



**COMMITTEE TITLE: Clean & Green Committee**

**DATE: 26 June 2023**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	Chairs Update
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Marcus Hotten, Director of Environment Kim Anderson, Corporate Manager – Communities, Leisure & Health

This report provides an update to Members in relations to the areas covered under the Terms of Reference of the Clean & Green Committee.

### **Brentwood Centre**

A specification is currently underway for solar panels and thermal tubes to go on the roof of the Brentwood Centre, this is to determine what the Council is able to put on the roof (weight and size implications)). Once that has been finalised then it will go out to tender.

### **Football Hub**

Any new developments including the Football Hub will need to comply with the new BREEAM (Building Research establishment Environmental Assessment Method) requirements as set out in the new Local Development Plan. The BREEAM assessment undertaken by a third party and provides a certified standard to help improve asset performance at every stage, from design through construction, to use and refurbishment.

### **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan**

Essex County Council and their consultants WSP consultants plan to have a map of the to be ready for public consultation which officers are having a final say on this week for both walking and cycling route improvements. This concentrated on Brentwood and Shenfield areas only. Public consultation scheduled to launch at the end of June.

And will be between 4 weeks or 6 weeks consultation period. After this period the public comments will be taken into consideration for the final map with the priority routes.

In addition, Essex County Council are looking ECC are looking a County wide map to pick up the rural locations which is due to be completed this year.

### **Environment Strategy**

At present the Environment Strategy sets out how the Council can influence actions and outcomes to achieving carbon neutral across the Borough by 2050. Officers intend to develop a further action-plan, a Carbon Reduction Plan, with a greater level of detail setting out how the Council will specifically achieve net zero by 2040, for approval by the Clean and Green (previously referred to as the Community Environment and Enforcement) Committee later, in 2023.

The Council has only recently approved its Environment Strategy and it is acknowledged that more needs to be done to embed the strategy and work on underlying action plans and actions. An independent review of the approach has identified some areas for improvement, mostly focused on the need for improved communications and action planning. These will assist in strengthening the monitoring of the agreed actions and support achievement of the Council's objectives and targets in relation to climate change and carbon reduction.

A key recommendation was that the Council should consider establishing a climate sub-committee which receives reports on a quarterly basis on the progress made against actions within the action plan. This climate sub-committee should report into the Environment Committee and Council on progress made against the strategy, and the reduction in carbon emissions.

It is proposed that a Climate Emergency Sub-Committee will be established as set out above to take forward three key pieces of work: The current Environment Strategy, the specific Carbon Reduction Plan for the Council, and the recommendations as set out in the independent audit review.

### **Tree Planting**

Planting schemes were previously brought to the December 2023 Committee setting out the proposed planting of approximately 14,500 trees in Open Spaces & Country Parks through the Trees for Climate fund; and a further 167 larger trees, through the Urban Tree Challenge Fund, to provide instant impact in the urban street setting.

These trees were successfully planted as per the scheme, with work now concentrating upon mulching and weed control, so as to provide the greater opportunity for establishment. A contractor has been secured to provide the watering of the street trees, on a as and when required basis. Officers have also reached out to parish councils and local community groups to offer the opportunity to 'adopt a tree' through volunteering to undertake the regular watering of the tree. However, the default position will be the use of a contractor for tree-watering, should such an offer not be taken up.

## **EV Chargers**

Believ (the trading name of Liberty Charge) will be seeking planning permission for the EV chargers, planning is expected to be submitted by no later than 23rd June. The requirement for planning permissions is due to the size of the charging points at King Georges and Chatham Way and the fact that the points will be within 2m of the Highway at Chatham Way. Due to the need for planning the proposed earliest timeframe for installation is going to be September this year depending on when planning permission is granted.

Both Car parks will have two fast and two rapid chargers installed. There are also 4 charging points proposed for the visitor's car park at the Town Hall the Council needs to balance the need for visitor parking for those using the services from the Town Hall and installing electric vehicle charging. Legals are progressing on the proposed charging points for the town hall.

## **Community Safety & Partnership**

### **Community Safety- Engagement/Campaigns/Projects**

#### **The Baker Partnership Hub**

The HUB continues to thrive and be a productive and innovative environment for Essex Police Community Policing Team to work alongside Council's Community Safety team and wider community safety partners such as Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Probation, NHW, Crime Stoppers, SEPP, and Youth Services as well as many more. We will soon be joined by Phoenix who will be providing outreach for drug and alcohol abuse.

