to September 2019. The results show that Braintree follows a very similar pattern to Essex as a whole with the division of crime types appearing very alike. The differences are minor, but come in the form of: Vehicle Offences and Violence With Injury being slightly lower than the force average, whilst Theft, Burglary and Sexual Offences are all slightly higher.

5.5 Crime Severity Scores

Data Source: Essex Police Performance Analysis Unit

Crime Severity Scores, as developed by the Office of National Statistics, can be used to show which crime types have the highest impact on society, and which require the greatest allocation of police resources. They can therefore help inform the strategic decision-making process. They should be considered when reviewing the priorities set (see Appendix B for further details).

The top three crime types, in rank order, based on Crime Severity Scores, for Braintree District are:



6 PARTNERSHIP DATA

6.1 Drug & Alcohol Data

Data Source: PFCC assessment support packs.

Drugs and alcohol are identified as two of the key drivers of crime and disorder in the Home Office Modern Crime Prevention Strategy (2016).

Individuals dependent on opioids and/or crack cocaine (OCUs) are responsible for an estimated 45% of acquisitive crime (shoplifting, burglary, vehicle crime and robbery), equating to the commission of more than 2,000,000 offences. Around 40% of all violent crimes are alcohol-related, which translates into almost 500,000 violent incidences per year. Drug and alcohol misuse are related to other issues such as child protection, impaired driving, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse. Alcohol and drug-related offending are estimated to cost £11 billion and £13.9 billion, respectively.

The evidence shows that being in treatment itself reduces levels of offending, so the Modern Crime Prevention Strategy focuses on the need for treatment, prevention and enforcement to mitigate the impact of drug-related crime. Evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment also help in terms of health improvements, reduced drug and/or alcohol related deaths, lower levels of blood-borne infection and wider social harm. The Drugs Strategy (2017) echoes the commitment to treatment when it sets out the need to support people to address their dependence in order to reduce the risk of reoffending. Drug treatment has prevented approximately 4.9m offences in 2010-11. For drug-related crime, reducing the number of heroin and crack users is likely to have the largest impact on volume crime levels.

Local authorities commission substance misuse treatment services. It is good practice to base commissioning decisions on a full understanding of the needs of the local population, including those in contact with the criminal justice system. A partnership approach to the planning and delivery of services between all commissioners of health and justice services can bring mutual benefits. Police and Crime Commissioners play a central role in shaping the actions taken by local authorities, enforcement bodies and other local partners.

The picture for alcohol is slightly more complex. Violence and disorder in the night-time economy or in the home are largely the result of binge drinking. Some binge drinkers are alcohol dependent, and there is good evidence for specialist alcohol treatment for dependence. However, most binge drinkers are not dependent, so wouldn't necessarily benefit from specialist treatment. Other effective responses supporting a reduction in

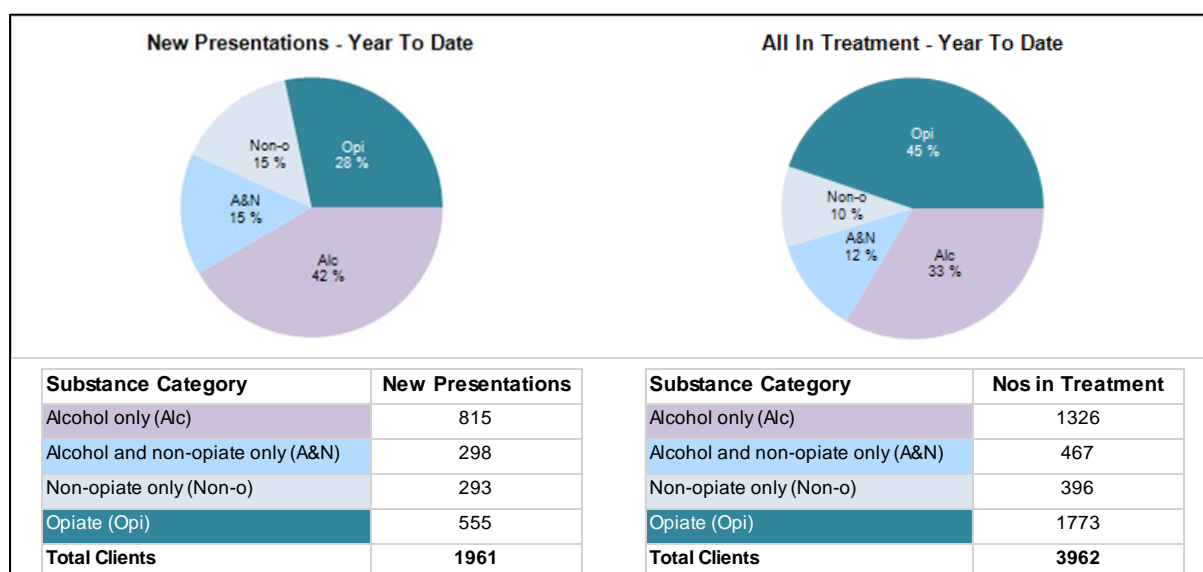
alcohol-related crime include controlling accessibility and times of sale of alcohol, intelligence-led management of enforcement activity and shaping the built environment to limit the likelihood of violence.

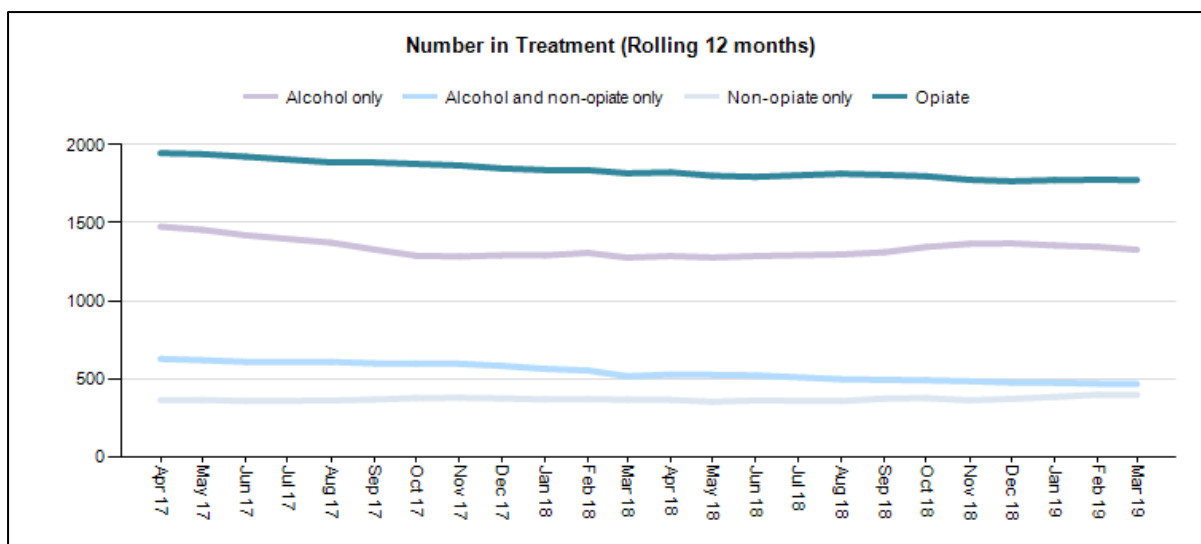
Evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment can help reduce harms to the individual and the local community and deliver real savings, particularly in terms of crime costs, but also in savings in terms of health improvements, reduced drug and/or alcohol related deaths, lower levels of blood-borne infection and wider social harm.

Further information in relation to the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS), including publication of national statistics, can be found in the East of England Essex Police Force Area PCC Support pack 2018-19.

Essex Adult Activity Reports 2018/19

Below are the statistics from the end of year Essex Adult Activity reports provided by Essex County Council. These are County wide for all alcohol, opiate, and non-opiate treatments.





Successful Completions	Baseline period		D.O.T B	Latest period	
	(%)	(n)		(%)	(n)
Opiate	5.4%	98 / 1816	▼	5.0%	89 / 1773
Non-opiate only	54.9%	201 / 366	▲	56.8%	225 / 396
Alcohol only	36.4%	464 / 1276	▲	39.1%	518 / 1326
Alcohol and non-opiate only	42.2%	218 / 516	▲	45.2%	211 / 467

Re-Presentations	Baseline period		D.O.T B	Latest period	
	(%)	(n)		(%)	(n)
Opiate	17.6%	12 / 68	▲	16.1%	9 / 56
Non-opiate only	2.1%	2 / 97	▼	4.7%	6 / 127
Alcohol only	5.9%	15 / 254	▼	9.2%	23 / 250
Alcohol and non-opiate only	11.9%	13 / 109	▲	5.0%	6 / 119

*D.O.T – Direction of travel

Number in treatment year to date and new presentations to treatment year to date

From: 01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019

Technical Notes: All clients in treatment within the date parameters. All clients starting treatment within the date parameters.

All clients still in treatment on the last day of the date parameters given.

6.2 Probation

Data Source: Essex Community Rehabilitation Company

Essex CRC District Analysis – Community Safety Partnerships Report

This report is taken from current Essex CRC data as of December 12th 2019.

Essex CRC's purpose is and has always been to protect the public by delivering effective offender management and rehabilitation services. Our vision is to 'create a positive future' for the people we work with such as service users, victims and their families, communities, our partners and our employees. We do this by managing risk, changing lives and improving communities.

The key deliverables under each of the strategic priorities for our community operations are:

- Improve the quality of life of service users
- Reduce re-offending and risk of harm
- Employ ex-offenders and service users
- Promote the health, safety and well-being of service users
- Enable personal growth through learning and opportunities for change

Our Rehabilitation Activity Requirement (RAR) services which, have been designed based on desistance principles allow the service user to understand their strengths and develop an awareness of obstacles. We have a range of activities available which include for example; behaviour change courses and one to one support aimed at securing positive outcomes for accommodation, our Resettlement teams also work within our local Prison HMP Chelmsford to deliver the "Through The Gate" work which is also being enhanced and strengthened following further development of this model. We also deliver key interventions such as accredited Programmes and Community Payback services where Service users learn practical life skills to support reducing reoffending and material benefit to communities through improved environments and increased public safety.

Essex CRC contributes to the Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards in the local authority areas, as well as the SET Essex Criminal Justice, Reducing Re-offending, Safer Essex and Domestic Abuse Boards.

Our ambition is to deliver a sustained and continuous reduction in reoffending and deliver interventions and work in partnerships to drive positive change in the behaviour of our service users whilst ensuring risks posed to the community are effectively monitored and reduced and to develop our Rehabilitation Activity Requirement offer ensuring the services we deliver are targeted, accessible and responsive to the needs of those we supervise.

Number of Current Service Users		
This table shows a count of Service users in each district.		
District	Area %	Count
Basildon	14.87%	490
Braintree	6.16%	203
Brentwood	3.07%	101
Castle Point	3.46%	114
Chelmsford	8.77%	289
Colchester	11.68%	385
Epping Forest	5.10%	168
Harlow	8.32%	274
Maldon	2.09%	69
Rochford	1.82%	60
Southend-on-Sea	13.96%	460
Tendring	9.07%	299
Thurrock	10.20%	336
Uttlesford	1.43%	47
Grand Total	100.00%	3295

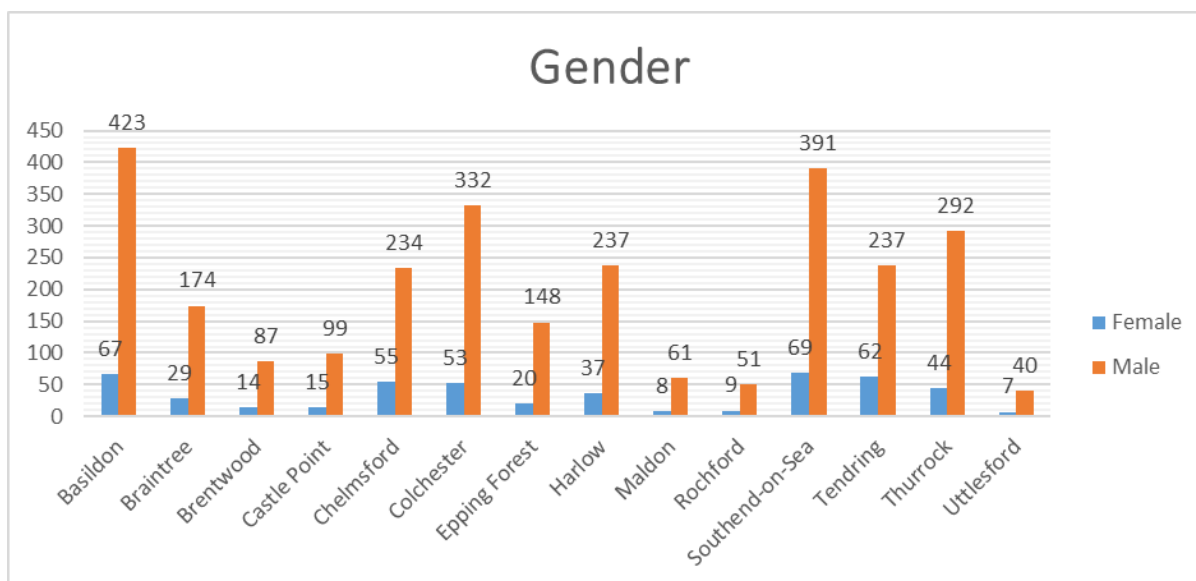
The below table is the Risk of Harm assessment per Service User in each area. This is determined by a clinical assessment by a Responsible Officer. Definitions of these categories are available on request.

