

Your local update

Maldon - March 2021



[Essex.police.uk/yourarea](https://www.essex.police.uk/yourarea)



Introduction

The purpose of 'Your Local Police Update' is to keep our community across Maldon informed and up to date on policing activity. The ambition is to publish an update every month to provide an overview in the following areas:

- Community Policing Team
- Town Centre Team
- Local Policing Team
- Crime trends of note
- Prevention Messages
- Forthcoming Engagement

The Community Policing Team encompasses the Town Centre Team. They undertake proactive and reactive policing tasks covering engagement, crime prevention, crime disruption, and safeguarding of vulnerable people. The teams have embedded specialist Missing Persons officers and Children's and Young Person officers, who work with partners in education and social care to protect vulnerable people from harm.

The Local Policing Team responds to calls for assistance from members of the public, undertake proactive overt patrols and focus, however, their main role is reactive policing.

We have a very clear focus on;

Violence – disrupting those who commit serious organised crime and to dismantle the supply of controlled drugs in the district. We will target those who carry knives and commit violence ensuring Chelmsford remains a safe place for all.

Vulnerability – we will ensure we engage with our communities to understand their needs and deliver policing to safeguard those who are vulnerable in our community.

Victims – we will provide victims with a first-class service.

Visibility – we will be visible in our communities to provide reassurance and reduce the fear of crime.



Maldon District Commanders Message

Welcome to the District Commander update for this month.

The team have continued to work hard to protect the Vulnerable, reduce Violence, care for Victims and providing Visibility around our communities.

The Prime Minister has announced the Road Map out of the current lockdown which will allow us all to see family and friends after a long and difficult year. Here in Maldon our communities have shown astounding resilience that has allowed my teams to continue to deal with crime as well as dealing with Covid related matters. Within this newsletter is a link to the government Road Map for your information.

I have now had the honour of being your District Commander for 12 months, it's been a steep learning curve for me but a real joy.

I reflect on my performance and that of the teams through the Public Perception Survey Results (published in last month's newsletter) which gives an indication of how our communities see us and it is pleasing to see we have increased in all the areas we would like to and reduced in the right places. But there is still a lot of work to do and I look forward to working towards those over the next year.

Chief Inspector 695 Steve Scott-Haynes



Please be aware of the below scam and the below crime prevention advice.



Essex Police - Maldon District



We have seen an increase across the District of door to door sales people operating in our communities. These individuals are known as 'Nottingham Knockers' or 'The duster sellers'. They will often claim that they are ex-convicts involved in a rehabilitation scheme and they may well have documentation or identity cards in an attempt to convince you they are part of a genuine scheme. They are not. The practice is not a recognised offender rehabilitation scheme. They will often try to sell you low quality house hold goods such as dusters at heavily inflated prices. Our advice to you would be not to buy on your doorstep and not to engage in conversation with these individuals. We believe that this practice is a scam. If such individuals are operating in your area, then please contact us on 101 (Always 999 in an Emergency). Remember, if you are unsure who is knocking at your door you do not need to open it. If you do answer the door, use the door chain if you have one. If they are genuine callers, they will not mind you doing this.
[#ProtectingAndServingEssex](#)

FRAUD / SCAM AWARE



Maldon Policing Team:

Another busy month comes to an end whereby the various Police Teams in Maldon have been attending a range of incidents.

Here are some examples of our patrols and incidents;



Essex Police - Maldon District



Officers from [#ChelmsfordandMaldonCPT](#) have been patrolling the rural areas of the district today. Those of which included [#StLawrence](#) and [#BradwellOnSea](#)

Please continue to make reports to Police with any information or requests for us to act on. Without relaying the concerns you may have within your community, we may not know about it to act accordingly.

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Maldon Local Policing Team #AShift were out early this morning patrolling the Maldon district. In between responding to emergency incidents we got the opportunity for some foot patrol through Maldon Promenade. This kind of high visibility policing allows us to engage with our community which we find really important to find out what's going on and where.

[#ProtectingAndServingEssex](#)





Essex Police - Maldon District



We know how important high visibility patrols important high visibility patrols are to our communities so we've been out and about in Maldon this week. We've also been patrolling in [#Heybridge](#) and [#Bradwell](#).

It's really important that you keep letting us know what is causing you concern in your community, so that we can take the appropriate action.

