



## **REPORT of CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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to

### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE)**

**9 OCTOBER 2025**

## **MALDON DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 Members are asked to note the progress of activities undertaken by the Maldon Community Safety Partnership since the last meeting held on 27 February 2025.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

That Members review and comment on the current progress of the initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership to date.

### **3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

#### **3.1 Statutory Duties**

- 3.1.1 Officers completed the Maldon strategic assessment, and it was endorsed by One Maldon District on 13 March 2025. This process involves a crime data review, crime risk matrix scoring and analysis of public perception data. The crime risk matrix scores for Maldon District showed the following offences of highest concern: domestic abuse (high and medium risk), death or serious injury caused by unlawful driving, rape, trafficking of drugs and domestic abuse (low risk). The strategic group agreed the following priorities and narratives which are highlighted on the Maldon District Council website:

- Tackling crime and reducing reoffending (with an emphasis on serious violence, gangs, drugs and county lines, and knife crime)
- Driving down anti-social behaviour in public places (with an emphasis on youth nuisance, supporting our residents to solve local issues and improving partnership visibility)
- Identifying and supporting vulnerable people and communities (with an emphasis on domestic abuse, sexual offences, violence against women and girls, monitoring community tensions, mental health, social isolation, suicide prevention, hate crime and a proactive approach to those at risk of exploitation)
- Tackling rural, neighbourhood and environmental crime (focussing on acquisitive crime)
- Promoting road safety and challenging irresponsible driving

- 3.1.2 These reflect priorities already identified in the current Police and Crime Plan (2024-2028), the Essex Crime Prevention Strategy, Maldon District Council's Corporate Plan (2025-28), One Maldon District priorities and the Essex Police Strategic Assessment. The joint strategic needs assessment that is now a requirement under the Serious Violence Duty has been completed by Essex Violence and Vulnerability Unit (VUU) and officers receive monthly data sets on Power Bi from the data scientist to help identify trends and ward hotspots in the district. The agreed interconnected outcomes for the One Maldon District use the Wider Determinants of Health and Thriving Places approach are:
- Access to Services (including transport)
  - Community and Community Cohesion
  - Community Safety
  - Mental Health
  - Green Spaces
- 3.1.3 The current Essex Police Maldon performance figures for the rolling year to 31 August 2025 (compared to the same period last year) showed a decrease in all crime by **8.4%** (280 less offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **10.8%** (27 less incidents). A summary of the crime profile for Maldon will be presented at the meeting by the police representative. A copy of the Essex Police force performance summary for the county is attached as **APPENDIX 1**. The partnership also receives a monthly data pack for hate crime which is shared with community safety partners and the Independent Advisory Group (IAG). Hate crime is currently down **16.95%** in the district compared to the same period last year.
- 3.1.4 Officers continue to work with the Essex Police and partners to ensure that local risks are addressed in relation to the Prevent agenda (preventing violent extremism). The current UK threat remains "SUBSTANTIAL". The Community Safety Manager chairs the Essex Prevent Delivery Group that reports back to the Essex Local Contest Board, Safer Essex and Essex Chief Executives Forum. The Partnership receives a regular briefing called the Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) and regional priorities are extreme right-wing terrorism, self-initiated terrorism, extremism in prison, and the online risk being an enabler. The local benchmarking for Prevent for Essex was completed with the Home Office in February 2025 and Members will note that we (Essex) were exceeding in all areas with one area being duty met: communications and engagement. Home Office funding has enabled Essex to appoint an officer to assist in this area of work. The Prevent Partnership Plan and Situational Risk Assessment have just been refreshed for Quarter 2, and officers are briefing senior management on community tensions and the outcomes from National Learning Reviews.
- 3.1.5 As mentioned earlier in this report, Essex VUU produced a joint strategic needs assessment for serious violence (statutory duty) and the partnership receives regular data. Serious violence is defined as; homicide, manslaughter, violence with injury, personal robbery, rape, and other sexual offences where offences occurred outside the home, were not domestic in nature, a knife, bladed article, firearm, or other weapon was recorded as being used, or the offence was recorded as linked to county lines or gangs. Maldon has a low rate of serious violence (lowest in Essex) with **0.15** offences per 1,000 population (9 offences per annum), a reduction of **18.2%** from the same period last year. Copies of the Essex Serious Violence Strategy and Essex Serious Violence Needs Assessment can be found here: [VUU Documentation - Essex Violence and Vulnerability Unit \(essexvuu.co.uk\)](https://essexvuu.co.uk)