Risk of Serious Harm					
This table shows a breakdown of RoSH across each District.					
District	No RoSH	Low	Medium	High	Total
Basildon	9	188	293		490
Braintree	5	69	129		203
Brentwood	1	43	57		101
Castle Point	1	37	76		114
Chelmsford	5	76	208		289
Colchester	8	80	297		385
Epping Forest	5	71	92		168
Harlow	5	80	188	1	274
Maldon		19	49	1	69
Rochford	1	20	37	2	60
Southend-on-Sea	3	137	317	3	460
Tendring	6	83	210		299
Thurrock	4	86	244	2	336
Uttlesford		16	31		47
Total	53	1005	2228	9	3295
Percentage	2%	31%	68%	0%	100%

Order Type		
District	CO	SSO
Basildon	226	92
Braintree	105	46
Brentwood	39	26
Castle Point	56	27
Chelmsford	149	71
Colchester	164	104
Epping Forest	63	38
Harlow	123	59
Maldon	35	14
Rochford	13	8
Southend-on-Sea	273	90
Tendring	118	66
Thurrock	162	74
Uttlesford	14	14
Grand Total	1540	729
Percentage	44%	21%

The adjacent table shows the breakdown of service users per area and whether they were sentenced to Community based sentences (CO/SSO) or a Custodial sentence.

Count of Age						
District	18-21 yrs	22-25 yrs	26-35 yrs	Over 35 yrs	Deceased	Total
Basildon	48	55	188	198	1	490
Braintree	25	18	86	74		203
Brentwood	8	15	32	46		101
Castle Point	8	15	41	50		114
Chelmsford	27	39	88	135		289
Colchester	32	53	131	169		385
Epping Forest	21	23	50	74		168
Harlow	31	36	89	118		274
Maldon	6	6	26	31		69
Rochford	1	11	21	27		60
Southend-on-Sea	37	58	147	218		460
Tendring	26	36	93	144		299
Thurrock	52	40	122	122		336
Uttlesford	2	6	24	15		47
Grand Total	324	411	1138	1421	1	3295



The below table identifies how many service users in each area have been flagged as a DA Perpetrator. This can indicate which areas have a higher level of DA in this area.

Service Users with Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Registrations		
District	Count of CRN	Area %
Basildon	136	16%
Braintree	54	6%
Brentwood	12	1%
Castle Point	33	4%
Chelmsford	67	8%
Colchester	124	14%
Epping Forest	37	4%
Harlow	62	7%
Maldon	20	2%
Rochford	17	2%
Southend-on-Sea	130	15%
Tendring	81	9%
Thurrock	80	9%
Uttlesford	15	2%
Grand Total	868	100%

Compliance – This measure identifies whether a service user successfully completes their order with Essex CRC and if not, why they didn't. This can be effected by a number of factors and the data should be treated with some care.

Outcomes and Termination Reason																		
SLM008 Data from November 2018 - December 2019.																		
Count of Term Reason Desc (D)																		
Row Labels	Negative				Neutral								Positive				Positive Total	Grand Total
	Revoked (Failure to Comply)	Revoked (further offence)	Suspended Sentence Activated (failure to comply)	Suspended Sentence Activated (further offence)	Completed - Sentence/ PSS Expiry Reached	Consec/ Concurrent custody imposed	Offender Deployed or Removed	Offender Died	On Appeal	Revoked (failure on another order)	Revoked (Failure to Comply)	Revoked (unworkable)	Completed - early good progress	Completed - Sentence/ PSS Expiry Reached	Expired (Breach Listed)	Order Expired - Extension Refused		
Basildon	20	29	14	13	76		1	1	1			4	7	54	187	17	1	342
Braintree	17	8	8	3	36				3			4	7	40	81	8		172
Brentwood	2	4	2	2	10							1	1	10	34	1		56
Castle Point	8	6	1	2	17				1			2	3	16	51	4		91
Chelmsford	19	11	4	6	40				1			2	3	48	109	16		216
Colchester	31	28	10	10	79				2			2	4	68	174	11		336
Epping Forest	9	5	6	3	23				1	1		2	4	20	72	7		126
Harlow	13	14	5	8	40				1	2		1	5	31	111	8		195
Maldon	7	2	5	4	18	1			1				2	15	27	2		64
Rochford	5	5	2	1	13				1				1	15	41	2		72
Southend-on-Sea	45	42	11	8	106				1		2	4	7	67	195	17		392
Tendring	20	8	7	2	37	1			1	1			3	28	116	11		195
Thurrock	21	24	7	7	59	1				1	1	7	11	67	159	14		310
Uttlesford	2	2	1	2	7							1	1	18	27	1		54
Grand Total	219	188	83	71	561	3	1	1	13	6	3	2 30	59	497	1384	119	1	2621

6.3 Reoffending Data

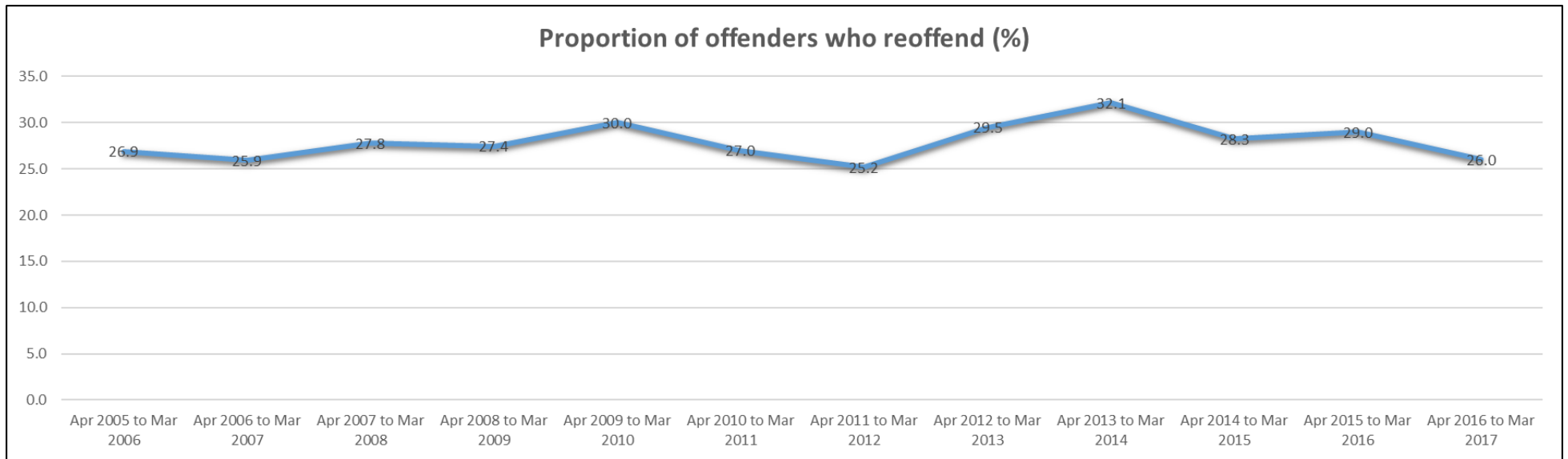
Data Source: Office of National Statistics

The following information has been extracted from the government website for National Statistics, as provided by the Ministry of Justice* in relation to proven reoffending statistics for the financial years since 2005: Statistics on reoffending of offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction, or a caution.

* <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/proven-reoffending-statistics-october-to-december-2016>

Proven reoffending statistics: October to December 2017' release has been cancelled. The statistics which would have been included within this publication will now be presented in the annual edition of the Proven Reoffending bulletin which is scheduled for release on 30 January 2020. As such, this data remains the same as the previous year. For further details, please refer to www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements/proven-reoffending-statistics-october-to-december-2017

Values	Apr 2005 to Mar 2006	Apr 2006 to Mar 2007	Apr 2007 to Mar 2008	Apr 2008 to Mar 2009	Apr 2009 to Mar 2010	Apr 2010 to Mar 2011	Apr 2011 to Mar 2012	Apr 2012 to Mar 2013	Apr 2013 to Mar 2014	Apr 2014 to Mar 2015	Apr 2015 to Mar 2016	Apr 2016 to Mar 2017	Sparkline
Proportion of offenders who reoffend (%)	26.9	25.9	27.8	27.4	30.0	27.0	25.2	29.5	32.1	28.3	29.0	26.0	
Average number of reoffences per reoffender	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.8	
Number of reoffences	1530	1338	1536	1577	1754	1631	1266	1372	1515	1099	1049	871	
Number of reoffenders	478	428	525	560	590	460	372	375	440	353	311	229	
Number of offenders in cohort	1778	1652	1889	2041	1967	1704	1478	1271	1369	1249	1073	880	
Average number of previous offences per offender	7.28	8.40	7.71	8.28	9.21	10.40	10.43	12.43	14.00	14.01	14.64	15.00	



6.4 Youth Offending Data

Data Source: Youth Offending Service

The aim of Essex Youth Offending Service (YOS) is to work with children and young people who have offended and to help prevent them getting into further trouble. Each Youth Offending Team (YOT) includes a police officer, social workers, probation officers and staff from Health and Education.

Essex

- Between 1st December 2018 and 30th November 2019, 548 young people were active on Youth Offending Team (YOT) programmes in Essex. This number includes Looked After Children from Essex who may have been placed out of county during all or part of their programme(s). The total excludes any cases that were from other Local Authorities
- 462 were male (84%) and 86 were female (16%)
- Based on the young person's age, as of 1st December 2018, most young people were aged 17 (30%) or aged 16 (29%)
- There were 740 YOT programmes running, the breakdown in type is as follows:
 - Prevention: 140 (19%)
 - Pre-court disposal: 93 (13%)
 - Community: 388 (52%)
 - Custodial order: 29 (4%)
 - Licence: 29 (4%)
 - Bail programme: 24 (3%)
 - Remand: 37 (5%)
- Of 740 programmes, there were 1,504 offences. The top three offence types were violence against the person 529 (35%), drugs 194 (13%) and criminal damage 153 (10%)
- 115 young people (21%) had multiple programmes within this period, indicating repeat offending. This is likely to underrepresent true reoffending since it does not account for disposals where there was no YOT involvement (e.g. fines) *

Braintree

- Between 1st December 2018 and 30th November 2019, 27 young people were active on Youth Offending Team (YOT) programmes in Braintree. This number includes Looked After Children from Essex who may have been placed out of district during all or part of their programme(s). The total excludes any cases that were from other Local Authorities
- 24 were male (89%) and 3 were female (11%)
- Based on the young person's age, as of 1st December 2018, most young people were aged 16 (37%) or aged 17 (33%)
- There were 36 YOT programmes running, the breakdown in type is as follows:
 - Prevention: 7 (19%)
 - Pre-court disposal: 7 (19%)
 - Community: 16 (44%)
 - Custodial order: 2 (6%)
 - Licence: 3 (8%)
 - Bail programme: 0 (0%)
 - Remand: 1 (3%)
- Of 36 programmes, there were 70 offences. The top three offence types were violence against the person 24 (34%), drugs 16 (23%) and criminal damage 10 (14%)
- 6 young people (22%) had multiple programmes within this period, indicating repeat offending. This is likely to underrepresent true reoffending since it does not account for disposals where there was no YOT involvement (e.g. fines) *

*It is not possible to accurately reflect reoffending rates of a cohort so soon after period-end; to allow a level playing field, everyone in the cohort should be monitored for same period of time.

6.1 Restorative Justice

Data Source: Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

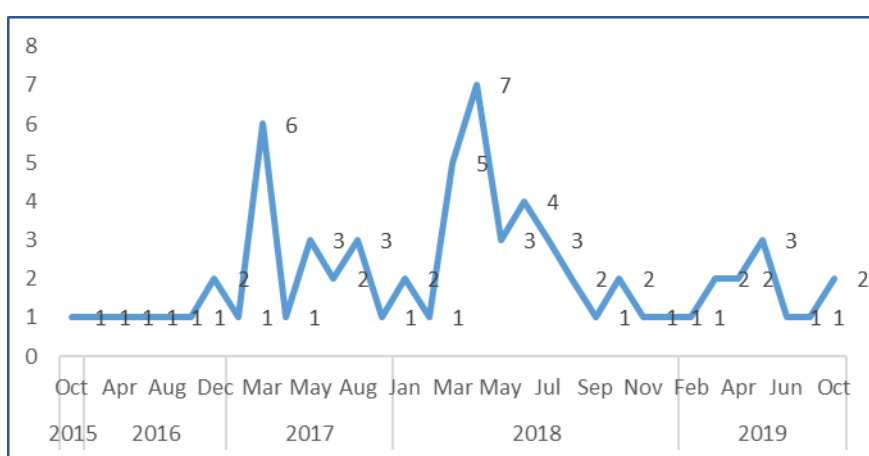
The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service aims to bring those affected by crime and conflict such as victims and offenders, or those involved in a neighbour dispute, into communication. This allows victims to have their say and seek answers and for offenders to offer apologies and make reparation. For those in dispute, mediation allows those involved to be responsible for solving their own issues and find a mutually agreed way forward.

In the period January-October 2019 there were 319 referrals in Essex. Braintree had 12 referrals which was 3.7% of the county total.

Overall, the service has a satisfaction rate of 93% with over 80% of participants stating that the process had a positive effect on them. National evidence demonstrates that RJ reduces victims' fear and desire to get revenge, as well as reducing reoffending rates.