This has greatly improved our already healthy partnership with daily communication between the agencies which has already resulted in quicker results such as closure orders and dealing with community safety issues immediately; we recently planned our joint operations with police to patrol Brentwood's half marathon and assisted in both police and Council obtaining legal orders to curb anti-social behaviour and manage repeat offenders. It also enables us to continue to have the following regular meetings between partners:

- Weekly Community Safety Intelligence and Tasking
- Daily Police Briefings
- Biweekly ASB and CCTV project meetings
- Monthly ASB partnership meetings
- Ad Hoc case review meetings
- Partnership engagement and ops planning

These partnership meetings have resulted in better/productive use of available resources, an improved intelligence product identifying hot spots, repeat offenders, times of offences and emerging community safety trends and issues, improved use of CCTV and camera positioning, improved regular community engagement, improved communications on individual cases between agencies, prompter and more accurate responses to victims and more accurate risk assessments.

We plan to hold some interactive workshops with members in our HUB in the next twelve months to further illustrate the success of the HUIB and the benefit partnership working is having for our community.



## **Comms**

We have progressed our recent comms campaign to increase Community Safety profile on social media and highlight to our community a lot of the work we do on a daily/ weekly basis. This has already incorporated Community Safety, Anti Socai

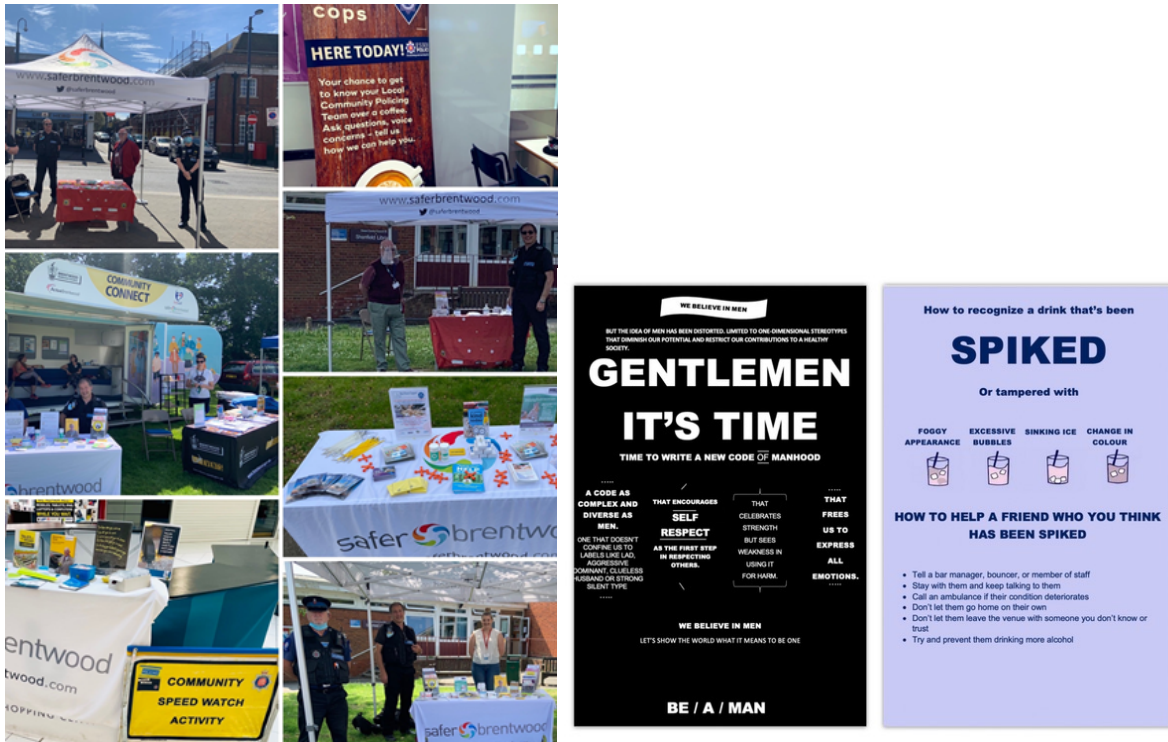
Behaviour, Community Engagement and Enforcement coordinating with Essex police comms team on this to showcase our partnership working including joint events and joint patrols in hot spot areas. We have now produced comms on social media with South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) to highlight our efforts to address unlawful parking and promote the work we are doing to address Community Safety Partnership priorities such as Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), White Ribbon and anti drink spiking. This campaign continues to meet with great success and we hope to produce more in details comms pieces such as 'a day in the life' of a Community Safety Officer and maps of our patrol routes in the next twelve months.

We are also working to produce a members newsletter which will be a regular newsletter highlighting and updating the work of Community Safety including partnership working with police, HUB activities, CCTV, ASB, Community Engagement and Enforcement.