- 3.1.6 A duty that will impact on the work of the partnership will be the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2024 commonly known as Martyn's Law which received Royal Assent on 3 April 2025. Martyn's Law will impose requirements on premises and events to increase their preparedness for, and protection from, a terrorist attack. The law will require premises to take proportionate steps, depending on the size and nature of the activities that take place. This will be based on qualifying premises and capacity thresholds: standard tier (capacity of 100 or more), enhanced tier (800 or more) and places of worship (standard tier regardless of capacity). Government guidance will be available soon and areas will have two years to comply with the requirements.

### 3.2 Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Update

- 3.2.1 Members should note Roger Hirst was re-elected to the role of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) for Essex on 2 May 2024. The partnership continues to support the priorities (listed below) identified in the current Police and Crime Plan (2024 – 2028) which was recently published with the refreshed priorities listed below: [Plans - Essex PFCC](#)

- More local, visible and accessible policing
- Drive down anti-social behaviour and crime
- Beat knife crime and drug gangs and protect young people
- Tackle violence against women and girls and domestic abuse
- Ensure vulnerable people are protected
- Improve road safety and reduce road deaths in Essex to zero

- 3.2.2 Works continue with several multi-agency groups that support this work locally and across Essex. The Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) confirmed that core funding for Maldon in 2025 / 26 was **£9,965** and the necessary funding forms were completed and returned as part of the funding agreement. This core funding has been reduced because of the increased contribution for domestic homicide reviews across Essex but there are opportunities to bid for other funds to support the work of the partnership. The annual partnership public meeting hosted by the PFCC will be held on 6 November 2025 at West Maldon Community Centre. Officers had their annual meeting with the PFCC office on 10 January 2025 to review the performance of the partnership and their office were pleased with progress being made.

- 3.2.3 Maldon District was awarded funding for three projects from the PFCC Safer Streets funding for 2023 / 24 and 2024 / 25, and officers will be updating Members on progress at this meeting. A key piece of work to ensure that the design of our green spaces and associated facilities are more inclusive has been completed. Officers have worked with the charity Make Space for Girls and consultants, Social Place to produce a report working with a group of Year 9 (now Year 10) students from the Plume Academy: [A Place for Us, Essex | Social Place](#). This consultation process together with similar work with two Chelmsford schools has been recognised as a winner for Inspiring Future Generations by the Thornton Education Trust. The new skate provision works at West Maldon Community Centre and Riverside Park, Burnham-on-Crouch are open, and the new inclusive designs are proving popular for a diverse range of users. Artwork and new CCTV is complete at Maldon Promenade, and filming has been completed for the women's safety project:

- Safety projects to complement the design of the new Maldon promenade skate park - **£132,252**

- A women's safety project for Maldon District - **£16,000**
- A CCTV scheme for Burnham-on-Crouch - **£40,874**

### 3.3 **Community Safety Partnership Hub and Progress Update**

3.3.1 The Community Safety Partnership Hub Tasking for Maldon was launched in August 2024. The new style meetings are held monthly and has a tasking process which links to the priorities of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The new process will include a tasking update from the CPT Sergeant, licensing, a monthly forecast, identified hotspots, patrol plans, communications, complex cases, and organised crime groups. Monthly tasking with Essex Police and the Community Safety Team is also held on Tuesdays and weekly Maldon catch ups. Bi-monthly partnership tasking for Chelmsford and Maldon continues at the Chelmsford CSP Hub. There is an individual action plan for Maldon CSP plus a tasking update which is monitored to ensure that partner actions are completed and performance managed. The Essex Police Maldon Town Team now share the community safety hub with the Community Safety and Community Engagement Teams, and a new interview room for shared use was completed in August 2024 with funding from the community safety partnership. The hub was officially opened by a representative of the Essex PFCC on 17 February 2025.