Referral Sources and volume, Braintree:

The below graph demonstrates referral numbers received from Braintree. An increase in referrals was seen in 2018 with 30% ending in successful communication. (25% average countywide)

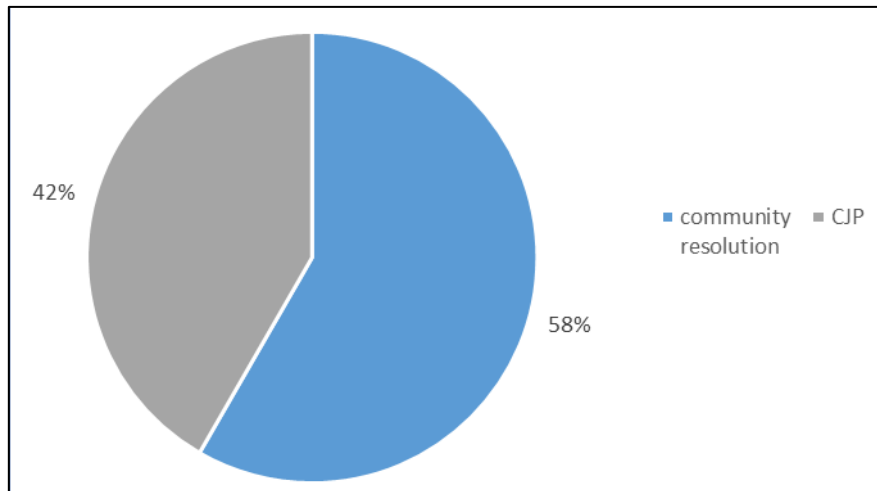


Since the launch of the service in 2015 , referral sources from Braintree have been as follows:

Referral Sources	Number	% of the total
Police	51	73.9%
YOS	5	7.2%
Housing	3	4.3%
self referral	2	2.9%
other	2	2.9%
Prison	1	1.4%
CJP	1	1.4%
Council	1	1.4%
ECFRS	1	1.4%
CRC	1	1.4%
NPS	1	1.4%

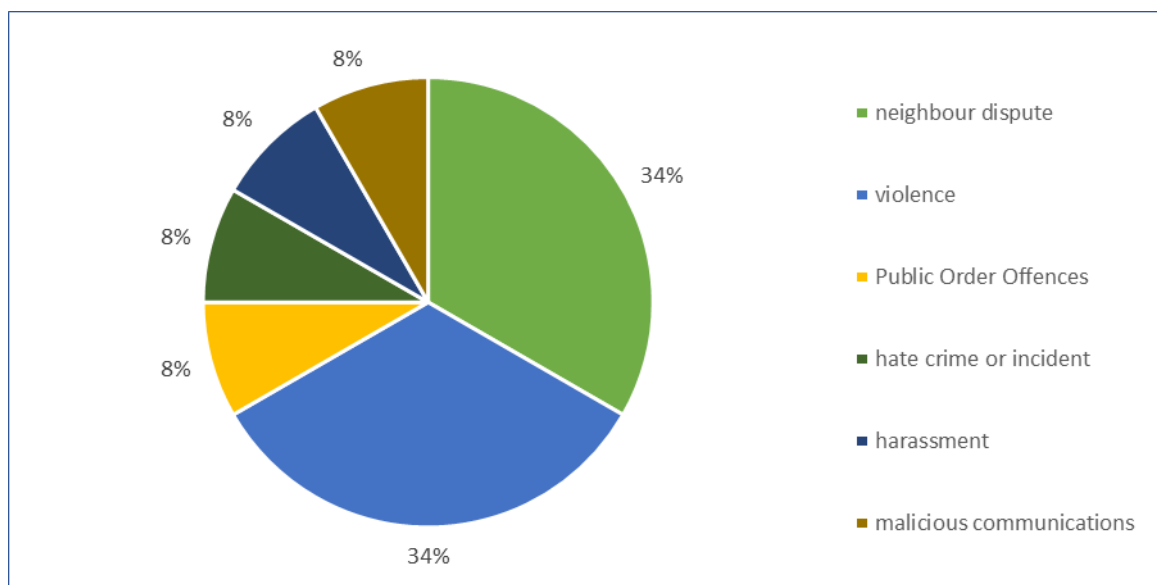
Referral Type

During 2019, Braintree referred the following types of referral:



*CJP is a referral with no criminal justice involvement such as a neighbour dispute referral

The offence type of these referrals were as follows:



Feedback from participants

83% of respondents in 2018 said the RJ process had a positive impact on them and they were very satisfied with the service.

Feedback from one participant stated:

"I was really pleased with the sympathetic ear we received and the perception that someone actually cared and realised how serious the issue was.

Please thank the team for all their help. They were friendly, approachable, easy to speak to - listened patiently, kept me informed and called when they said they would"

6.2 Road Casualties

Data Source: Essex Highways

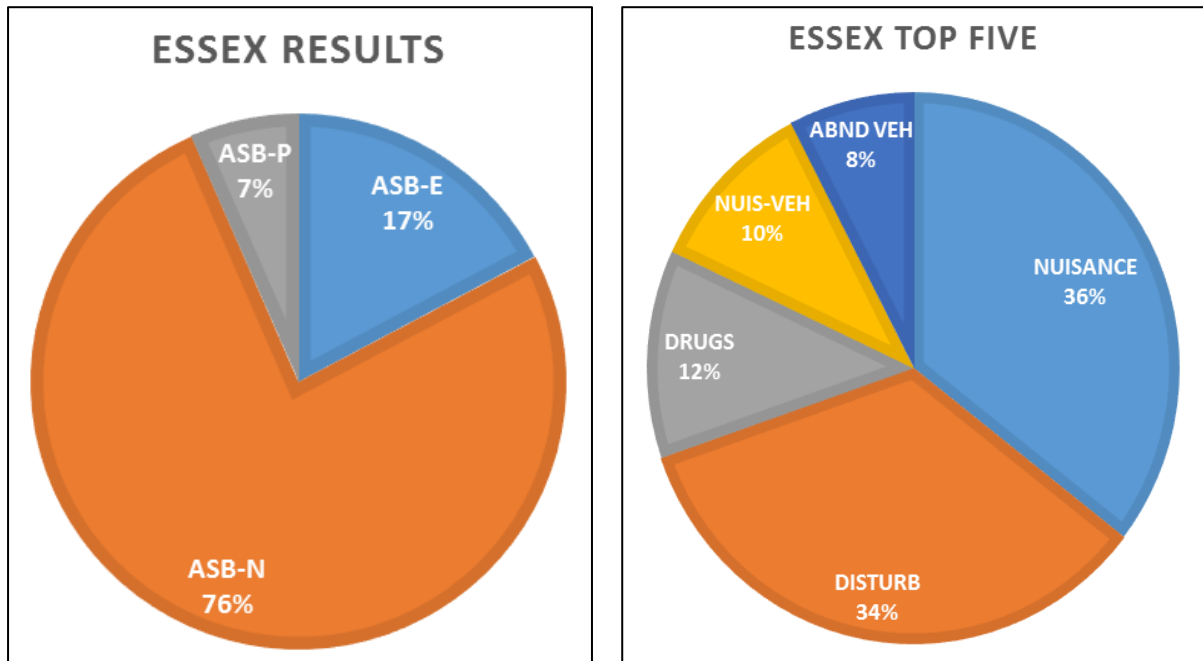
Local Authority	Casualties 01/10/2017 to 30/09/2018				Casualties 01/10/2018 to 30/09/2019				% change				
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	KSI	Fatal	Serious	Slight	KSI	Fatal	Serious	Slight	KSI	All
BASILDON	4	67	257	71	3	51	242	54	-25%	-24%	-6%	-24%	10%
BRAINTREE	4	69	211	73	1	64	256	65	-75%	-7%	21%	-11%	13%
BRENTWOOD	3	36	155	39	2	42	187	44	-33%	17%	21%	13%	19%
CASTLE POINT	3	27	150	30	1	31	92	32	-67%	15%	-39%	7%	31%
CHELMSFORD	4	100	313	104	7	79	301	86	75%	-21%	-4%	-17%	-7%
COLCHESTER	4	89	342	93	2	91	378	93	-50%	2%	11%	0%	8%
EPPING FOREST	10	101	447	111	9	116	378	125	-10%	15%	-15%	13%	10%
HARLOW	1	30	104	31	1	35	84	36	0%	17%	-19%	16%	11%
MALDON	1	50	81	51	3	32	78	35	200%	-36%	-4%	-31%	14%
ROCHFORD	3	37	140	40	0	30	88	30	-	-19%	-37%	-25%	34%
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA	1	62	273	63	1	69	253	70	0%	11%	-7%	11%	-4%
TENDRING	3	74	288	77	5	73	212	78	67%	-1%	-26%	1%	21%
THURROCK	2	75	346	77	2	65	351	67	0%	-13%	1%	-13%	-1%
UTTLESFORD	3	71	191	74	4	50	155	54	33%	-30%	-19%	-27%	21%
Essex	46	888	3,298	934	41	828	3,055	869	11%	-7%	-7%	-7%	7%

This year we have seen consistent reductions in casualties across all areas and road user types. However, pedestrians and van drivers are seeing the least amount of improvement. The improvement in fatalities is small in number as reflects the usual variation around recent annual averages that have been in the high thirties to high forties per year. This year has seen the greatest reduction in serious injuries for some time. The reduction in slight injuries is a more consistent trend from previous years and has been seen nationally. Research undertaken by the department for transport has indicated there is a small decrease in the reporting rate for injury-collisions, but that most of the decrease in recorded collisions reflects a real reduction in the number of collisions on the road.

6.3 Anti-Social Behaviour – Essex Police

Data Source: Essex Police Storm system

Essex Police have received 43,272 calls which relate to Anti-Social Behaviour in the period between 01/10/2018 and 30/09/2019. This is a decrease of 5,316 or 10.9 % from the same time period in the previous year where 48,588 calls were logged.



ASB is recorded under 3 overall categories; Nuisance, Environmental, and Personal. Across the county, the most common category is Nuisance 32,984 (76.2%), followed by Environmental 7,467 (17.3%) and Personal 2,821 (6.5%).

These categories are further broken down into types to provide more clarity on the incidents recorded.

There was a change in recording these types in June 2018. This resulted in the removal of the types of 'Nuisance – Youth' and 'Nuisance – Other' and the inclusion of the overarching header of 'Nuisance'. Any subsequent incidents involving under 18 year olds would be recorded as alternative categories including Nuisance and Disturbance with any relevant details regarding vulnerability or youths involved to be recorded elsewhere, or other more appropriate classifications such as Nuisance Noise or Disturbance etc.

As a result, it is not possible for direct comparisons of incident types with previous time periods as any incidents which would have previously been recorded within the Nuisance Youth or Nuisance Other category may now be recorded in several other ASB categories.

Office of National Statistics' most recent report for the period ending September 2017 shows that 51% of those surveyed agreed that Essex Police and local authorities are dealing with ASB, this compares to 59% for England and Wales.

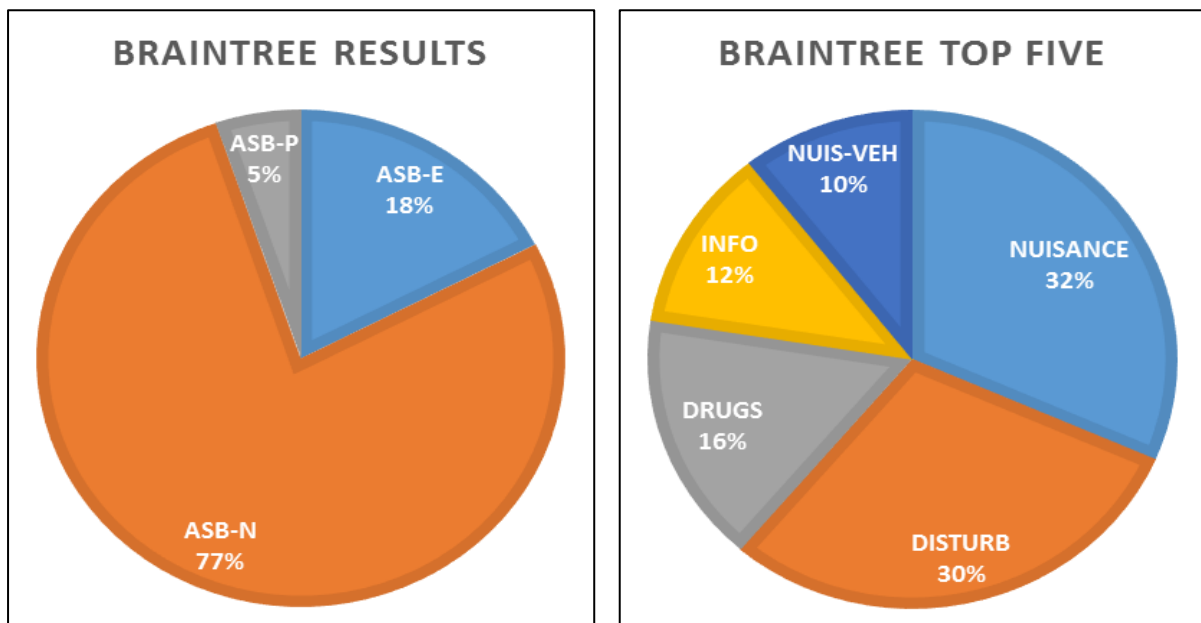
35% of respondents also stated that they had experienced ASB compared to the same period in the previous year of 31% for Essex. This percentage increase is broadly in line with the England and Wales increase from 28% to 33%.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/adhocs/006558csewperceptionandasbdatabypoliceforceareayearendingseptember2016>

Braintree

There were a total of 2561 ASB related calls to Essex Police for Braintree district. This is a decrease of 548 or 17.6% from the same time period in the previous year where 3109 calls were logged.

