



REPORT of CHIEF EXECUTIVE

to

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

8 OCTOBER 2026

MALDON DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Members are to receive an update on the progress of activities undertaken by the Maldon Community Safety Partnership since the last meeting held on 26 February 2026.

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 Partnership (incorporating all statutory responsible authorities) on 27 July 2026. 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 for this period 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). Whilst this report relates to the work of the community safety partnership members should acknowledge the wider linked work of the district council for reducing domestic abuse, environmental health, licensing, health improvement and safeguarding. The strategic group agreed the following priorities for 2026/27 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 Partnership 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 (VVU) 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 Partnership 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 2026 (compared to the same period last year) showed an increase in all crime by **1.2%** (36 more offences) and an increase in anti-social behaviour by **79.5%** (171 more 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** and comparison charts as **APPENDIX 2**. 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 data shows a **30%** increase in the district compared to the same period last year (15 more offences).
- 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 is now "SEVERE". 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 Prevent Partnership Plan and Situational Risk Assessment have just been refreshed for Quarter 1 with priorities set for 2026/27, and officers are briefing senior management on community tensions and the outcomes from National Learning Reviews. The Home Office recently published refreshed procedures for Notice, Check, Share: [Notice, check, share - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notice-check-share) which is guidance for public sector professionals if they have a concern that someone is at risk of becoming radicalised into terrorism. The local benchmarking for Prevent for Essex was completed with the Home Office in March 2026, and Members will note that we (Essex) were exceeding in all areas for the first time. Essex now has a Home Office funded post to improve communications, engagement and education which enabled us to become exceeding in all areas and deliver training for the public, staff and community groups. This is a significant achievement for the partnership.
- 3.1.5 As mentioned earlier in this report, Essex VVU 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 with **0.18** offences per 1,000 population (12 offences per annum which is an increase of four offences). Copies of the Essex Serious Violence Strategy and Essex Serious Violence Needs Assessment can be found here: [VVU Documentation - Essex Violence and Vulnerability Unit \(essexvvu.co.uk\)](https://www.essexvvu.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 is now available, and areas will have two years to comply with the requirements (earliest date being April 2027). An Essex Martyn's Law working group has been set up to ensure consistency across Essex in the response to these new requirements. The district council is already planning for compliance by reviewing assets which meet the criteria, ensuring appropriate staff training is delivered and supporting local areas as part of the new measures.
- 3.1.7 The partnership received formal notification from SETDAB (Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board) that deaths relating to two separate incidents in the district have met the threshold under Section 9 (1) of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 for a Domestic Abuse Related Death Review (DARDR) to be considered. Scoping notifications have been sent out to relevant authorities across Essex, and the Community Safety Manager will attend each core group meeting to consider whether to instigate a full review. SETDAB will manage this process for the partnership and provide administration but the statutory duty for this review remains with the community safety partnership.
- 3.1.8 On 27 July 2026 One Maldon District met for the first time to discuss shared objectives of the group incorporating the work of the community safety partnership (Responsible Authorities Group). The membership of both groups is similar, and both groups share priorities as highlighted in 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 of this report. This inaugural meeting was a trial and all attendees who responded to the feedback questionnaire found the exercise positive and useful in terms of shared working and reduced duplication. Officers considered funding from community safety reserves at the meeting and funding for the following projects was approved:
- Purchase of a TRUcam speed enforcement camera
 - Contribution of the Maldon CVS suicide prevention post
 - Contribution to the Just Play football project
 - Purchase of a digital A board for community engagement
 - Upgrading the CCTV cameras in Maldon High Street

3.2 **Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) Update**

- 3.2.1 The Essex PFCC appointed a new Chief Constable following the recent retirement of BJ Harrington. Chief Constable Rachel Nolan started in post at the start of September, and the Leader and Community Safety Manager attended a welcome event on 3 September 2026 at Essex Police HQ to meet with her and other strategic partners across Essex.

3.2.2 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

3.2.3 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 2026 / 27 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 abuse related death reviews across Essex but there are opportunities to bid for other funds to support the work of the partnership. Officers had their annual meeting with the PFCC office on 9 February 2026 to review the performance of the partnership and their office were pleased with progress being made.

