



Above: PC Phil Cattaway

Introduction to your local officer

PC Phil Cattaway is the Community Policing Team beat officer for Chigwell Village, Chigwell Row and Grange Hill. PC Cattaway has been with Essex Police for over 7 years, and has so far spent the majority of his career on the Epping Forest District Local Policing Team. He joined the Community Policing Team in December 2020, and has so far been busy building up relationships with key points of contact within the area to include Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and Parish Councillors. PC Cattaway works to proactively detect and deter crime through information brought to his attention from the local community. He has responsibility for investigating certain crimes committed within Chigwell and Grange Hill, to include low and medium risk hate crimes. PC Cattaway otherwise spends his time proactively patrolling the area and addressing local issues, including through partnership working.

Introduction from the District Commander, Ant Alcock

“Hi everybody. My name is Ant Alcock and I’m a Chief Inspector with Essex Police, currently the District Commander for Epping Forest and Brentwood where I hold responsibility for policing. I wanted to take the time in this edition to explain the policing structure within Epping Forest. Based at Loughton Police Station, there is the Local Policing Team (LPT), Community Policing Team (CPT), Town Centre Teams (TCT) and the Criminal Investigations Department (CID). LPT provide the 24/7 cover responding to emergency and non-emergency incidents. They also contribute to investigative and proactive policing. 2 shifts of CPT officers now provide 7 day a week cover. They have a number of functions to include providing high visibility proactive patrols, problem solving in partnership, community engagement and investigating certain crimes. 2 Children and Young Persons’ Officers, a dedicated Rural Officer and a Community Safety Engagement Officer are also attached to the CPT. The district also benefits from an Epping Forest District Council funded Community Safety Team, 1 Sergeant and 2 Police Constables working to address local priorities. Waltham Abbey and Loughton benefit from Town Centre Teams, 2 additional officers per area. The CID are responsible for serious and complex investigations up to, and including, attempted murder. Whilst that covers everyone dedicated to the district, there are of course a number of shared resources across the West of Essex and force-wide Epping Forest benefits from. This includes but is certainly not limited to: Operation Raptor (dedicated to addressing county lines and gangs), the Roads Policing Unit, the Dog Section, the Operational Support Group, the Domestic Abuse Investigation Team and the Child Abuse Investigation Team. I would really encourage you to share your concerns with us, so that we can continue to keep Epping Forest a safe district to be.”



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**For general enquiries (not crime reporting), please contact
eppingcommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk**

Some recent local policing updates

Activity has been undertaken on several occasions recently in relation to speeding concerns raised. PC Cattaway and Community Policing colleagues have conducted speed checks on Lambourne Road on 21st February and Manor Road on 15th January. The Roads Policing Unit have also conducted checks on Chigwell Rise at least twice in late November to mid December.



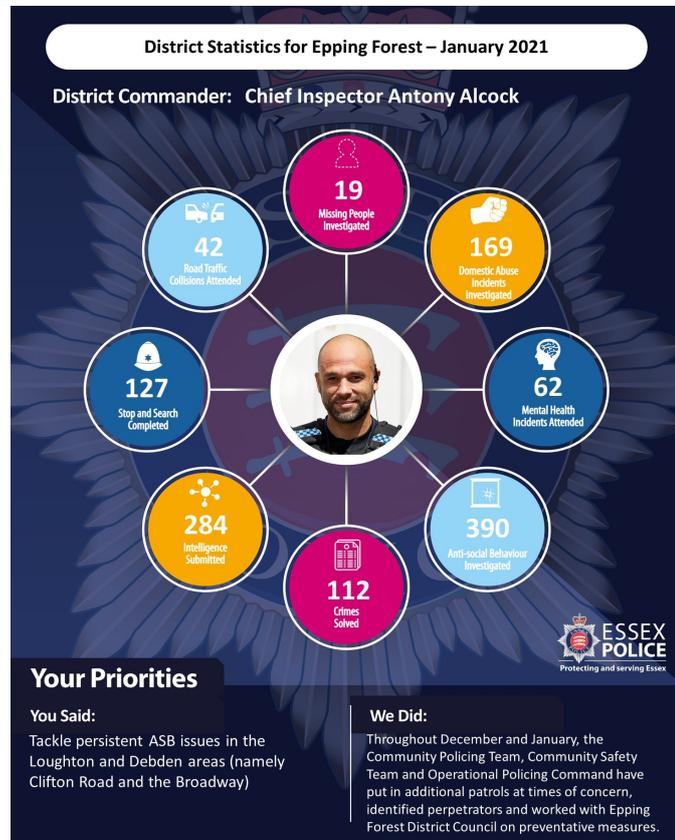
Left: PC Phil Cattaway and a Community Policing Team colleague conducting the recent Lambourne Road speed check. The highest recorded speed was 48mph of 100 vehicles surveyed.

During the winter months, burglaries will generally increase. Significant efforts have taken place this winter to address this. As well as the frequent sharing of crime prevention advice, proactive patrol activity increased in Chigwell. In mid to late December, the Community Safety Team were engaged in an operation focused on preventing burglaries in the main, but also aimed at deterring violence/weapon enabled offences and theft of motor vehicles. Around 50% of patrol time was spent in the Chigwell and Grange Hill area. A significant reduction of residential burglaries to almost zero was observed within the team's tasking areas during this time.