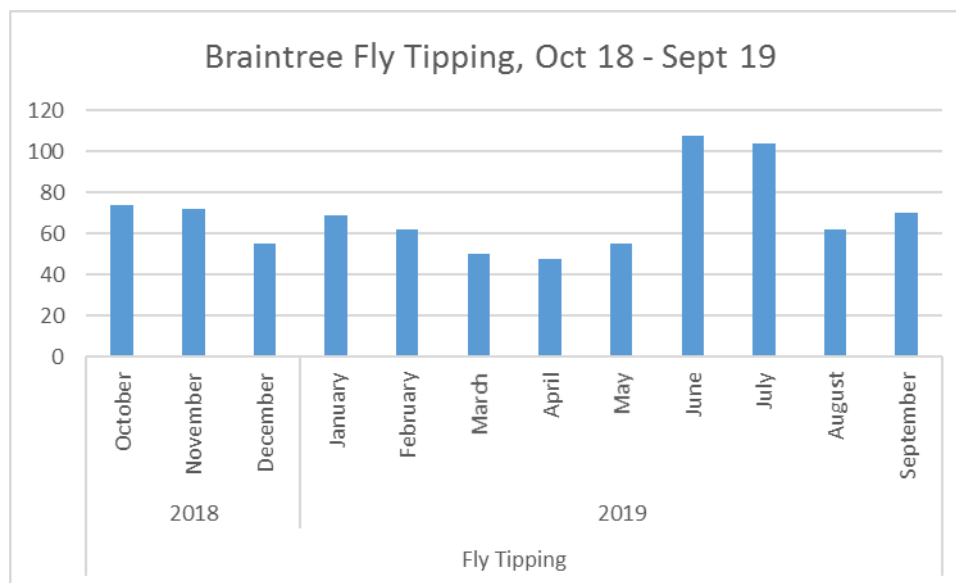
Braintree follows a similar pattern to the Force as a whole but with more emphasis on Nuisance with 77% of the District total, equating to 1982 calls. Environmental ASB had 446 calls (18%) and Personal had 133 calls (5%). Overall, Braintree accounts for 5.9% of the total ASB incidents reported to Essex Police.



ASB is recorded by both Essex Police and the district council however, not in compatible formats. Therefore, it is not possible to combine the datasets to form a single overarching picture of ASB in this District.

6.4 Anti-Social Behaviour – Braintree Council

Data Source: Braintree Council



Braintree Fly Tipping Data												
Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Total
74	72	55	69	62	50	48	55	108	104	62	70	829

6.5 Accident & Emergency Assault Data

Data Source: Essex Police Intelligence Analysts

The Cardiff Model identified the value of using anonymised Accident and Emergency assault data to improve understanding of the true picture of violence resulting in injury. This is based on the theory that not all assaults are reported to Police and therefore some remain unrecorded.

Combined with Police recorded data, A&E data would enable Partnerships fully understand violence in their Districts and to deploy appropriate preventive and educational initiatives with the aim of decreasing assaults resulting in injury. There could be an added benefit of reducing admissions to A&Es and therefore reducing impact on NHS resources.

This data should be shared with CSPs under Information Sharing to Tackle Violence guidance (ISB1594). However, data collected and shared under this protocol is not at a consistent and credible standard across Essex.

Essex Police is working with the partners to improve the standard of the anonymised data to provide a better picture of violence within the Districts.

6.6 Essex Fire & Rescue Service

Data Source: Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

Priorities

The current ECFRS prevention priorities are –

- Reduce Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)
- Reduce Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) and the number of people Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) on our roads
- Reduce deliberate fires, including fires in the open
- Promote Water Safety
- Promote Flood Awareness and Safety

Incidents

In this period, ECFRS attended **15137** incidents of which **4727** were Fires, **4281** were Special Services and **6073** were False Alarms. There were **1730** deliberate fires. The total number of incidents saw a **decrease** of **553** from the same period in the previous year.

The number of Fires and False Alarms both fell in comparison to the previous year.

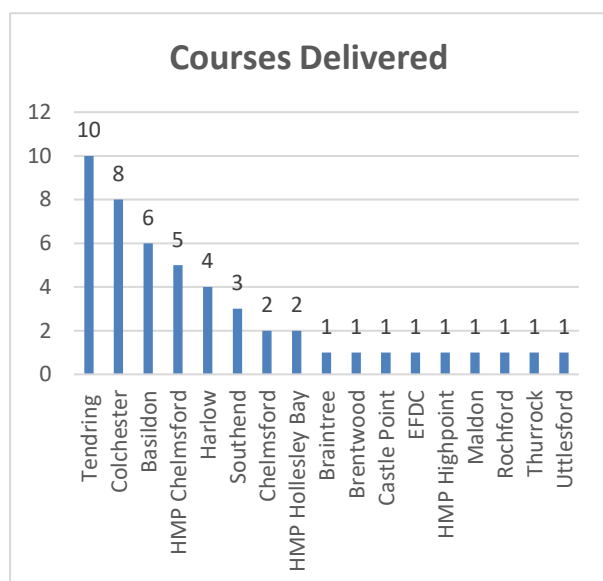
There has been an increase in arson incidents recorded due to improvements in recording processes between ECFRS and Essex Police.

CSP Activity

Essex County Fire and Rescue have continued to support Community Safety Partnerships through Intervention and support initiatives such as –

- Firebreak courses – A commissioned skills service designed to tackle a number of social issues, for a variety of audiences
- Juvenile Fire Setter Programme – tackles early signs dangerous behaviour regarding fire
- Safe and Well and Home Fire Safety Visit – designed to make people live safer in their homes from fire, as well as providing other relevant information, advice and guidance.
- School Education Programme – delivery of safety information as part of the curriculum

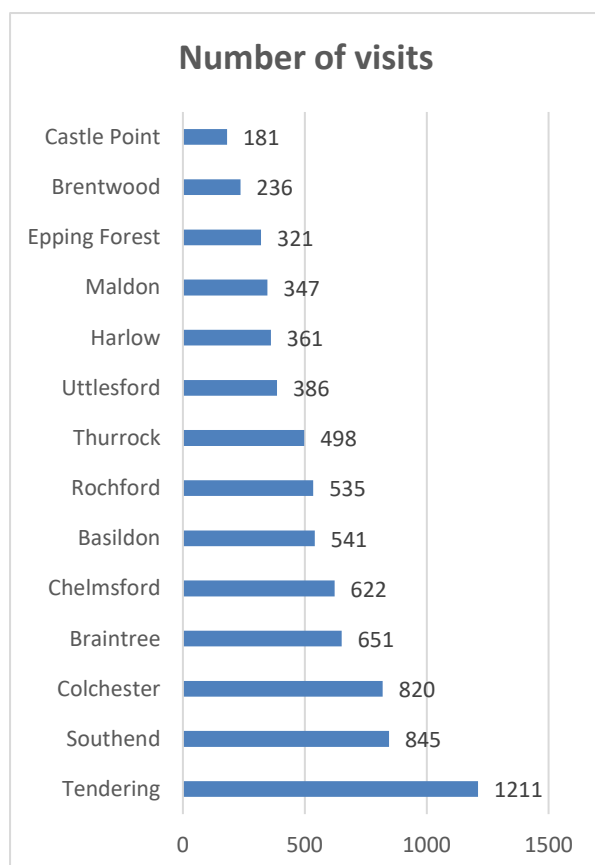
Firebreak



The Firebreak course is a Youth Intervention Programme. ECFRS have delivered 49 Firebreak courses in this period.

Three courses were delivered to Youth Offending Institutions outside of the county.

Home Safety and Safe and Well Visits



Essex County Fire and Rescue is committed to enabling the public to live more safely, securely and healthily in their own homes, while driving down the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF) in Essex.

We achieve this by identifying those individuals and groups most vulnerable to ADF, recognising that people considered vulnerable to other health and security concerns by partner agencies, are also highly likely to be at increased risk of fire.

Therefore, as part of our Safe and Well visits, we work with our partners and provide information, advice and guidance on three core areas:

Live Safely

Working smoke detector ownership, fire escape plans, Bedtime routines, awareness of how to prevent common fires

Live Securely

Educate and empower individuals to take measures in the prevention of burglary, scams and rogue callers

Live Well

Early intervention approach to health factors that predispose the individual to risks from fire, including but not exclusive to alcohol, medication, smoking, physical disability and lack of mobility.

We will do this by delivering two types of Home Safety Visit

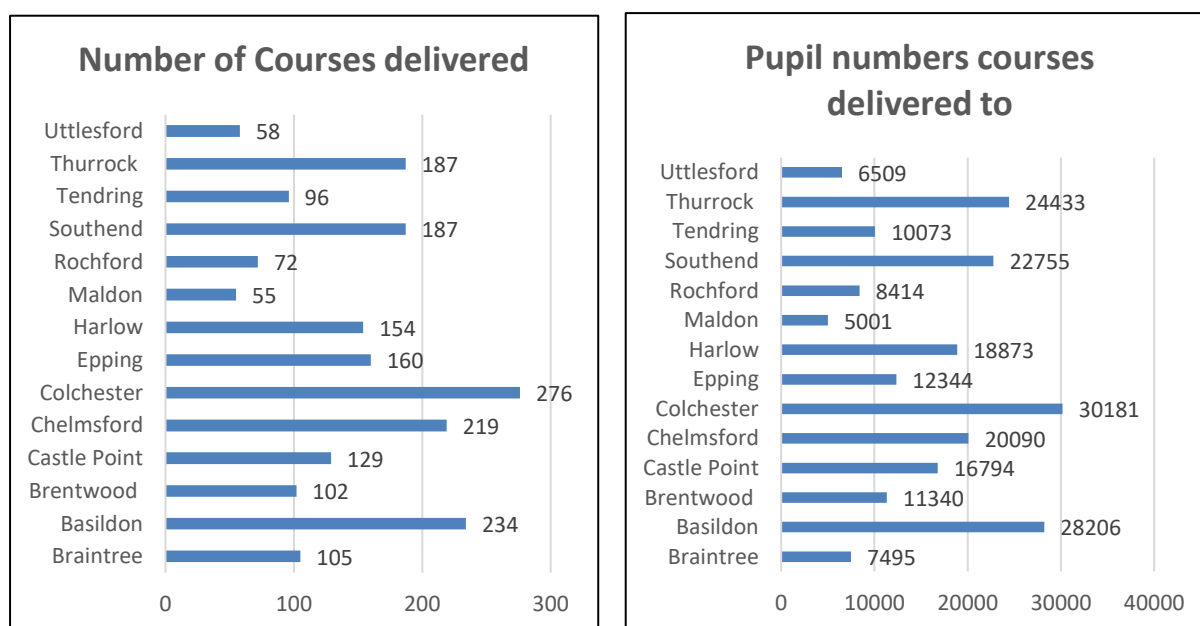
Home Safety Visit

A person centred visit carried out by Fire Fighters, Volunteers, and the wider Community Safety Staff focusing on fire prevention advice, information and guidance

Safe and Well Visit

Conducted by highly trained Officers, this more in-depth visit aims to improve the health and wellbeing of the most vulnerable in our communities, signposting to appropriate agencies for support.

School Inputs



Overall, ECFRS delivered 2,034 courses covering topics including Cyber Safety, Arson, Home Safety, Healthy relationships, People who help us, Firework Safety and Summer Safety. These were delivered to all age groups, Key Stage 1-4.

Overall, ECFRS delivered courses to 222,506 pupils. This number exceeds the school population as pupils would have received several of the inputs.

Braintree

In this period ECFRS attended 1004 incidents which was a decrease of 88 in comparison to the same period in the previous year. This comprised of 278 Fires attended, 292 Special Services and 434 False Alarms. There were 62 deliberate fires.

7 HIDDEN HARMS

7.1 Child Sexual Exploitation / Abuse

Data Source: Essex Police Crime & Public Protection Command (Operations Centre)

In February 2017, the Department for Education published a revised definition of Child Sexual Exploitation and guide for 'practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children from CSE²⁰.

Definition - Child Sexual Exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

CSE is a Hidden Harm. The recording of CSE investigations should therefore be regarded in a different way to offence data, as recording of such investigations is often a reflection of proactive policing and a greater knowledge of CSE indicators by the wider Partnership. It would consequently be inaccurate to suggest any District has a bigger CSE issue than the others because it has recorded more CSE investigations.

In this period, Braintree had 48 Child Sexual Exploitation offences and 33 non-crime offences. The total of 81 accounts for 6.9% of the County total and places Braintree 7th out of 14 Districts.

²⁰

http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/591903/CSE_Guidance_Core_Document_13.02.2017.pdf

7.2 Domestic Abuse

Data Source: Essex Police Domestic Abuse Problem Profile 2019/20.

Data parameters April 2018-March 2019

Domestic Abuse investigations by LPA and District

LPA	District	Crime	Non Crime	Total	LPA Total
North	Braintree	1925	1182	3107	17975
	Chelmsford	2256	1253	3509	
	Colchester	2899	1808	4707	
	Maldon	678	289	967	
	Tendring	2763	1748	4511	
	Uttlesford	758	416	1174	
South	Basildon	3003	1789	4792	13326
	Castle Point	1181	645	1826	
	Rochford	810	494	1304	
	Southend-on-Sea	3213	2191	5404	
West	Brentwood	887	479	1366	10719
	Epping Forest	1599	772	2371	
	Harlow	1683	907	2590	
	Thurrock	2825	1567	4392	
Total committed in Essex		26500	15571	42071	

The above table displays a breakdown of Domestic Abuse investigations by LPA and District; they are separated into both crime and non-crime investigations.

43% of all DA investigations recorded were in North LPA, which has been the highest LPA for DA investigations for the last five years.

Change to Crime Recording

In April 2018, a new rule was added to the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR) so that stalking and harassment in all cases should be recorded in addition to the most serious additional victim based offence involving the same victim-offender relationship 13. Prior to April 2018, only the most serious victim based offence was recorded.

This change to the HOCR has resulted in an increase in the number of stalking and harassment crimes being recorded from April 2018.

