

Your Newsletter: Billericay



What's happening with crime? The below shows the changes in some of the key crime rates in the Billericay area over the last 12 months:

Burglary (Residential) is down 31%

Vehicle Crime is down 36%

Bicycle Theft is down 50%

Violent Crime (Resulting in injury) is down 18%



We are aware that the various lockdowns and an increase in people working from home has had a significant impact on reducing most crime rates. As things begin to return to normal we will ensure we do all we can to tackle the crimes that affect your community.

Tackling Illegal Drug Activity – the activities surrounding illegal drug use negatively impact our community for many reasons. With drug misuse comes violence and anti-social behaviour, we also often see vulnerable people being exploited by drug dealers. **We know this is an issue our community wants us to focus on.**

Over the last year we have put more officers into our local drug enforcement teams and have asked all of our local officers to be proactive in tackling this issue. We have seen some very pleasing results: 167% increase in stop and search and a 79% increase in people caught with drugs. This has meant that we have not seen increases in community violence, like in other locations across the country.



We will continue to work hard to keep you safe. This is a community issue and we need the support of the community to tackle the problem. We need you to give us information about the problems in your area via [essex.police.uk](https://www.essex.police.uk) or if you wish to remain anonymous at [crimestoppers-uk.org](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org).

Some of you will know someone caught up in this world, some 'recreational drug users' do not see the direct link to the harm that drug dealing causes, we regularly have to pick up the pieces when matters escalate and we want to avoid that for those in our community ([talktofrank.com](https://www.talktofrank.com) provides support and advice on drugs and alcohol).



More visible - the work of the police has been changing over recent years. We spend lots more time dealing with 'hidden crimes' that occur behind closed doors such as domestic abuse and child abuse. The effect such crimes have on their victims is significant and therefore we must spend an increasing amount of time tackling these issues; however, doing so may be out of sight to those who are not directly effected.

That being said, we are aware how important seeing us in the community is to you, so **we have put in extra effort to conduct foot patrols across all areas**. Our community policing team now devote dedicated extra time to being visible in local areas and the officers who respond to emergency incidents try their hardest to fit in extra patrols, even if it is just 15 minutes in between calls. We know this is very important to you and we will continue to work hard to be visible in your local area. When you see us, please talk to us about the issues affecting your area.

Generous Christmas Giving

I am Pc Georgie French and I oversaw the local Christmas Tree Giving Project, I owe a **"BIG"** thank you to everyone who donated a gift to the project. I was humbled by the amount of support that the community provided and It was an honour to be part of such a wonderful event, the response from the community was over whelming "we asked and you provided" it was awesome. We collected over 2 thousand gifts which were hand delivered to the most vulnerable children in our community who had been identified through schools, Social Care, Local Charities and of course you our community. I also want to thank all the people who volunteered their spare time and took part wrapping the gifts which was around the clock and into the wee small hours to reach the deadline, a job well done.

NHS
COVID-19 VACCINE FACT CHECK

- The COVID-19 vaccine will always be available free of charge.
- The NHS will never ask you to share bank details to confirm your identity.

BE AWARE – Fraud Scam

VACCINATION SCAMS!

There is a new fraudulent vaccination email being circulated. This looks very convincing and could easily be mistaken for a genuine NHS email.

Do not click the link as it takes the recipient to a malicious website that steals your personal details. These details are then used by the criminals to access other personal accounts.

Remember:

- **Never** click on any links in unsolicited emails
- **Check** the email address is genuine by hovering over it or clicking and holding
- **The Vaccine is FREE and the NHS will never ask you for bank or payment details**

A new way to Report Crime by using **"Live Chat"** go to Essex Police Website bottom left of the page you will see a logo click on it and you will be able to speak to a member of the Force Control Room between the hours of 7am and 11pm .

<https://www.essex.police.uk/>