3.2.4 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 is 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 11) students from the Plume Academy: [A Place for Us, Essex | Social Place](#). The new skate provision works at Promenade Park, West Maldon Community Centre and Riverside Park, Burnham-on-Crouch are complete, and the new inclusive designs are proving popular for a diverse range of users: [Latest news | Maldon District Council](#). The graffiti art project and new CCTV is complete at Maldon Promenade: [Latest news | Maldon District Council](#). Filming has been completed for the women's safety project, and this project together with a charter for Maldon will be launched in Autumn 2026. In addition to this, funding has been secured for a project: Her Place for Burnham-on-Crouch (PFCC Safer Streets and Rural Prosperity Fund) and a similar project funded by Active Essex for a parish council. The Her Place project involved a full day consultation with Make Space for Girls / Social Place at Ormiston Rivers Academy funded by the community safety partnership. This project will be complete in Autumn 2026, and the graffiti art project and bench refurbishment works were completed during the school holidays with several families and young people being involved in the project: [We're excited to share that the... - Maldon District Council | Facebook](#). The CCTV project for Burnham-on-Crouch was substantially completed in Spring 2026.

- 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** (plus £8,000 Maldon CSP)
- A CCTV scheme for Burnham-on-Crouch - **£40,874**
- Her Place for Burnham-on-Crouch - **£40,507** (plus £2,500 Maldon CSP)
- Active Essex Project for Parish Council - **£8,500**

3.3 Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Hub and Progress Update

- 3.3.1 The Community Safety Partnership Hub Tasking for Maldon was launched in August 2024. Meetings are held monthly and has a tasking process which links to the priorities of the Community Safety Partnership (Maldon CSP). This process includes a tasking update from the NPT 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. 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, with a new interview room for shared use with funding from the community safety partnership: Maldon.town.team@essex.police.uk.
- 3.3.2 Current concerns for the partnership hub focus on violence and vulnerability, modern day slavery, and disruption of organised crime and knife crime (Op Sceptre) together with monitoring “hot spots” such as Maldon High Street, Promenade Park and some of the green spaces across the district. Partnership operations are proving successful and in recent months there have been significant arrests to disrupt both local and County Line drug networks. The excellent work of the police and partnership is highlighted in Dispatch – Essex Edition and the new partnership newsletter went live in October 2025. The team is also delivering sessions at a Fails Prevention Hub in Heybridge (slipper swap event and seated exercise), mental health awareness events, dementia together, suicide prevention and supporting the Maldon CVS Public Living Room initiative and Gaming Initiative. Operation Henderson was delivered in June 2026 where the partnership will be patrolling taxi ranks and train stations in the district and offering advice to young people and taxi drivers. The team has also been undertaking lots of community engagement at various locations across the district and utilising the community safety trailer at Promenade Park and recently refurbished Parks Office at Riverside Park, Burnham on Crouch.
- 3.3.3 Current project works for 2026 / 27 include:
- Community engagement events at Promenade Park and Burnham Riverside Park using the corporate trailer (Promenade Park – every Wednesday throughout the summer holidays) and refurbished office (Riverside Park)
 - The most recent Safer Maldon Partnership newsletter was published on 26 June 2026 with its first collaboration with Health and Wellbeing, this will be quarterly with short bulletins in between: [Welcome to the latest Community Safety newsletter for Maldon](#)
 - Water safety enforcement patrols with police, SEPP, and Environment Agency
 - Crucial Crew delivered to 12 primary schools (Year 6) in collaboration with Essex Police and ECFRS
 - Safe and Well visits with ECFRS and community partners on 17 and 18 June 2026 (1200 door knocks, 484 face-to-face engagements, 38 home safety checks with 37 more booked)
 - Education with young people on “Know Your Emergency Services”
 - Hoe Mill enforcement patrols with police, South Essex Parking Partnership, and the Environment Agency

- District council joint working to tackle domestic abuse, proactive licensing, safeguarding measures, health improvement and environmental health
- Falls Prevention Hub at Heybridge (slipper swap event and seated exercise) and Community Mindfulness
- Water safety visits in Burnham, Bradwell, Maldon and Heybridge Basin with ECFRS
- Trucam is currently being delivered across 18 parishes at 45 different locations with increased activity (673 captures in June and 748 in July)
- 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
- Intelligence sharing with secondary schools to safeguard any identified vulnerable persons

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 That Members note the priorities for 2026 / 27 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 been 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** – No impact at present since the partnership continues to work with Safer Essex to ensure a smooth transition of services, and the programme is now presently paused.

Background Papers:

APPENDIX 1 Essex Police Performance Summary

APPENDIX 2 Essex Police District Charts

Enquiries to: Spencer Clarke, Community Safety Manager.