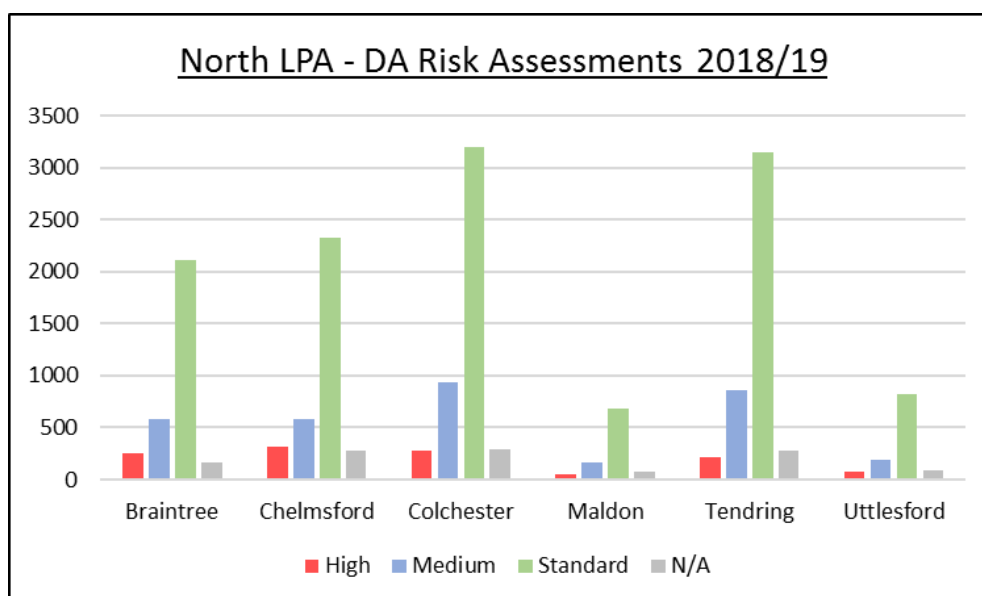
DA investigations per 1,000 adult population

The following table displays the number of investigations per 1,000 adults (15 years old and over), organised by district; this analysis is based on population figures obtained from the mid-2017 Population Estimates provided by the Office of National Statistics which were presented by district, and Unitary Authority. Each district has been given a rank based on the number of investigations per 1,000 adults in that area but the rank based on volume of recorded investigations is also included as a comparison.

Rank based on reported rates of DA per 1000 adults	District	Reported Rates of DA per 1,000 adults	Rank based on Volume
1	Harlow	38.09	8
2	Tendring	36.98	4
3	Southend-on-Sea	36.27	1
4	Thurrock	33.02	5
5	Basildon	32.38	2
6	Colchester	30.17	3
7	Braintree	25.06	7
8	Chelmsford	24.20	6
9	Castle Point	24.03	10
10	Epping Forest	22.16	9
11	Brentwood	21.68	11
12	Rochford	18.11	12
13	Maldon	17.91	14
14	Uttlesford	16.54	13

On average there is a difference in ranking of two positions either higher or lower between reported rates of DA per 1,000 adults and volume. Where the difference in the rankings is greater than the average this suggests an anomaly.

Risk Assessments



District	High	Medium	Standard	N/A	Total
Braintree	247	580	2110	170	3107
Chelmsford	318	582	2331	278	3509
Colchester	275	941	3202	289	4707
Maldon	54	159	680	74	967
Tendring	221	859	3154	277	4511
Uttlesford	70	184	828	92	1174

Right to Know/Ask – Clare's Law

Right to Ask: For the public

The scheme allows someone within a relationship - either male or female, to make a request to the police for information about a partner's history. The scheme is also open to anyone who has a concern about a relationship and is worried that someone may be at risk of harm from their partner. If disclosure is deemed necessary, the information is given to the person at risk, not to the applicant.

Right to Know: For the police

This side of Clare's Law allows the police to decide whether to disclose information to someone. In both Right to Ask and Right to Know, a panel of police, probation services and other agencies check every request to decide if disclosure of information is necessary, before trained police officers and advisers then provide support to victims. Even if no violence is found in someone's background, police will still help with advice and signposting if someone is fearful of their partner's behaviour.

- Braintree District has made 57 **Right to Know** applications in fiscal year 2018/19; equating to 8% of the 743 applications made in the Essex Policing Area.
- Braintree District has made 16 **Right to Ask** applications in fiscal year 2018/19; equating to 11% of the 143 applications made in the Essex Policing Area.

7.3 Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT)

Data Source: Essex Police Vulnerability Analysis Team

National

The true scale of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) in the UK is unknown. However, the number of potential victims referred via the National Referral Mechanism has increased from 5,142 in 2017 to 6,993 in 2018 (an increase of 36%). The majority of MSHT is driven by organised crime with a loose network and minimal sophistication. More sophisticated groups are likely to engage in MSHT alongside other crime such as financial and immigration crime.

Labour Exploitation is most likely to occur in car washes, construction and agriculture, although there has been an increase from the catering sector. Meanwhile, Domestic Servitude is usually perpetrated by lone offenders, often via familial and cultural links, and is under recorded. Sexual Exploitation continues to primarily target females and Adult Services Websites remain a key enabler, although there has been a slight decline in reporting of these websites in the last year. Criminal Exploitation is most likely to be via County Lines and most potential victims are males aged 15 to 17.

The three most prevalent offender nationalities in the UK are British, Romanian and Albanian. 45% of referrals to National Referral Mechanism in 2018 were exploited as children (under the age of 18). These are all key findings identified in the 2019 National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime³ from the National Crime Agency (NCA).

³ <https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/who-we-are/publications/296-national-strategic-assessment-of-serious-organised-crime-2019/file>

Essex

During the reporting period, Essex Police have implemented a number of changes and introduced new roles to address the growing recognition of MSHT crime:

- During 2019, a new MSHT Unit has been formed in force as an additional resource to address Modern Slavery offences. This team will work on offences within the remit of serious and organised crime or of a particularly complex nature – this will include Modern Slavery committed by organised crime groups or operations commissioned after comprehensive research and development.
- Essex Police has also extended partnership operations to include working with the charity Justice and Care who will provide a victim navigator⁴. This is a pilot scheme aiming to help victims navigate and secure more support including access to statutory help and provision through advocacy; establish greater trust and engagement between victims, the police and the wider criminal justice process; release police time; work into source countries and learn lessons for systemic change.
- New Prevent and Protect Co-ordinators for MSHT are also now in post for both Kent and Essex. Their role is to co-ordinate partnership activities relating to Modern Slavery to ensure joint responses to Modern Slavery; to develop and drive the implementation of Modern Slavery projects; to highlight new trends or threats, such as changes in legislation; to research and develop policy on Modern Slavery and to support force initiatives.
- Work is ongoing on improved data sharing both nationally and locally: the Clewer Initiative and the Modern Slavery Helpline allow members of the public to report slavery suspicions and there has been an increased uptake in the use of these initiatives. Partnership work is ongoing with both local agencies, non-governmental organisations and private companies to try and extend data sharing with a view to the identification of potentially exploitative situations.

As a county, Essex has seen an increased number of offences in all types of MSHT investigations with the exception of Domestic Servitude:

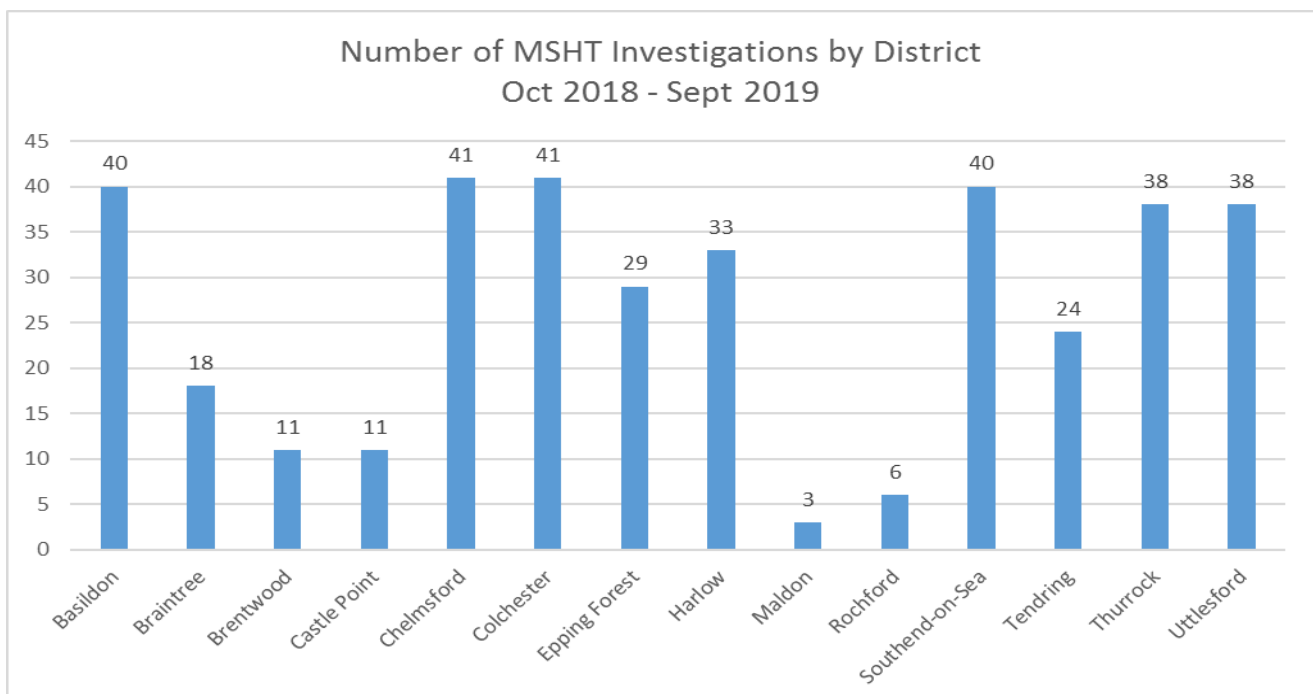
- Referrals due to Criminal Exploitation have increased and now account for the majority of all investigations. Foreign nationals have been forced to courier/deal drugs in their home countries before escaping to the UK. Referrals around drug dealing in the UK are primarily British male minors coerced into dealing with the majority affiliated to county lines or gangs.

⁴ <https://www.charityjob.co.uk/jobs/justice-and-care/victim-navigator-kent/599167>

- The second key area of exploitation is Labour exploitation which can vary across a wide number of industries. The industries involved included car washes, nail bars, construction, cleaning, preparation and service of food, and canvassing.
- Finally, the other significant area of exploitation is Sexual Exploitation. All the victims were female and most were linked to Prostitution and/or Brothels. Those victims in enforced prostitution were primarily adults from either an Eastern European or an Oriental background (this is likely linked to an ongoing national operation targeting specific locations).

District

As shown in the chart below Braintree had **18** investigations⁵ in the period reviewed.



These investigations were for:

- Criminal Exploitation: 5
- Domestic Servitude: 1
- Labour Exploitation: 8
- Sexual Exploitation: 4
- Other/Unknown: 0

Partner agencies and charities referred **33% (6)** of all victims in Braintree and **5** were referred by Police.

⁵ Each investigation should have a corresponding NRM or MS1 (Duty to Notify) Form. Therefore, the terms "investigation" and "referral" are used interchangeably

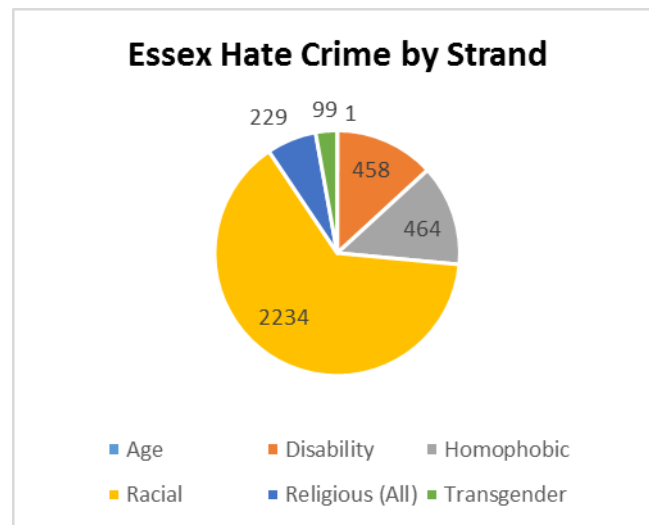
7.4 Hate Crime

Data Source: Essex Police

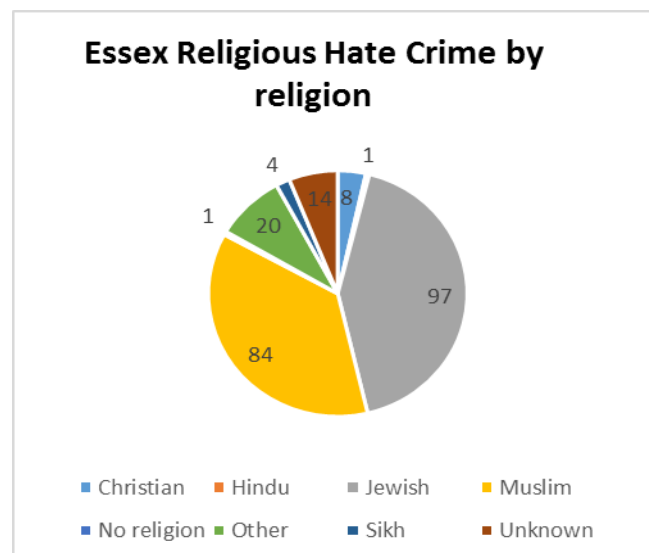
Hate crime is defined as any incident that may constitute a criminal offence which is perceived as being motivated by prejudice or hostility towards an individual due to Race, Religion, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Disability.