PC Cattaway has been regularly patrolling locations where drug use and supply concerns have been raised, to include behind the shops on Brook Parade, Limes Avenue, Dacre Gardens, Chester Road and Millwell Crescent (and nearby alleyways).

An individual in the Grange Hill ward was issued a Community Protection Warning in February following numerous reports including of public order and hate related incidents. This has been used in an attempt to deter future offences; it sets conditions for the individual to comply with or face further action.

Catalytic converter thefts are being experienced across the District. Any 'live' theft incident will be attended on an emergency response, and enquiries made with all reports to identify suspect vehicles for stop and searches. It is likely suspects are offending across borders, with information sharing across districts and forces ongoing. The Roads Policing Unit have been responsible for at least 3 arrests since 30 November on suspicion of catalytic converter theft, based on stops at the M11 J7 Hastingwood Roundabout and on the A13.



Essex Police continues to respond to acquisitive and transient criminality, such as theft of motor vehicle offences. Lines of investigative enquiry are explored with all reports in an attempt to identify a suspect. This includes using Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology to identify directions of travel for stolen vehicles and suggest any suspect vehicles. It is not uncommon for registration plates to be changed on victim or suspect vehicles; any information such as plate deposition sites or individuals being seen to change plates is encouraged to be reported. Information sharing is ongoing with neighbouring forces, and there are regular joint operations in west Essex and locally. Some vehicles are often very quickly taken to 'chop shop' locations and dismantled for the onward sale of parts. We continue to gather intelligence regarding any possible sites, so please do report any suspicious activity you may witness. Any stolen vehicles located by Essex Police, often thanks to reports from members of the public, are forensically recovered in the hope that this may locate a suspect. The force's Stolen Vehicle Examiner brings specialist knowledge and is frequently recovering vehicles using false identities. You can follow him on Twitter: [@essex_sviu](https://twitter.com/essex_sviu)





For more crime prevention advice, visit www.essex.police.uk/crimeprevention

Crime Prevention—Theft from a Motor Vehicle

Theft from a motor vehicle offences have decreased by 33.5% across Epping Forest in the 12 months to January 2021. 22 of these offences were recorded in Chigwell and Grange Hill from 01/11/20 to 01/02/21, compared to 32 for the same period 2019/20. 12 of the 22 offences related to catalytic converter theft. To prevent this type of theft, consider your parking carefully; don't park half on the kerb allowing easy access to the underneath of the vehicle, use a garage where possible or otherwise park in a well lit, populated area. Protective locks or guards are available. You can also get your catalytic converter marked. Always ensure suspicious activity around vehicles is reported.

Reporting Guidance

Timely reporting using the correct means is really important for a number of reasons. For example, it ensures we have an accurate understanding of crime and ASB occurring within the local area, helping to focus responses. We often become aware of things discussed elsewhere, such as on social media, that have not been officially reported. You might also have the final bit of information required to make the difference between the court granting a warrant to search a premises and not.

Do it online with the digital 101 service: Significant developments have been made to increase online reporting options for non-urgent incidents, to ease demand on the 101 telephone line. Anybody who is able to report online is encouraged to do so, so those who cannot can reach a call handler quicker. Please visit www.essex.police.uk/ to explore reporting options, which includes crime and anti-social behaviour reporting, road traffic incident reporting, breach of COVID regulations reporting and more. Why not try our 'Live Chat', available between 7am-11pm daily, where you can exchange real-time direct messages with online operators. Please always use 999 for an emergency.

Anonymous reporting: CrimeStoppers is a charity independent of the police, who will take information from you 100% anonymously and pass to the police on your behalf. There is some information that CrimeStoppers cannot process, such as if you are reporting an emergency or you are a victim of crime. Read more on their website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/ or call 0800 555 111 to report. Fearless is the youth brand of CrimeStoppers, which also allows for anonymous reporting and access to information and advice regarding crime and criminality. Visit Fearless on www.fearless.org/.

what3words: This is an app and website used to help identify locations. Every 3m square has 3 unique words associated with it, which you can communicate to an emergency service or other agency to really help pinpoint your location.

Engagement Opportunities

As soon as is safe to do so, opportunities to speak with your local police in person will recommence, such as Coffee With Cops and pop-up events. We will continue to hold Facebook Q+A sessions, with the next one for Chigwell and Grange Hill scheduled for the 14th May at 12pm. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch: eppingcommunitypolicingteam@essex.police.uk

We are looking to recruit new members for the Brentwood and Epping Forest Independent Advisory Group. The IAG works to harbour knowledge and opinion from diverse communities, gaining insight and constructive feedback on a variety of policing issues. Essex Police look to respond to this wherever possible and appropriate, so as to improve the service for all communities and increase public confidence. If you feel able to constructively challenge the police and/or lacking a platform to have dialogue with them, this could be for you. Visit: www.essex.police.uk/iag.