As well as calling 101, you can now report non-emergency crime and antisocial behaviour online through our digital 101 servic... [See More](#)



Now that lighter days and nights are here, it's time to pull your bike out of storage, dust it off and get out there cycling! However, as more bikes take to the road, there will be an inevitable rise in bike crime. Here are some top tips to keep you cycling happily throughout the Spring and into the Summer months:

Get a decent lock – Bike thieves need to operate quickly to reduce the chance of being caught, so a decent bike lock is literally worth its weight in gold. Therefore, we suggest:

- Buy a decent lock – preferably two.
- Quality costs – expect to pay at least £40 for a lock.
- Make sure you buy a certified Sold Secure, preferably gold-rated lock.

Make your Mark – Marking your bike with a unique code ensures the police will be able to trace your bike back to you if it is stolen and recovered. Essex Police, in conjunction with Chelmsford City Council, will be introducing specific 'BikeRegister' marking days whereby we will mark your bike and the unique code will be placed on 'BikeRegister' for you. **The next event will be on Wednesday 5th May 2021 at the Bandstand, Queen Elizabeth II Square, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5TD between 14:30 – 16:30.**

Insure it – The average cost of bicycle insurance is around £50 for a bike worth £1,000 in the UK. Check whether your home contents insurance covers your bike and make sure it also covers you for thefts outside of the home too.

When out and about —

- Park your bike in a well-lit area, preferably a designated parking location, where it can be easily seen by passers-by.
- Lock both wheels and the frame of your bike to a cycle stand or another immovable object. Using two locks, make sure they go through the bike frame as-well as both wheels and the post you are securing it to – otherwise, a thief may steal the bike and leave the wheels behind.
- Ensure your lock does not touch the ground, otherwise it is easy for a thief to sledgehammer it off.
- Take any removable items with you such as lights, saddle and basket.
- Don't park in the same place every day. If bike thieves are stealing to order, they are more likely to target you if they know where you will be.

At Home – More than half of bikes are stolen from home. Reduce the chances of this happening by:

- Store your bike in a securely locked shed or garage, or preferably in your house.
- Secure with a lock to an immovable object such as a hanger or rack.
- Keep it out of view to passers-by.



We received reports regarding anti social behaviour in Southminster and Heybridge so the team, and with the assistance of the dog section, have been conducting patrols around the area.



Essex Police - Maldon District

The team have been out patrolling the area of Southminster this evening after we received some reports of anti-social behaviour in the area. We use a range of tactics and legislation to tackle anti-social behaviour. If individuals are displaying behaviour that is having a detrimental impact on the quality of life of those living in the community, we can use our powers to deal with those problematic individuals in an attempt to stop their behaviour.

[#ProtectingAndServingEssex](#)



Essex Police - Maldon District

Police Dogs Diesel, Dougie and Mitch have been out on patrol in [#Maldon](#) this week as we know how important high visibility patrols are to our community.

Joined by their handlers Sergeant Jamie Edwards and PC Michael Magin, PDs Diesel, Dougie and Mitch visited Maldon High Street and the Promenade.

PD Mitch then went onto patrol in [#Heybridge](#), which included a visit to Plantation Hall, while PD Diesel headed to St. George's Playing Fields in [#Southminster](#).

We would like to say thank you to everyone who continues to do the right thing by following the government's Covid-19 regulations and helping to stop the spread of the virus. Your efforts do make a difference.

It was good to see that the majority of people were taking steps to protect themselves and others, only leaving their homes for daily exercise or to make an essential journey.

We're pleased to report that those who were seen breaching the government's Covid-19 regulations listened to advice given by the officers and did the right thing.

It's really important that you keep letting us know what is causing you concern in your community, so that we can take the appropriate action.

As well as calling 101, you can now report non-emergency crime and antisocial behaviour online through our digital 101 service, making it easier and more convenient for you to contact us. Go to www.essex.police.uk/digital101 for more information.



Guidance

COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021 (Summary)

Published 22 February 2021

The following pages will outline the easing of restrictions in accordance with the Governments 'Road map out of lockdown'. Full details can be obtained on the Government website: www.gov.uk

The easing of restrictions will obviously bring challenges for Policing as hospitality locations re-open, the weather improves and people are allowed to consume alcohol in groups. We will be ready for this challenge and planning is already in place to manage the potential increased demand on our resources.

Changes on 29 March

Social contact

The evidence shows that it is safer for people to meet outdoors rather than indoors. And this is why from 29 March, when most schools start to break up for the Easter holidays, outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the Rule of 6) or 2 households will also be allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside.