Essex

There were 3485 Hate Crime incidents recorded by Essex Police in this period. This was an increase of 20.7% (599) against the previous year.



Racial incidents remained the largest strand (64%), followed by Disability and Homophobic, both at 13% of the total. This remains similar to the previous year where Racial incidents stood at 65%, Disability 13% and Homophobic at 11%.



Religious Hate Crime is further divided into 8 sub strands where the most prevalent were Jewish (97) and Muslim (84) which account for 79% of this strand.

However, in the previous year, whilst the same two religions were the highest sub strands, the Muslim incidents (100) were twice the Jewish incidents (51). Jewish religion incidents have nearly doubled in the county.

The Strategic Hate Crime Partnership

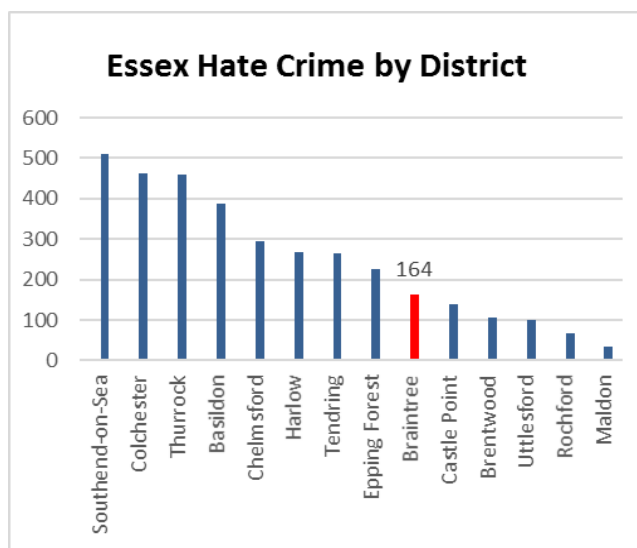
The Partnership is responsible for the Essex Hate Crime Prevention Strategy and Action Plan and report quarterly to Safer Essex. One of their 5 objectives is to increase Hate Crime reporting. As part of this drive there has been increased training of Hate Crime Ambassadors and more Hate Incident Reporting Centres opened to act as alternative options for reporting Hate Crime directly to Essex Police. Advice and signposting to support services are also available. There are 60 HIRCs across Essex, 17 in the North LPA, 26 in the West and 17 in the South.

Hate Crime Officers have noticed an increase in Sexual Orientation incidents especially in urban areas in Southend, Basildon, Tendring, Colchester, Chelmsford and Thurrock.

EU- Exit

Hate Crime in the county is monitored as part of the Essex Police response to EU-Exit planning. Prior to the exit date of 31 October there were no significant indications of Hate Crime incidents linked to EU-Exit.

Braintree



In this period there were 164 incidents reported to Essex Police. This was 4.7% of the county total and this placed the District 9th in the county. This was an increase of 35.5% (43) compared to the previous year.

In common with the whole county total, Racial Hate Crime is the largest strand (105) and the next highest are Disability (23) and Homophobic (62).

7.5 Gangs and County Lines

Data Source: Essex Police Serious Violence Intelligence Analysis Team (01/05/2019 - 31/07/2019)

Did you know the definition of a county line has been updated? It is now defined as:
County Lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas [within the UK], using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move [and store] the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons.

Remaining section redacted from public view due to sensitive nature of content.

7.6 Knife Crime

Data Source: Essex Police Serious Violence Intelligence Analysis Team

Redacted from public view due to sensitive nature of content.

7.7 Violence and Vulnerability Partnership

Data Source: Violence and Vulnerability Partnership

A co-ordinated county wide approach to addressing gang related crime including violent crime and drug related crime; and child criminal exploitation.

Partners across Essex in 2018 developed a Violence and Vulnerability Framework for the county. In this the key aims are, as below, and this guides all of the work:

- improve visibility and awareness of partnership activity around violence and vulnerability
- increase the occurrence and effectiveness of prevention and intervention activities
- identify opportunities to add value to existing and planned activities
- to identify gaps in current and planned activities
- to highlight areas where cross-border and partnership working would be beneficial

There are a range of activities developed across the county and following the development of the Essex Violence and Vulnerability Framework in June 2018 and violence and vulnerability governance arrangements in place. These are:

- A leadership group - working with all relevant agencies operating across Essex, to provide strategic co-ordination of the local response to serious violence. This group is chaired by Roger Hirst, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex.
- An operations group – leading on delivery of a programme of work which addresses the issues set out in the Violence and Vulnerability Framework. The remit of this group includes ensuring

that any new provision and activity builds on, complements and enhances existing arrangements.

As part of the approach to violence and vulnerability, an Essex Violence and Vulnerability Unit was established in April 2019. Initial activity for the Unit, has focussed around key activities to ensure co-ordination. These include for example:

- Understanding the providers working across Essex, and developing a 'providers list' for use by local partnerships.
- Ensuring the Unit is a key contact for other organisations in the arena of Violence and Vulnerability work across Essex.
- Understanding gaps in knowledge, and using evaluation and analytics to improve the partnership's ability to target initiatives in the most effective way
- Improving the response to safeguarding, including supporting Essex police with the development of safeguarding officers
- Working closely with neighbouring authorities to improve the response to those moving in and out of Essex
- Adding value to local activities, where appropriate – to 'shine a light' on good practice or trial a new approach.

The work of the Violence and Vulnerability partnership includes close collaboration with a range of partnerships working across Essex, for example Adult's and Children's Safeguarding Boards; Health and Wellbeing Boards and Criminal Justice Board.

The CSP has provided match funding alongside Greenfields Community Housing to deliver a preventative initiative aimed at raising awareness of gangs and knife crime. A theatre group called 'Alter Ego' was commissioned to deliver 'Breaking the Chain' performances on knife crime to secondary schools within the district, targeting pupils and their parents and carers.

8 APPENDIX – RISK MATRIX

Offence Header	Total	Rank
Violence against the person		
Homicide	11	13
Violence with injury	17	5
Death or Serious Injury caused by unlawful driving	9	15
Violence without injury (new definition)	8	18
Stalking and Harassment	12	11
Sexual Offences		
Rape	18	3
Other Sexual Offences	14	8
Robbery		
Robbery - Business	6	24
Robbery - Personal	15	6
Burglary		
Burglary - Residential	18	3
Burglary - Business And Community	8	18
Vehicle offences		
Theft From a Motor Vehicle	9	15
Theft Of a Motor Vehicle	8	18
Vehicle Interference	3	30
Theft		
Theft from the person	6	24
Bicycle theft	5	27
Shoplifting	4	29
Other theft	7	22
Arson and criminal damage		
Criminal Damage	10	14
Arson	8	18
Domestic Abuse	22	1
Drug offences		
Trafficking of drugs	19	2
Possession of drugs	12	11
Possession of weapons offences	13	10
Public Order Offences	5	27
Hate Crime HO Definition	15	6
ASB (Police)		
Environment	7	22
Nuisance	6	24
Personal	9	15
KSI	14	8

To ensure partnership data is managed in a consistent way, and that the right priorities are identified, a Risk Matrix was completed. This process assists the CSP with justification as to why an issue is, or is not, included as a strategic priority.

The completion of a Risk Matrix is a method used as part of a risk assessment process to be able to define the level of risk associated to multiple factors, against a range of criteria.

The categories assessed and scored were: Performance, Harm, National Priority, Cost Impact, PFCC Priority, Local priority, Community Priority, Harm to Property, Physical Harm to People, Psychological Harm to People, Risk to Vulnerable Groups, Hidden Crime, and Is a CSP Approach of Benefit?

The scores are then totalled and ranked (as depicted in the table to the left).

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Action Plan 2019-20



CSP Priorities 2019-2020:

1. Tackle the trafficking of drugs in the community
2. Increase confidence in identifying and reporting hidden harms
3. Drive down violence and disorder within the community







These three priorities, along with the core responsibilities of the CSP – to reduce crime and disorder, to reduce re-offending and combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol, and other substances – will form the basis of Braintree CSP's Action Plan 2019-20.

The CSP Action Plan supports the Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020 which sets out the policing priorities and aims for keeping Essex safe:

1. More local, visible and accessible policing
2. Crack down on anti-social behaviour
3. Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse
4. Reverse the trend in serious violence
5. Tackle gangs and organised crime
6. Protecting children and vulnerable people
7. Improve safety on our roads



PROJECT/INITIATIVE	WHAT CSP / OPFCC PRIORITY DOES IT MEET?	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNER INPUT	FUNDING REQUIRED
Expand the Spot It, Stop It scheme to include the Night Time Economy, Taxis and sports clubs	Increase confidence in identifying and reporting hidden harms 4, 5, 6	 (Community Services, Licensing)	 Protecting and serving Essex	£1,500
Implementation of ' Horizons ' project – an Intensive Prolific Offender Caseworker to work with a cohort of 10 individuals who meet the criteria of being homeless, offending, with substance misuse issues, ill mental health and poverty as a common factor	Reduce Re-offending	 The charity that is confident about recovery 		Funding received from DWP CSP to contribute
Delivery of ' J9 ' Domestic Abuse training for professionals	Increase confidence in identifying and reporting hidden harms 3			£1,200

Implementation of a ' DISC ' scheme for the Braintree District to improve communication between agencies and licensed premises	Drive down violence and disorder within the community 4, 5	 (Licensing)	Private sector – licensed premises	£1,320
Provide a Firebreak course	Core responsibilities of the CSP 2, 6	TBC	 Essex County Fire & Rescue Service  Braintree District Council	£3,000
<p>Raise awareness of the charity Crimestoppers to the general public</p> <p>Promote the 'Fearless' campaign to young people across the District</p>	<p>Tackle the trafficking of drugs within the community</p> <p>4, 5, 6</p>	 Braintree District Council	Education	£1,000
Develop a partnership approach to dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour hotspot areas	<p>Tackle hotspot areas identified, and allocating resources accordingly through a multi-agency approach</p> <p>2</p>	 (Braintree Foyer)	 Braintree District Council	£2,000+

			 ESSEX POLICE Protecting and serving Essex	
Coordination of the district Community Safety Hub	All priorities 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	 Braintree District Council	(All partner organisations)	£6,000
Deliver ' Breaking the Chain ' applied theatre production to raise awareness, kick-start conversations and build resilience around youth violence – with a focus on knife crime	Drive down violence and disorder within the community 2, 4, 5, 6	 Greenfields COMMUNITY HOUSING	Education	
Venues for clients - Provide meeting rooms for regular interviews with clients, removing the barrier of having to travel to Chelmsford	Reduce re-offending	 Essex Community Rehabilitation Company	 Braintree District Council	£1,000

Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport – Draft Report		Agenda No: 6
Portfolio	Overall Corporate Strategy and Direction	
	Health and Communities	
Corporate Outcome:	A sustainable environment and a great place to live, work and play A well connected and growing district with high quality homes and infrastructure Residents live well in healthy and resilient communities where residents feel supported	
Report presented by:	Cllr Mary Cunningham, Chairman of the Partnership Development Group	
Report prepared by:	Jessica Mann, Governance and Members Officer	
Background Papers:		Public Report
<u>Agendas, Minutes and copies of Power Point presentations delivered during evidence gathering sessions of the Partnership Development Group on 2nd October 2019, 20th November 2019 and 5th February 2020</u>		Key Decision: No
Executive Summary:		
<p>In October 2019, Members of the Partnership Development Group began their first Scrutiny Review into ‘Leisure Provision and Access to Sport across the Braintree District.’ The Membership of the Group consisted of:-</p> <p>Councillor Mrs M Cunningham (Chairman), Councillor R Ramage (Vice-Chairman), Councillor J Baugh, Councillor G Courtauld, Councillor T McArdle, Councillor Mrs J Pell, Councillor I Pritchard, Councillor Mrs J Sandum and Councillor P Thorogood.</p> <p>To help inform the eventual outcomes of the Scrutiny Review, one of the key aims was for Members to identify what the picture of sports provision within the Braintree District looked like; this included available leisure facilities, groups and clubs, as well as the various partnerships that supported those groups (e.g. through funding). It was also important for Members to gain a clear idea of the Council’s involvement with its partners, such as the Active Braintree Foundation. Members could then begin to establish whether there was a need for improvement in respect of the Council’s partnership working in order to support sport and leisure groups further, and thereby engage a wider range of the District’s residents in sports and leisure activities.</p> <p>Throughout the duration of the Scrutiny Review, Members took part in a number of evidence gathering sessions which helped Members to identify future research streams</p>		

and develop conclusions that stemmed from the evidence presented to them. As part of these sessions, Members received a number of presentations from Council Officers on the subject of Leisure Provision, as well as a partnership input from external parties (e.g. Town and Parish Councils).