### **Community Engagement**

The partnership has continued to deliver as many community engagement events across the borough and wider Essex where possible. Since April 2022, 65 events have been delivered. Another area of focus for the partnership is linking in with local, regional, and national campaigns including:

- Ending Violence Against Women
- Assisting Essex police with their 'Walk with Us' initiative at transport hubs during rush hour
- Anti-spiking events with police in and around our night-time economies
- White Ribbon Day- Engaging with men and boys to end violence against women
- National Road Safety Week
- Project Edward – European Day without a road death



## Projects

Through the CSP the Community Safety team remain committed to tackling key issues for Brentwood by focussing on specific projects such as working closely with local schools and facilitate and Chair the Schools Liaison Meeting every month. This includes representatives from all local secondary schools as well as Essex Police, ECC (Essex County Council) Youth Service, and other community agencies. Through this group excellent relationships have been formed and go from strength to strength improving communication and collaboration.

Projects being delivered include:

- Purchasing two electric bikes for police and community safety to conduct joint patrols across the borough
- Project Minerva - PFCC Initiative to work with police data and identify hot spots where offences against women and girls are identified and implement partnership action plans to reduce reported offences.
- Mentoring Sessions for young people to help with communication, personal development and to work on behaviours, vulnerabilities, consequences and self esteem

- Outreach work in hotspot areas to engage with young people
- N-Act Theatre performances for all schools. 'Friend' is a play about gangs, county lines, knife crime and consequences
- 'Unacceptable' performance on peer-on-peer behaviour and awareness around sexism, sexual harassment and sexual violence isn't acceptable
- Crime awareness sessions delivered in schools around drugs, gangs, and knife crime
- Boxing project established in the Brentwood Centre for young people
- Speedwatch has been revamped with a new dedicated website and email, greater focus on delivering services and improved communications across Essex. This will still be co-ordinated by the Community Safety team & volunteers. Whilst this scheme is primarily to target speeding drivers it is also a very visible presence in a locality which can only help to assist with discouraging burglars.
- The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service holds offenders to account and helps them take responsibility for the harm they have caused. Victims are given the chance to explain the impact the crime or conflict has had on them, ask questions of the perpetrator, and seek an apology.
- Seasonal Burglary Operation - The partnership has previously been involved in targeting and preventing the seasonal increase in burglaries that occurs across the whole county over the Winter months and will do so again this year.
- Operation Insight consists of a system of analysis and the deployment of resources into 'hot spots' likely to suffer burglaries, reducing the chance of them occurring. Intelligence is shared with partners and the Council's Community Safety team then disseminate to other departments within the Council to make sure staff are aware and can factor this information into their regular patrols, visits, and work schedule etc.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

We continue to receive reports and cases of Anti-Social Behaviour, but these have reduced slightly in the last few months which could be a result of the ASB officer working from the Baker Partnership HUB with police CPT; greater sharing of

intelligence, risk assessments and dedicated action plans between police and Community Safety have enabled us to improve our response to reports of anti-social behaviour. We have arranged a monthly partnership meeting in the Baker Partnership HUB to address our highest risk ASB cases with agreed dedicated action plans. We have introduced a new ASB app which is sent to complainants of anti-social behaviour to improve our service to complainants, improve how we collect evidence, improve our communication with complainants and give complainants greater say in the resolving of anti-social behaviour cases.

We have also been using our intel product and weekly intel meetings to arrange and organise patrols and joint patrols with police in ASB hot spot areas. We have also been advertising these patrols and areas using comms via social media

### Objectives

- Introduce a new Case Management System to improve reporting and response for residents.
- Work with partners to reduce overall ASB in Brentwood through the HUB and connections with local schools.
- Continue out of hours patrols of the ASB Hotspot areas.

### **Environmental Enforcement and Patrols**

Daily patrols undertaken across the borough dealing with fly tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles, early presentation of waste and supporting the wider team where possible. This includes other teams across the Council such as such as Environmental Health, Planning Enforcement and Licensing. We recently successfully caught a fly tipper and the fine of £400 was paid and have since captured another fly tip offender on CCTV with the payment of FPN going to court due to failure to pay. We have successfully installed a solar powered CCTV mast in Navestock to primarily detect and prevent fly tipping which has worked in significantly reducing fly tipping in the immediate locale of this camera. We now want to build on this success and increase our surveillance coverage in the area and at



ither fly tipping hot spots. We have also added littering and fly tipping hot spots to our intel pack to enable us to deploy our environmental resources to these areas, last year National Enforcement Solutions conducted over 7,500 hours of enforcement patrols for littering, fly tipping and commercial waste as highlighted in figures at the end of this report. Community Safety Enforcement conducted 57 patrols with SEPP last year issuing 594 parking PCN's.

