

May 2023

HARE COURSING TUMBLES

Newly released figures for the 2022–2023 hare coursing season show there has been a 50% reduction in incidents.

The hare coursing season runs from the end of harvest around September to April.



This season there were 183 incidents, down from 363 last season.

The team worked with 6 neighbouring police forces and the police helicopter to focus on

the issue. Operation Galileo saw days of joint



action, sharing of intelligence and a joint approach to prosecution.

Sgt Felton said 'We are very pleased to see such a huge drop in hare coursing incidents this season. We have caught and prosecuted more offenders and worked smarter. Using heat mapping we have identified hotspot locations and focused our patrols in these area's. The helicopter has been invaluable attending incidents and locating suspects.'



**Domestic abuse is all about control.
If you notice that someone seems to
be controlled in all areas of their life,
it could be a sign they are being abused.**

SETDAB.org

Now there's a quick
online alternative to
calling 101 or visiting
a police station:
DIGITAL 101



Do it online at:
essex.police.uk

**IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999**

MAY ENGAGEMENT

The team were busy throughout May attending events across the county.

We were in Saffron Waldon with the local police commander addressing residents concerns around burglary and theft.

We were delighted to give a presentation to parish councillors in Widdington in Uttlesford.



The team were invited to address the students at Writtle University College. Over 100 students and staff had a presentation on RET's work, focusing on animal and wildlife crime.



The police tractor was star of the police stand at the Essex Young Farmers Show. The team spoke to hundreds of visitors and handed out crime prevention leaflets.



We held a dog engagement event in Chelmsford City Council aiming to educate owners around dog control, livestock attacks and prevent theft of beloved pets.

The team visited pupils at Latchingdon Primary School in Maldon where the whole school met officers and talked about the role of police officers. They got to try on police uniform and look around our 4x4 vehicles.



The team are keen to attend as many engagement events as possible over the summer and there are lots planned already.

If you would like RET to attend your event, email us at 74973@essex.police.uk

WILDLIFE CRIME

Two men illegally fishing on the River Chelmer were caught by our officers despite trying to hide in stinging nettles.

PC Raven, the Essex Police Wildlife & Heritage Crime officer was working with the Environment Agency checking rod licences when the men were spotted.

Both have been reported for fishing during closed season and all their fishing tackle was seized.



Meanwhile, the team have been dealing with reports of swans being kicked in Braintree, nesting birds being disturbed in Basildon and poaching in Maldon.

METAL DETECTING

Evidence of illegal metal detecting was discovered in Gosbecks Archaeological Park in Colchester.

This activity deprives the county of our heritage and items found end up in private hands, rather than museums.

RET have been working with the Colchester Rangers to step up patrols.

As well as foot and cycle patrols, an engagement event was held so awareness could be raised amongst dog walkers and residents.



HERITAGE CRIMES

Following reports of criminal damage at Coal House Fort in Tilbury the team carried out a visit to advise staff on security and heritage crime matters.



We also had reports of an attempted burglary at Stow Maries WW1 Aerodrome in Maldon. Thieves entered a hangar but fortunately nothing was taken. The team were swiftly on scene.



STOLEN VEHICLES

During May the team recovered four stolen vehicles and items of plant.

A horse box was recovered on the A12 and reunited with its owner.



The team used our trusty Land Rover Defender 4x4 to recover a stolen wood chipper from bushes in Harlow.



And a stolen Range Rover Evoque and a Ford Fiesta were found in Basildon.

ROAD SAFETY SUCCESS

The team have continued to focus on rural road safety.

In Uttlesford an offroad bike was seized after being used on a road. And an uninsured car was seized in the same week.



Officers carried out speeding checks in Pentlow and reported four drivers with one being caught driving at 45 mph in a 30 mph area.

Meanwhile in Harlow checks were carried out outside Milwards Primary School. Four drivers were reported for offences with one car being seized.

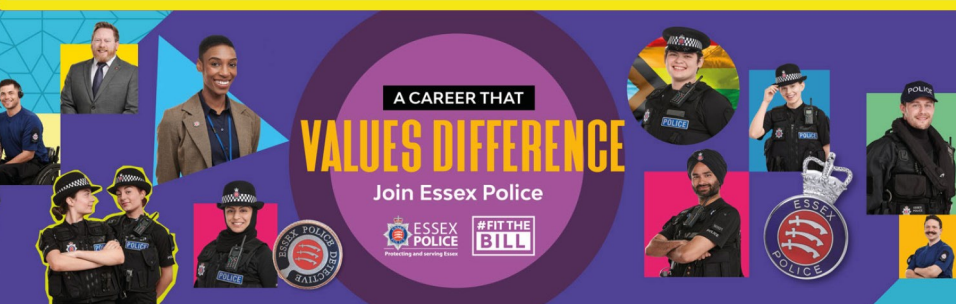


Digital 101

You can report non-emergency crime by calling **101** or by using **Digital 101**, our quick and easy to use online service that's available at any time.



Digital 101 is available on the Essex Police website: [essex.police.uk](https://www.essex.police.uk)



If you, or anyone you know, is interested in protecting and serving Essex, you can follow us on social media, or search **#FitTheBill**