Once all the available evidence streams had been examined and conclusions drawn, the Partnership Development Group were asked to make their recommendations to Cabinet and then to Council going forward. The recommendations of the Group are set out below:-

1. The Council should review its planning policy with regard to planning permissions in order to address the issues regarding land usage and, in turn, allow more sites to be utilised accordingly for leisure facilities.
2. The Council should review the why only 12 of the District's schools participate in the 'Daily Mile' and to ascertain if there are difficulties around achieving it in each school and to encourage as many as possible to participate.
3. The Council should collect data pertaining to the various walking groups across the District, and that the information be distributed to the Parish and Town Councils for their reference.
4. The Council identifies and collates possible funding streams in the District that could support leisure and sports provision; this information should then be circulated to Parish and Town Councils, as well as local sports clubs and groups.
5. The Community Assets Survey carried out by the Community Services Team, or a similar survey, should become a regular exercise for Members to undertake (suggest annually) and that the results are regularly forwarded to the Parish and Town Councils to be shared with residents and thus help them to identify what sport and leisure provision is available in their local area.
6. The Partnership Development Group recommends that there be some form of partnership working with land owners, pub landlords, café owners, etc, across the District in order to help promote the importance of more informal leisure provision (e.g. off-road cycle and walking paths that connect villages and towns).
7. The Council should gather more information on effective means of communication and inclusion around leisure provision for wider groups of people in the District.
8. The Partnership Development Group recommends that the Council explores the scope for the organisation or its partners to provide mobile changing/washing rooms, however temporary, or whatever is needed and practicable to ensure grass football pitches can be brought up to an appropriate standard for adoption by the Council. This would help bring such valuable facilities back into regular usage and also promote exercise as a whole.
9. The Council should implement another Scrutiny Review of Leisure Provision and Access to Sport in a post COVID-19 climate be undertaken in the 2021-22 Civic Year, once the full impact of the pandemic has become known to the Authority.

Recommended Decision:

1. Members of the Partnership Development Group are asked to review the draft report and to finalise the draft recommendations to ensure that they are in keeping with the Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Review and the evidence gathered.
2. Authorise the Chairman to finalise the draft report, prior to its submission to Full Council, and to give authority to Governance Officers to make any necessary administrative changes to the report.

Purpose of Decision:

To finalise the draft Scrutiny Review Report into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport prior to its submission to Full Council.

Any Corporate implications in relation to the following should be explained in detail.

Financial:	No matters arising out of this report.
Legal:	No matters arising out of this report.
Safeguarding:	No matters arising out of this report.
Equalities/Diversity:	No matters arising out of this report.
Customer Impact:	No matters arising out of this report.
Environment and Climate Change:	No matters arising out of this report.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	No matters arising out of this report.
Risks:	No matters arising out of this report.
Officer Contact:	Jessica Mann, Governance and Members Officer
Designation:	Governance and Members Team
Ext. No:	2607
E-mail:	Jessica.mann@braintree.gov.uk

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP
SCRUTINY REVIEW INTO 'LEISURE PROVISION AND ACCESS TO SPORT' IN
THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT (SCRUTINY REPORT)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members of the Partnership Development Group were tasked with conducting a Scrutiny Review into 'Leisure Provision and Access to Sport' in the Braintree District.

The Terms of Reference for the Partnership Development Group are as follows:-

- Driving forward existing partnerships;
- Helping to bring partnership working into the Council's mainstream work;
- Bringing together partners within the public sector for the benefit of the community;
- Developing an approach to future partnership working with both the public and the private sector;
- To receive the Annual Report of the Community Safety Partnership.

As part of the Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport, the key questions that Members sought to address were:-

- What is the picture of sports availability and groups?
- What partnerships are there to support the sports groups?
- What involvement does the Council have directly/through Fusion?
- What is the accessibility of facilities for groups? E.g. Availability, cost
- What impact can the Council have with partners to support groups and engagement for residents?

2. OVERVIEW OF LEISURE PROVISION IN THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT

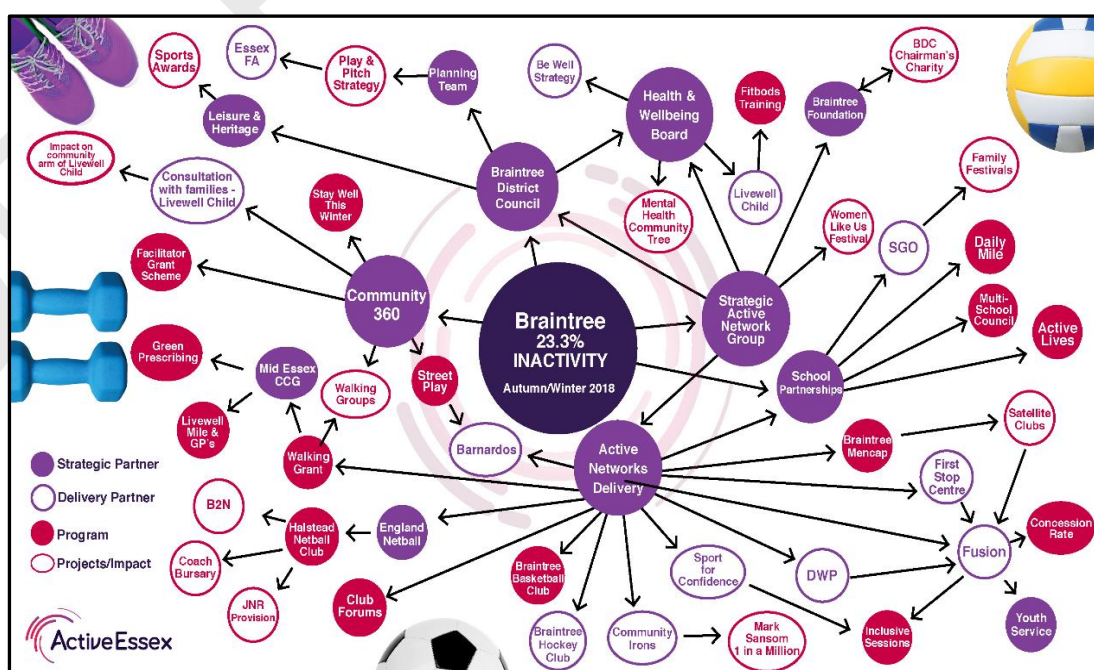
There is a wide range of both indoor and outdoor sports groups and activities available throughout the District that provide opportunities for a number of different groups of residents (i.e. young, elderly, disabled, etc) to become involved in sport and leisure. These groups included independent sports clubs such as a BMX Club, Martial Arts and Athletics. There was generally a large uptake in sports activities by residents; for example, the Braintree and District Athletic Club was reported to have over 400 club members alone. The Council also hired out a number of playing fields and sports pitches directly to clubs, families and schools, which helped to broaden the extent of sport and leisure activities that such clubs could provide (i.e. football, netball, tennis, etc). There

is usually a high demand for facilities like those of outdoor pitches, and the Council monitors this usage closely throughout the year.

The Council is responsible for four leisure centres across the District which are operated by Fusion Lifestyle under the Leisure Contract 2012-22; the centres include Witham Leisure Centre and Sports Ground, Braintree Sport and Health Club, Halstead Leisure Centre and Braintree Swimming and Fitness. Contractual obligations have been in place with Fusion for the provision of activities that cater for groups considered to be “harder to reach” in respect of sport and leisure; this helps to ensure that there is a positive balance of different clubs, membership deals and “pay and play” activities on offer. The centres tend to be well-used by residents throughout the year, with booking taken regularly from a mixture of clubs and organisations for activities, although there can be shortfalls in usage due to impact of the wider picture of available sports activities and facilities across the District. Two of Fusion’s leisure centres are linked to local academies; as such, protected bookings and joint-use agreements exist to enable limited access to some facilities on school days.

As well as Fusion Lifestyle, there are a number of partnerships that work with the Council which help to support sports groups and clubs. One such partnership is the Active Braintree Foundation, together with the Active Network. The Active Braintree Foundation is a trustee organisation that operates externally to the Council in order to allow for other funding streams to be identified. The Foundation’s vision and aims are also similar to that of the [Council’s Livewell and Be-Well Strategies](#), and support for clubs is provided in the form of coaching development, funding applications, safeguarding, social media support, planning applications, Section 106 monies, etc. The Council’s strongest influence in respect of sport and leisure was with the Active Braintree Foundation, as the Foundation helped to promote the Livewell Campaign brand and agenda to a wider audience.

NOTE: The data below was provided by Mr Joby Humm, Leisure and Heritage Manager, on behalf of Active Essex; it provides an indication of the different partnerships, both strategic and delivery, that operate within the District.



During the course of the Scrutiny Review, the Partnership Development Group took part in four evidence gathering sessions. A range of internal and external invitees attended the sessions in order to help support the findings of the Scrutiny Review and identify further lines of enquiry for Members; this enabled them to establish potential future recommendations.

3. INPUT FROM JOBY HUMM, LEISURE, HEALTH AND HERITAGE MANAGER

Mr Joby Humm attended the meeting of the Partnership Development Group on 2nd October 2019 in order to provide Members with an overview of the picture of sports availability and provision across the District, including the different facilities and community groups (e.g. Park Run) and partnerships that supported sports groups (e.g. Livewell, Active Braintree Foundation, Braintree Mencap, etc), as well as an indication of the Council's involvement with this through its contract with Fusion Lifestyle.

Members were informed that across the District, there was a wide range of projects that had been implemented as a means of sustainable sports provision, such as 'Park Run.' Park Run took place every Saturday at the Great Notley Country Park, and was a key example of a self-funding project that was supported primarily by volunteers each week. The level of public engagement with the project was generally positive, with an average of approximately 300 runners and walkers in attendance each week. As well as projects, there was also a variety of available sports facilities in the District, from swimming pools to artificial grass pitches (AGPs), of which four were Council-operated.

The District had also experienced much success recently in terms of its achievements and awards in sport and leisure, as seen with the Braintree BMX Club and Martial Arts Centre, the members of which had gone on to become world champions in their field. It was important to note that the wide variety of activities and facilities in the District meant that there was an opportunity for residents of all backgrounds, ages and capabilities to become involved in a form of sport that was suitable for their needs; this was exemplified by groups such as 'Walking Netball,' and projects such as Sport for Confidence, Chair-based Exercise, Age Well Afternoons and the appointment of a Teen Ambassador by Fusion Lifestyle. Sports and community development in the District also supported the objectives of the Council under its "Livewell" initiatives; for example, through Livewell, schemes such as "Age Well" were promoted through partnership work with local community groups such as Age UK, Age Concern and the Dementia Alliance to help infiltrate older age groups. The brand of "Livewell" embodied a vast partnership network under the umbrella of health and wellbeing, and included Essex County Council, the Fire Service, Greenfields Community Housing and links with Doctor's Surgeries.

4. INPUT FROM ACTIVE BRAINTREE FOUNDATION

At the meeting of the Partnership Development Group on 2nd October 2019, Members agreed that a member of the Active Braintree Foundation (ABF), as one of the Council's key partners in respect of sports and leisure provision in

the District, should be invited to attend a future meeting of the Group. Mr John Wood, Chair of the ABF, was subsequently in attendance at the meeting of the Group on 20th November 2019 and provided Members with an overview of the work of the ABF and its role within the District, its past achievements, future planned work and the strategic partnerships that the Foundation liaised with. Mr Wood informed Members that the ABF would offer support to organisations that sought to liaise with them wherever possible; support could be offered in the form of funding or expertise knowledge required in order to implement new sport and leisure projects or activities; the Sports for Confidence project, based at Witham Leisure Centre, was a prime example of such a project. Developing partnerships with local organisations was fundamental aspect of the ABF; such organisations that the ABF had already worked with included groups such as Braintree District Council, Community Iron, Greenfields Community Housing, Sport for Confidence, First Stop, Barnardos, Community 360, Department of Work and Pensions and Active Essex.

The key objective of the ABF was reported as: "To promote community participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of the inhabitants of Braintree District." Under this objective, the key aims of the ABF were as follows:-

- Partner with local clubs/agencies to increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity;
- Inspire communities to become more active to improve their health and wellbeing, therefore leading happier and more positive lives;
- Raise aspirations, confidence, skills and knowledge to enable individuals to reach their full potential;
- Strengthen community cohesion and break down barriers to participation thereby addressing inequalities; and
- Improve physical and mental health wellbeing.

A key point raised by Mr Wood as part of his presentation included the need for the Council to give further consideration as to how community assets such as sports, leisure and healthcare facilities could be incorporated within new communities during their design stages, and to how those assets could be interlinked to make them as effective as possible in serving the needs of local residents. Another key point raised was the need to increase access to sports activities through improving the promotion of available activities and clubs, such as through the activity finder on the Active Essex website, which both the Council and ABF were known to have subscribed to.

There was reportedly £30k of funding available to the ABF, the majority of which had been supplied by Active Essex and Public Health. Smaller grants were received from local charities, such as those associated with the Courtauld Family. Funding for the different clubs and organisations who were in partnership with the ABF was allocated by means of grant sums of up to £1,000 for the promotion of sports activities.

Although engagement with the ABF could not be imposed on other organisations, it was nonetheless important that the key aims of the ABF of widening access to sport, increasing participation in sports and improving the health and wellbeing of the public be communicated in a more effective manner. The success of the 'Spot It Stop It' campaign launched by the Community Safety Partnership was mentioned as a key example where local businesses and other organisations alike had engaged in partnership work with one another in order to increase awareness of the scheme, of which sought to combat cases of Child Sexual Exploitation.

Although sports development in the Braintree District was priority focus of the Council, officers were restricted as to the amount of time they could invest into the subject, often due to other work commitments. Members as such agreed that a potential recommendation as part of the Scrutiny Review was to support officers in their efforts by identifying the available sports facilities across the District and observing how those facilities could be utilised as efficiently as possible. The Council could work with the ABF in order to achieve this.

5. INPUT FROM PLANNING OFFICERS

Following the end of Mr Humm's presentation to Members at the meeting of Partnership Development Group on 2nd October 2019, Members agreed that it would be useful if Planning Officers were to attend a future meeting of the Group in order to advise Members on the subject of Section 106 regulations and Community Infrastructure Levies (CIL). Planning Officers would also be able to advise Members on how land for sports and leisure provision was allocated under the Local Plan. Mr Neil Jones, Principal Planning Officer and Julie O'Hara, Senior Planning Policy Officer at the Council, were therefore in attendance at the meeting of the Group 20th November 2020 to speak to Members on the subject and address queries that had been raised previously.