### Objectives

- To introduce a red route in Brentwood High Street and consider other potential areas. Officers are currently in discussions with SEPP on the route. A report will be presented to a future committee for ratification.
- To maintain a visible presence with Corporate Enforcement, NES, SEPP and Essex Police (including OOHs)
- Improve our surveillance of fly tipping and littering hot spots.
- Install further CCTV in Navestock and at other fly tipping hot spots to address fly tipping
- Joint meetings to address environmental offences in Navestock including representatives from Havering and Epping Forest
- To proactively use CCTV footage to continue to tackle ASB, nuisance and littering in the Town Centre
- Maintain the patrol schedule and feedback to relevant agencies
- Continue to develop promotional material to bring back better engagement with residents and visitors (ASB & Fly tipping)
- Identify further hotspots

### CCTV

Following the audit and review of the CCTV service including connectivity, cameras, camera positioning, software and protocols and policies we have already enlarged the current control room by removing the dividing wall, and also creating a monitoring suite

to make us compliant with legislation. We have agreed with a local CCTV supplier and operator to lease half of the enlarged control room and a lease is being drawn up by Assets to this effect. This will still leave us with the extra capacity to offer other social landlords/ agencies to further invest in our control room. This agreement with a local CCTV supplier and operator, and hopefully other local companies/ organisations, increases Brentwood Council's offer of inclusive growth to the community of Brentwood. This service/ offer could also be rolled out to partners outside of the borough.

Working in partnership with the local CCTV supplier and contractor will allow us to invest in new technology to deliver 24/7 operations from a new and improved control room to cover our out of hours functions such as senior fire marshal, police radio, out of hours calls etc without having to look for extra funding. We will be investing in our equipment so that we have automated cameras with analytic capabilities (cameras capable of detecting arson, groups gathering, discarded items, other crimes and ASB etc with a pre-set protocol of required actions to be followed) and new command software. This does not mean any redundancies but will mean new Job Descriptions, a pay raise for existing staff to match the current job market, updating current and expected duties, a new working rota and full staff consultation.

### Objectives

- Increased vigilance of areas of high ASB
- Refurbished control room
- New command software
- Analytical capable cameras
- Ability to take on monitoring and control room functions for other parties including other social landlords and private market to generate further revenue
- Offer investment opportunities to other organisations
- Become a cost neutral service to Brentwood and generate own revenue
- Increased use of CCTV for fly tipping and littering

- Work with Essex Police and enforcement team to proactively reduce hotspots
- Continue to deliver and expand surveillance solutions to new and previously unmonitored areas affected by crime / ASB
- To upgrade all equipment including software, connectivity and cameras

### **Breakdown of FPN's issued by National Enforcement Solutions**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Number of FPN's issued</b>
Alcoholic Drinks	1
Black Bag - Domestic	10
Black Bag - Other	5
Bottle	1
Bottle Top	1
Business DOC FPN	83
Business DOC Notice	140
Cardboard Box	11
Chewing Gum	2
Cigar	3
Cigarette Butt	1176
Coffee Cup	2
Commercial Waste FPN	2
Discarded Food	11
Dog Fouling	3
Fast Food Related	1
Fly Tipping Business	12
Fly Tipping Domestic	83
Household Duty of Care	14
Littering from Vehicles	22
Non-Alcoholic Drinks Related	1
Other Litter	25
Packaging	12
Printed Literature	24
Public Urination	84
Rolled up cigarette	202
Soft Drink Can	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1932</b>

**Community Safety Key Performance Indicator's 2022/23**

Month (for year 2022/23)	Joint Out of Hours Patrols	FPN's (Litter and Fly Tipping-NES)	PCN's (Parking -issued by or with Community Safety)	Incidents captured by CCTV	CPW/ CPN's/ Injunctions	AS B Cases	AS B Home Visits	Closure Orders/ Notice Seeking Possession (for ASB)	Community Engagement Days
April	12	123	69	30	1	13	13	0	4
May	8	129	98	35	0	12	22	0	5
June	11	131	48	21	1	14	8	1	4
July	9	151	74	21	3	15	28	2	7
August	4	111	49	41	2	18	9	1	3
Sept	7	120	93	30	1	8	10	0	4
Oct	6	48	41	32	1	6	15	0	6
Nov	13	74	85	39	1	12	13	0	7
December	6	108	37	33	2	9	8	0	1
January	7	261	56	28	0	5	13	1	3
February	9	275	130	30	0	7	9	0	4
March	9	147	53	36	0	8	10	0	6
April	7	83	TBC	37	1	10	7	0	6

May	6	171	TBC	31	2	9	21	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>1932</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b> <b>6</b>	<b>18</b> <b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>65</b>