**Safer Colchester Partnership Newsletter** 

**Autumn/Winter 2020**

Welcome to the first Newsletter from the Safer Colchester Partnership highlighting news on current projects, upcoming initiatives, and useful information such as funding opportunities.

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**Safer Colchester Partnership - Key Priorities 2020-21**

These priorities form the basis of the Safer Colchester Partnership Annual Partnership Action Plan. Follow link to see the current plan [HERE](https://colch.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/s/CBCext/EeprCsH8TixEs3uRP1H1JhIBCn9Y47tucYStcrxeEGXO1g)

**Community Safety News**

Crime and Disorder Committee

The Crime and Disorder Committee panel met on 15th September. The purpose of this panel is to scrutinise the work of the Safer Colchester Partnership. Under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 the Committee is required to review the work and progress of the Safer Colchester Partnership in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their statutory crime and disorder reduction functions. The meeting was attended by representatives from Colchester Borough Council along with our statutory partners including Essex County Council Children and Families, Clinical Commissioning Group, Essex Police, National Probation Service and Essex Community Rehabilitation Company. Partners presented updates on performance/activities linked to the SCP and their own priorities. The Committee thanked and praised the work of the Safer Colchester partners, especially during the difficult initial lockdown period.

Designated Safeguarding Officers

Colchester Borough Council have expanded their team of Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSO’s) to ensure representation across all Departments. DSO’s are Officers with specific responsibilities for Safeguarding and their role is to assist any member of staff who has concerns for a child or adult who may need care and support. They have all attended Level 3 training (most recently held in September 2020) to equip them with the necessary knowledge.

Hate Crime 

Essex Police and partners supported Hate Crime Awareness Week (10-17 October) raising awareness of the offences and support available to victims.

Hate Crime Ambassador Training for Colchester Borough Council Ward Councillors has been booked to take place as online workshops on 12 & 18 November 2020.

Lou Middleton, Hate Crime Officer with Essex Police, has trained over 120 Hate Crime Ambassadors in Colchester. Please email Lou for further information: lou.middleton@essex.police.uk

Colchester has 7 Hate Incident Reporting Centres (HIRC’s) across Colchester including University of Essex, Community 360, Colchester Library and Colchester Jobcentre Plus. For full list and further information : [Safer Colchester Partnership - Hate Crime](https://www.safercolchester.co.uk/hate-crime/)

Suicide Prevention

Supporting the emotional well-being of others is always important but particularly during this challenging time. There are a variety of free resources to help you to help others who may be having suicidal thoughts. See SToP Suicide campaign [HERE](https://www.livewellcampaign.co.uk/livewell-articles/stopsuicide/)

**Training**

Fully Subsidised Suicide First Aid Training – 18th November 9 am – 4.30 pm

For participants living in Suffolk or North East Essex. This is now open to anyone who has been affected by the Covid crisis and is working frontline. For further information or to book a space on the course, please email Suicidepreventiontraining@suffolk.gov.uk stating your name and job role.

Observers – Level 2 Training Course

Colchester Borough Council has developed the previous ‘Observers’ workshop (covering topics such as Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation, Gangs and County Lines, Knife Crime**)** into an e-learning course that will soon be available. This will be a Level 2 Safeguarding training course that all front-line staff and other identified roles, will be required to complete.

Work has commenced to tailor this e-learning course and make it available to external organisations including Safer Colchester Partnership partners and contractors that work for Colchester Borough Council.

Free Online Training – Available to all Partners

There are a full range of free safeguarding training options now available online. You may wish to check out the following:

**PREVENT**

Home Office: 60 minutes e-learning <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/la2/screen1.html>

**Suicide Prevention**

Zero Suicide Alliance: 20 minute e-learning<https://www.zerosuicidealliance.com/>

**Domestic Abuse**

Alpha Vesta delivering suite of online workshops. Follow link to see course details/dates: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/alpha-vesta-cic-30277303852>

J9 are also delivering online workshops: [Read more and how to book.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA3MDcuMjM5ODczMzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lc2NiLmNvLnVrL25ld3MvZG9tZXN0aWMtYWJ1c2Utb25saW5lLWNvbW11bml0eS1qOS10cmFpbmluZy1zZXNzaW9ucy8ifQ.DN2fh1lgzWom8LQWfK2raIOBHmDY7RkcEQ8QdA3jrP8/s/980765703/br/80736899339-l)