Members were advised that Planning Officers were required to determine new planning applications in accordance with the Council's adopted planning policies. For example, under the Local Plan, designated employment areas, such as industrial estates, were to remain protected for industrial and commercial usage in order to ensure that there was available land for which businesses could use as a means of expansion. Planning officers were also required to examine the existing and future supply of employment land and how this would be achieved (e.g. as with Horizon 120), as well as the protection of the existing employment land. New planning applications received by the Council would sometimes conflict with these policies and could not, as such, always be granted.

On the subject of the Local Plan, it was advised that Planning officers followed a standards based approach when calculating what provision of open space was required for new developments. Open space could be provided through Section 106 agreements by either the developer making a provision on the site, or making a financial contribution to the Council that it could use in order to improve existing facilities, or to provide new open space and leisure facilities. However, it was not possible to request that a developer included more space at a site in order to address previous issues that had perhaps arisen as a result of historic planning policy. Negotiation between developers

and the Council was essential, and the end results of any new land proposals would always need to be reasonable and proportionate and in accordance with the Council's standards regarding open space and leisure provision.

Further to the discussions, Members identified a number of potential recommendations including the suggestion that the Council gave further consideration to how leisure and sports facilities across the District could be utilised more effectively, and further examination into informal sports provision across the District. Furthermore, it was highlighted that Members could give consideration as to how they might engage more successfully with Town and Parish Councils during periods of public consultation in order to ensure that more informed responses were provided as a result.

6. INPUT FROM RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Ann Hooks, Chairman at Rayne Parish Council, was invited to attend the meeting of the Partnership Development Group on 5th February 2020 in order to provide Members with an overview of leisure provision within the Rayne area and to clarify who was responsible for the management of the different leisure facilities, what funding streams were available and how successful the level of engagement from the public was.

The responsibility for the management of a number of key leisure facilities in the Rayne Village area were listed, as provided below:-

- Rayne Village Hall and Playing Fields (owned by the Parish Council and run and managed by the dedicated Village Hall Committee)
- Nature Reserve (owned and maintained by the Parish Council)
- Flitch Way (owned and maintained by Essex County Council together with Friends of the Flitch Way volunteers)

Members were advised that Rayne Village Hall was the main provider of leisure provision within the area, including the outdoor gym, fitness trail, BMX track, playing fields, etc. A 'Community and Leisure' survey was distributed to local residents by the Parish Council in 2019, the survey of which asked questions in relation to the uptake by residents of facilities like that of the BMX track, local cafes, play areas and allotments. Other questions that were posed included additional facilities that residents would perhaps like to see implemented in future, a request for the details of any clubs or societies that residents belonged to (e.g. fitness clubs or indoor bowls, etc). The overall response rate was approximately 10% against the 1,300 dwellings in the Rayne area.

The overall usage of the facilities in the Rayne area by local residents, such as sports grounds and playing areas, was generally positive, with many residents external to the Rayne area often visiting to make use of these as well. Facilities like that of the Flitch Way and Booking Hall Café were popular attractions throughout the year. Playing fields in Rayne were maintained entirely by the local cricket and football clubs, whereas areas such as the nature reserve and hedges were maintained by the Parish Council. The Village Hall Committee was responsible for the management of the local

playground, although the Parish Council maintained certain aspects of this, such as weed control of the grounds.

In respect of funding for new sport and leisure schemes, this was often provided through grants, as seen with the installation of a fitness trail in 2016, for which funding was applied for and awarded through the Mi Community Braintree District Council grant. The presence of a sufficient financial resource to support leisure provision was noted as being instrumental in ensuring that new schemes could be implemented. The Rayne Village Hall Committee was self-maintained through fundraising events and its own accounts, although there was also an element of liaison with the Parish Council on some financial precepts, such as the sharing of defibrillator costs and payment of cleaner wages.

7. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY – 7th to 24th JANUARY 2020

Throughout the duration of their evidence gathering sessions, Members identified a number of potential areas for further exploration within the scope of the Scrutiny Review; this included formal and informal leisure provision within the District. Members were therefore keen to extend their research to the remit of Parish and Town Councils in the District in order to understand what levels of sport and leisure provision there is in local areas. A scrutiny enquiry was therefore commenced between the Council and Parish and Town Clerks via e-mail on 7th January 2020 and sought to establish what levels of sport and leisure provision there were across the District, what resources were available in those areas and how accessible sport and leisure facilities were for residents in more rural localities.

As of the meeting of the Partnership Development Group on 5th February 2020, a total of 21 responses from the Parish and Town Clerks had been received. During the meeting, Members received further input from Councillor Ann Hooks in respect of sport and leisure provision in the Rayne Parish area and then discussed the scrutiny enquiry responses received.

(The responses of Parish and Town Clerks to the enquiry can be found [here](#).)

In considering the responses, Members determined that, overall, there appeared to be positive engagement and contribution by Parish and Town Councils in the District in respect of leisure provision and management of resources in this area. A number of key features were identified by Members as being especially prevalent in Parish and Town areas where there had been much success in ensuring that leisure and sports provision could be sustained in more rural localities; Rayne Parish Council was noted as a primary example of this, due largely to features such as a sustainable financial resource, a central village hub, effective communicative and media tools, as well as positive engagement and enthusiasm for sport and leisure expressed by local residents.

In discussing the survey results, Members noted that although the results provided a useful insight into the different types of leisure and sports provision that was available across the District, a weakness in the survey was

highlighted as Parish Clerks were not necessarily aware of all of the activities that took place in their localities (e.g. due to the presence of informal clubs and groups, private sessions, etc). Furthermore, responses had not been received from all of the Parish and Town Clerks within the District, which meant that a more accurate reflection of the District's leisure provision could not be provided.

FUSION REPORT TO CABINET

As part of their evidence gathering, Members of the Partnership Development Group were invited to attend a meeting of the Cabinet on 18th December 2020; Fusion Lifestyle were due to be in attendance at the meeting in order to present their annual report to Cabinet for review. The Council reviewed its contract with Fusion regularly in order to ensure that it remained of economic benefit to the organisation, and where issues were identified, whether consideration towards alternative options, such as the return of the management of the District's leisure facilities in-house, was needed. Any such decisions required evidence-based justification. Members of the Partnership Development Group who subsequently attended the meeting of the Cabinet were present in a scrutiny capacity and were permitted to observe the proceedings only, and then report back any areas of note to the Group at its next meeting.

COMMUNITY ASSETS SURVEY – COMMUNITY SERVICES TEAM

At the meeting of the Partnership Development Group on 5th February 2020, the Chairman made reference to comments that had been received from Councillor Mrs Parker in relation to the Scrutiny Enquiry with Parish and Town Clerks on the subject of leisure provision. Councillor Mrs Parker was aware of a 'Community Assets Survey' that had been circulated to all Ward Members and Parish and Town Councils by the Community Services Team in 2019; the survey had requested details of the different activities and facilities that were available in local areas across the District, and formed part of the Council's initiative to combat issues surrounding social isolation and loneliness. Members agreed that the data collected from this survey could help to support the scrutiny review by providing them with a more comprehensive list of what was available in terms of leisure provision across the District (e.g. such as shops, cafes, pubs, surgeries, etc).

Officers in the Governance Team subsequently contacted Ms Moira Groborz, Community Services Officer at the Council on 6th February 2020 to request that the results of the Community Assets Survey be shared with the Members of the Partnership Development Group. Ms Groborz kindly shared the results of the team's survey with Governance Officers, who then circulated this to the Group. At the time that this took place, the results of the survey had not yet been made public; as such, the survey results were shared with Members of the Partnership Development Group only. The results of the survey were then used by the Chairman of Group and Members to help inform their recommendations as part of the Scrutiny Review.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

The Council should review its planning policy with regard to planning permissions in order to address the issues regarding land usage and, in turn, allow more sites to be utilised accordingly for leisure facilities.

Following recent Planning refusals and comments made by Mr John Wood, Chair of the Active Braintree Foundation, whereby sports, dance and/or fitness groups had applied for Planning permission for change of use of industrial premises to accommodate leisure. This very concern was raised by Sir Simon Stevens, head of the NHS who stated that “Perverse planning rules restricting gyms from opening are undermining efforts to solve the obesity epidemic.”¹

Recommendation 2

The Council should review why only 12 of the District’s schools participate in the ‘Daily Mile’ and to ascertain if there are difficulties around achieving it in each school and to encourage as many as possible to participate.

In his presentation to the Members of the Partnership Development Group, Mr John Wood, Chair of the Active Braintree Foundation, reported that there were only 12 primary schools in the District that participated in ‘The Daily Mile’ scheme. It has been proven as an effective way of keeping children physically and mentally healthy, helping to avoid issues such as obesity.

Recommendation 3

The Council should collect data pertaining to the various walking groups across the District, and that the information be distributed to the Parish and Town Councils for their reference.

Mr John Wood revealed that he was often received inquiries about the available walking groups in the District. The general consensus of Members of the Group with their local knowledge was that there are walking groups in the District which are of great benefit, mainly to older residents. Walking, as well as keeping physically and mentally fit, can also help to overcome social isolation. Furthermore, group walking may have appeal to both men and women who would feel more comfortable walking with company.

Recommendation 4

The Council identifies and collates possible funding streams in the District that could support leisure and sports provision; this information should then be

¹ <https://headtopics.com/uk/nhs-chief-has-warned-that-perverse-planning-rules-restricting-gyms-from-opening-are-undermining-ef-10519757>

circulated to Parish and Town Councils, as well as local sports clubs and groups.

With reference to the presentation given by Councillor Ann Hooks, Chairman of Rayne Parish Council, it was identified that a resident of Rayne was very well informed on how to access funding for all sorts of groups and activities. Councillor Mrs Hooks stated that this was a huge advantage in aiding village projects that otherwise may not go ahead. It was also identified from other presentations that groups were unaware of what funding streams might be available and how they could be accessed.

Recommendation 5

The Community Assets Survey carried out by the Community Services Team, or a similar survey, should become a regular exercise for Members to undertake (suggest annually) and that the results are regularly forwarded to the Parish and Town Councils to be shared with residents and thus help them to identify what sport and leisure provision is available in their local area.

A recurring theme throughout the time of the Partnership Development Group's evidence gathering (with much of this identified from the responses of the Parish and Town Council surveys) was that although there was a huge amount of sports and leisure activities taking place across the District, in some areas there seemed to be a lack of information for residents to know what was available. Furthermore, Parish and Town Councils were not always aware of what clubs, groups etc, were established in their own areas. The issue would hopefully be addressed to a degree by work that the Community Services Team implemented by gathering information from Members last autumn (2019).

Recommendation 6

The Partnership Development Group recommends that there be some form of partnership working with land owners, pub landlords, café owners, etc, across the District in order to help promote the importance of more informal leisure provision (e.g. off-road cycle and walking paths that connect villages and towns).

The importance of informal leisure provision, such as safe walking and cycling, has been highlighted since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, as many formal activities and facilities such as leisure centres, children's play areas and cafes were closed during the lockdown, or remain so now.

Recommendation 7

The Council should gather more information on effective means of communication and inclusion around leisure provision for wider groups of people in the District.

The Group have determined from the completed questionnaires and presentations provided during evidence gathering sessions that communication is a fundamental aspect of promoting the existence of the

various facilities and initiatives under the umbrella of leisure provision more broadly across the District, particularly in less urban areas. Councillor Ann Hook, Chairman at Rayne Parish Council, stressed the importance of both electronic and paper formats in getting responses to the surveys that were circulated in Rayne; inevitably, many residents who responded were involved in football, BMXing or rambling, for example, and were as such already aware of the leisure facilities available to them. The challenge seemed to be around communicating with 'harder to reach' residents who were not already aware of the facilities available to them; for instance, in more rural Wards with a high proportion of older residents, electronic communication and social media was not necessarily the most effective means of promoting leisure provision across all groups of people. There is perhaps an over-reliance on the internet as a standard means of communication.

Recommendation 8

The Council should explore the scope for the organisation or its partners to provide mobile changing/washing rooms, however temporary, or whatever is needed and practicable to ensure grass football pitches can be brought up to an appropriate standard for adoption by the Council. This would help bring such valuable facilities back into regular usage and also promote exercise as a whole.

Members of the Partnership Development Group noted that there was under use of some of the more informal District resources, such as grass football pitches. In their presentations to the Group, Officers at Braintree District Council indicated that pitches needed to meet certain standards before the Council could take responsibility for them. It was agreed that such spaces were potentially invaluable assets for driving forward a variety of sports and community activities and spirit, and as such should not remain unused for so much of the year.

Recommendation 9

The Council should implement another Scrutiny Review of Leisure Provision and Access to Sport in a post COVID-19 climate be undertaken in the 2021-22 Civic Year, once the full impact of the pandemic has become known to the Authority.

The evidence gathering for the Scrutiny Review into Leisure Provision and Access to Sport was gathered prior to the COVID-19 crisis impacting the UK. It is highly likely there will be many challenges both financially and socially on local service delivery once the initial emergency phase is over.

9. MINUTES AND AGENDAS OF MEETINGS

[21st August 2020](#)

[2nd October 2020](#)

[20th November 2020](#)

[5th February 2020](#)

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Members of the Partnership Development Group would like to thank the following individuals for their contribution to the Scrutiny Review:-

- Joby Humm, Leisure and Heritage Manager at Braintree District Council
- John Wood, Chair of the Active Braintree Foundation
- Neil Jones, Principal Planning Officer at Braintree District Council
- Julie O'Hara, Senior Planning Policy Officer at Braintree District Council
- Councillor Ann Hooks, Chairman at Rayne Parish Council
- Moira Groborz, Community Services Officer at Braintree District Council