3.3.2 Current concerns for the partnership hub focus on violence and vulnerability, and disruption of organised crime and reducing irresponsible driving on our roads. There has also been a focus on health and mental health to ensure that our most vulnerable are protected and have access to services. Education sessions have been delivered with secondary schools to provide awareness of risk in the community and vulnerability and hate crime and antisocial behaviour. Monitoring "hot spots" such as Maldon High Street and Promenade Park, and some of the parks across the district where young people are congregating and consuming alcohol and misusing drugs is undertaken by the effective use of CCTV and officer patrols by the partnership (including fire patrols during the summer hot spell). Antisocial behaviour around Hoe Mill Lock and other locations reduced this year with officers working with local partners effectively. Partnership operations are proving successful and in recent months there have been significant arrests to disrupt both local and County Line drug networks. Meetings to discuss the road safety issues on the Lower Burnham Road are also ongoing between a variety of partners.

3.3.3 Current project works for 2025 / 26 include:

- Community engagement events at Promenade Park and Burnham-on-Crouch Riverside Park using the corporate trailer (Promenade Park) and refurbished office (Riverside Park)
- Funding has allocated for a Her Space project for Burnham-on-Crouch using Rural Prosperity Fund, community safety funding and PFCC Safer Streets Funding (combined **£40,507** capital funding)
- Hoe Mill enforcement patrols with police, South Essex Parking Partnership, and the Environment Agency
- Fails Prevention Hub at Heybridge (slipper swap event and seated exercise) and Community Mindfulness
- Safe and Well visits with Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) and community partners on 9 June (Southminster), 11 June (Tollesbury) and 13 June (Burnham-on-Crouch)

- Make Space for Girls consultation at the Plume Academy was delivered over a three-day period in July 2024 and the school was involved in the graffiti art project in July 2025: [Latest news | Maldon District Council](#)
- Nights of Action were delivered at Maldon High Street in February 2025 and May 2025, and anti-spiking events at licensed venues in September 2025
- Water safety visits in Burnham-on-Crouch, Bradwell, Maldon and Heybridge Basin with ECFRS
- Trucam is currently being delivered across 18 parishes at 45 different locations – there have been 738 captures for Q1 (1 April 2025 – 30 June 2025) with 689 offered speed awareness courses and 49 given a conditional offer, Q2 is not complete at present but from 1 July 2015 to 21 September 2025 there have been 979 captures
- Close working relationship with Essex Police Rural Engagement Team (RET) to tackle issues such as fly tipping and unlicensed waste carriers (Op. Fume)
- Partnership working with Essex Police in the form of joint patrols to encourage responsible dog ownership
- Supporting the community policing team addressing dangerous parking around schools
- Administration and attendance at Neighbourhood Watch meetings
- Joint patrols with the community safety partners (police, fire and youth service)
- Case management for the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) housing forum
- Supporting the 999 Community Safety Event and Bike Marking Initiatives
- Supporting Let's Talk with Essex Police
- Intelligence sharing with secondary schools to safeguard any identified vulnerable persons
- The Maldon Community Hub had a community safety focus and was held in Maldon Town Hall

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 That Members note the priorities for 2025 / 26 and progress on the community safety partnership. The shared working arrangements between Maldon and Chelmsford continue to support local priorities, high level policing priorities and the priorities of the revised PFCC plan and has strengthened with the co-location of the community policing team and additional policing resources in town centres and rural areas. The increased footprint for the neighbourhood policing team at Maldon District Council offices will strengthen this partnership further. Maldon CSP remains efficient and responsive to emerging issues and more importantly positions itself strongly for future funding arrangements with the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, statutory partners, and local / national initiatives.

#### **5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028**

- 5.1 These priorities contribute to the Council's vision of "Through our projects, actions, communication, partnerships and policies we will work to support our communities,

the health and well-being of our residents, and to provide safe and clean places to live in and enjoy”.

## 6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Helping communities to be safe, active, and healthy.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – Designing safer and more inclusive green spaces.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – None.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – Members should note that sustainable funding of posts to cover statutory duties will remain a challenge but remain manageable whilst we receive an annual PFCC grant and other funding opportunities.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – As above.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.
- (vii) **Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation** – None.

Background Papers: **APPENDIX 1** Essex Police Performance Summary.

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