Business and activities

Outdoor sports facilities such as tennis and basketball courts, and open-air swimming pools, will also be allowed to reopen, and people will be able to take part in formally organised outdoor sports.

Travel

The 'stay at home' rule will end on 29 March but many restrictions will remain in place. People should continue to work from home where they can and minimise the number of journeys they make where possible, avoiding travel at the busiest times and routes. Travel abroad will continue to be prohibited, other than for a small number of permitted reasons. Holidays abroad will not be allowed, given it will remain important to manage the risk of imported variants and protect the vaccination programme. The government has launched a new taskforce to review global travel which will report on 12 April.



Guidance

COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021 (Summary)

Published 22 February 2021

Step 2 - not before 12 April

Business and activities

Step 2, which will be no earlier than 12 April, will see the opening of non-essential retail; personal care premises such as hairdressers and nail salons; and public buildings, including libraries and community centres. Indoor leisure facilities such as gyms will also reopen (but only for use by people on their own or in household groups); as will most outdoor attractions and settings including outdoor hospitality venues, zoos, theme parks, and drive-in cinemas. Self-contained accommodation such as campsites and holiday lets, where indoor facilities are not shared with other households, can also reopen.

Hospitality venues will be allowed to serve people outdoors at Step 2 and there will be no need for customers to order a substantial meal with alcoholic drinks and no curfew, although customers must order, eat and drink while seated ('table service'). Wider social contact rules will apply in all these settings to prevent indoor mixing between different households.

Events

While funerals can continue with up to 30 mourners, the number of people able to attend weddings, receptions and commemorative events such as wakes will rise to 15.



Public perception survey

The information below represents results from data collected as part of the Essex Police Public Perception Survey. The results represent the combined sample of interviews across each year. The annual sample size for the survey is 7,710 Essex residents which equates to approximately 550 persons from each district of the 14 Districts we police. Essex Police use the data from the surveys to gauge how we have been performing in your area.

We have been working hard to try and address the perception of Essex Police in the Maldon District and surrounding rural areas.

In the calendar year ending December 2020 the following key points from residents of Maldon have been noted:

- The proportion of Maldon residents surveyed who feel well-informed about what police are doing in their area increased from 41% to 63%.
- Three-quarters (74%) agree that Essex Police understand issues affecting their community, up from 57%
- Those who agree they have confidence in the police in this area increased from 64% to 72%

These are all improving results and show that with a little hard work, better engagement with the community and keeping you updated are helping in addition to responding to any reports of crime. As 2021 progresses, these figures will continue to be monitored and more initiatives will be introduced to improve this further.



Government
Counter Fraud
Function

GOV.UK/coronavirus

NHS

Counter Fraud Authority

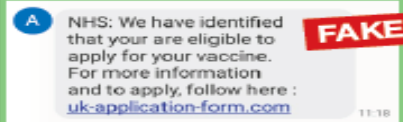
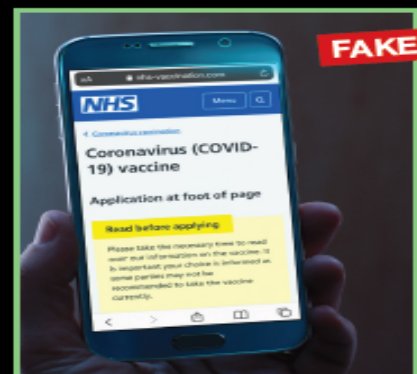
BE ALERT TO VACCINE FRAUD

Criminals are using the COVID-19 vaccine as a way to target the public by tricking them to hand over cash or financial details. They are sending convincing-looking text messages letting people know they are eligible for the vaccine or phoning people directly pretending to be from the NHS, or local pharmacy.

PEOPLE ARE WARNED TO BE ALERT TO THESE SCAMS

The **NHS** will:

- ⊗ NEVER ask for payment - the vaccine is free
- ⊗ NEVER ask for your bank details
- ⊗ NEVER arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ⊗ NEVER ask you to prove your identity by sending copies of personal documents such as your passport



FURTHER GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT



National Cyber
Security Centre

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk. Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number 7726 which is free of charge.

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
actionfraud.police.uk

If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft, you should report this directly to Action Fraud either online; actionfraud.police.uk or via phone 0300 123 2040.

CrimeStoppers.

If you have any information relating to vaccine fraud you can stay 100% anonymous by contacting CrimeStoppers COVID Fraud Hotline online; covidfraudhotline.org or phone 0800 587 5030.

In Your Area