**Drug and Alcohol Basic Awareness**

SETDAB have a range of courses including this one, available on the ESCA Academy partnership e-learning platform: [https://esca.essexacl.ac.uk](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA3MDMuMjM4NTIxMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2V1cjAyLnNhZmVsaW5rcy5wcm90ZWN0aW9uLm91dGxvb2suY29tLz91cmw9aHR0cHMlM0ElMkYlMkZlc2NhLmVzc2V4YWNsLmFjLnVrJTJGJmRhdGE9MDIlN0MwMSU3QyU3Qzg4NzRiNzExY2Q5NDRjMTYwYzI5MDhkODFkYTdmZDM0JTdDYThiNDMyNGYxNTVjNDIxNWEwZjE3ZWQ4Y2M5YTk5MmYlN0MwJTdDMCU3QzYzNzI5MTk1NDYyMzc4NTIwMyZzZGF0YT1UTld2OThlTiUyQmdWZm5kbjFSenA3dzYlMkIlMkZlTWR1WEZ2cU91dlFtSnM3clUwJTNEJnJlc2VydmVkPTAifQ.TkyL4nQrVARZFtAut5ojytnJgUCu3X9E8b8U8NbbCXY/s/1130593121/br/80661447958-l)

**Partner News**

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service – Safe, Well, Secure event in Mersea

Partnership event held on 22nd and 23rd September. ‘Door knocking’ to check on residents in Mersea – if they had working smoke alarms or any fire safety concerns. They had an opportunity to get advice from other partners taking part or for a referral. Positive example of key partners working together to support the local community.

Together we Can Project

Colchester Borough Council’s application to the Ministry of Housing, Local Government and Communities was successful, and £500,000 was secured for domestic abuse services for 2020/21.  Working with Next Chapter and Open Road this funding will support continuation for the Recovery Refuge (women with active substance misuse issues), expansion of Resettlement Work (supporting women to establish & maintain safe accommodation) and supporting children and young people affected by domestic abuse (particularly those in families who have fled domestic abuse or remain in the home after perpetrator has left).

Greenstead – Support to Engage with Employment or Education 

The Community Safety Partnership are pleased to have received £15,000 from the Violence and Vulnerability Unit Home Office funding to support a project in the Greenstead Ward, to tackle violent crime/offenders. We will be working with the Department of Work and Pensions and other local partners and schools to deliver a project to work with residents in this Ward on issues such as employment, training, and benefits. Watch this space for further updates. 

**Funding**

Safer Colchester Partnership Funding

The Safer Colchester Partnership’s aim is to work together to reduce crime and disorder in Colchester. This fund supports specific projects and initiatives in line with the Key Priorities. Applicants can apply for all or part of the fund. See below for guidance notes and application form. <https://www.safercolchester.co.uk/safer-colchester/safer-colchester-partnership/>

High Sheriffs’ Fund

Funding to help tackle crime, community safety and anti-social behaviour. Available to voluntary organisations, for up to £5,000. Deadline for applications is 1st December 2020. Follow link for further information and application form: <https://www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk/high-sheriffs-fund/>

Safer Rural Communities Fund

This Colchester Borough Council fund is available to assist communities in the delivery of projects and initiatives that address community safety – anti social behaviour and/or crime. It is available to not for profit organisations and specific rural wards across Colchester. For more information follow this link: <https://www.safercolchester.co.uk/rural-communities/>

An example of a successful project funded by the Safer Rural Communities Fund to reduce anti-social behaviour, include an upgraded CCTV system at West Bergholt Village Hall.

Essex Violence & Vulnerability Unit (VVU) Community Grants fund

For further details and application form  <https://ecvys.org.uk/funding-news/>

The strategic goal as a partnership is to reduce serious violence, the harm it causes and safeguard those at risk – relating to county lines, gangs and knife crime. They are keen to hear from local Charities who are responding to the needs of their communities regarding this area of work, and whom can evidence the impact of this work upon application. Deadline: 19th November 2020

Providing COVID-19 Secure Winter Accommodation for People Experiencing Homelessness in England

To help frontline organisations to keep homeless people and rough sleepers safe during winter. Grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 are available for small to medium sized organisations with an annual turnover of up to £5 million that are working directly with people experiencing homelessness. Deadlines 4 November and 2 December 2020.

<https://www.homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2020/oct/20/homelessness-winter-transformation-fund-launches>

PFCC Community Safety Development Fund 2020-21

Watch this space for news on the launch of this year’s fund: <https://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/giving-you-a-voice/commissioning-services/>

**Upcoming Events/Key Dates**

* National Safeguarding Adults Week – further details: [ESAB](https://www.essexsab.org.uk/about-esab/national-safeguarding-adults-weeek-2020/%20)– 16th-22nd November
* Operation Henderson (Child Sexual Exploitation campaign between Essex County Council, Essex Police and Colchester Borough Council – 23rd November – 6th December
* [White Ribbon Day](https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/) - 25th November
* [16 Days of Action](https://16daysofaction.co.uk/the-campaign/) – 25th November – 10th December

If you wish to contribute to future newsletters, please email:

Safer.colchester@colchester.gov.uk