

Essex Business Crime Strategic Board

MINUTES Friday 10th December 2021, 10.00am – 12.00pm Teams Meeting

Attendees

B-J Harrington – Chief Constable, Essex Police
Shaun Kane – Superintendent, Essex Police
CI Terry Balding – Essex Police
Darren Horsman – Strategic Head of Policy and Public Engagement, Essex PFCC
Denise Rossiter – CEO, Essex Chambers of Commerce
Darren Hyde, Managing Director, VIP Security
John Moran – Minerva Fire & Security
Paul Saward – Group Crime Response Manager, Sainsburys
Stephen Cook – Head of Human Resources, Wilkin & Sons
Samantha Johnson – Head of Security Compliance, London Stansted Airport

In attendance:

Lucy Childs – Events Coordinator, Essex Chambers of Commerce
Terry Jacobs – Business Crime Sergeant, Essex Police
Prunella Kingham – Campaigns, Events & Partnership Manager, Essex Police
Christian Kemp - Lecturer in Cybercrime, Criminology and Policing, Anglia Ruskin University
Lucy Whittaker – Founding Director & Lead Trainer, Alpha Vesta

1. Welcome & Apologies

Roger Hirst - Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex
Jade Uko – Development Manager, FSB
Iain Palmer – Head of Revenue Protection & Security, Trenitalia c2c
Jane Gardner – Dep. Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex
Sonia Peirson – Estates Manager, DP World London Gateway
Perry Woolner – I&C Team Manager, Wave
Lee Hammond – Head of Security, East of England Co-op
Jenny Brouard – Citizens in Policing Commander, Essex Police
Robin Punt – Head of Communications, Essex Police
James Coomber – Regional Risk & Compliance Manager – McColl's Retail Group

- 2. Minutes of Last Meeting:** Minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2021 were circulated in advance, reviewed and approved. These will also be available to view on the Essex Chambers' website.

Matters arising – none

3. Business Crime Team – 2021 Review and Plans for the Future

- Presentation from TB outlining the Business Crime Key Findings for December 2021, including daily and monthly offending rates and a breakdown of offences on certain types of organisations.
- Offences, although increasing are still lower than pre-covid figures.
- BCT will start to capture data and figures on Cyber Crime against business.
- Presentation from SK on a round up of 2021 for the Business Crime Team. Outlining the team's core priorities for 2021, what the team achieved and developed in the year, and what the proposed priorities and their plans and aspirations are for 2022.
- BCT will be promoting the Police Cyber Alarm system to businesses.

- Support district representation and develop communication and report on a local level to better understand the needs of businesses of all sizes.
- Work with businesses to help spot the signs on Domestic Abuse.
- The BCT will continue work on their business directory which will contribute to a quarterly business forum.
- SK outlined the achievements of the BCT including building a network of 8,700 subscribers to their business newsletter and the success of 'Open for Business. Closed for Crime' campaign.
- Launched a dedicated BCT public facing webpage.
- PC Glen Foote join the BCT.
- SK outlined the 5 new proposed priorities for 2022, including; growth in communication, establish and develop local partnerships, reduce violence and anti-social behaviour against employees, support delivery of national cybercrime strategy and support businesses with vulnerability in the workplace.
- DHo asked SK what the Board can do to help the BCT in their aims for 2022? SK requested a reset of communication and to channel this through their quarterly forums.
- PS asked if Essex Police had an established Designing Out Crime Team? SK is focused on developing relationships with local police forces and then referring concerns back to the BCT and DoCT. TB oversees a DoC officer and suggested that they attend the next Board meeting.
- BH echoed the proposed aims of the BCT and stressed the importance of joint partnership prevention strategy. Asked the businesses on the Board what their thoughts are on the proposal.
- DHy, Wickford based but rarely sees police officers in the area and does not know their local point of contact. TB assured DHy that a visit will be arranged by the team.
- DR read out an email testimonial from LH where he expressed his thanks for the great work the BCT do.
- DR offered a dedicated page on the Essex Chambers website to advertise the BCT's forums.

4. Employee Supported Policing Update

- In the absence of JB, SK gave an update to the Board on Employee Supported Policing.
- A measurement system will be introduced to monitor the impact of Employee Supported Policing with performance indicators to understand how this resource can be effectively used by the Police.
- SK will be able to provide the Board with tangible evidence at the next meeting.

5. Strategic Cyber Crime Board Update

- Christian Kemp updated the Board on changes made on the Strategic Cyber Crime Board.
- DR will be stepping down as Chair of the Strategic Cyber Crime Board, CK will replace and David Gibb, Cyber Protect Officer for Essex, will step in as Vice Chair.
- The Strategic Cyber Crime Board to meet in January to develop a plan for 2022, including how to better engage with businesses through a series of workshops and events.
- CK will feedback to the Board with updates on the Strategic Cyber Crime Board going forward.
- DHo highlighted the work achieved by the Strategic Cyber Crime Board in its first year, including the successful Cyber Security Virtual Conference.

6. Presentation from Lucy Whittaker, Alpha Vesta

- LW, invited by DH, to give a presentation to the Board on the work Alpha Vesta does on Embedding Culture and Building Understanding around Domestic Abuse in the Workplace.
- LW is the Founding Director and Lead Trainer of Alpha Vesta, a community interest company.

- LW has a background working in crisis situations and stressed the importance of pre-emptive measures to prevent things getting to that point. Developing a more understanding culture in the workplace can be a way to do this. Often measures are introduced too late.
- Domestic Abuse accounts for 22% of recorded crime across Essex, with 1 in 5 adults affected by it in their lifetime.
- Home Office 2019 report found that Domestic Abuse had a national cost of around £66 billion per year. £14 billion is a direct cost to the economy.
- Workplaces are already impacted by Domestic Abuse but are not aware of this for a variety of reasons like absences and low productivity. Important to replicate the safe spaces of education for over 18s in the workplace.
- Utilising training, mandatory procedures and processes in the workplace can help to break the cycle of Domestic Abuse.
- LW happy to share an employer pack with the Board.
- DR will have a separate meeting with LW to discuss working with Alpha Vesta.
- DHy requested additional training for his company and would like to link up with LW.
- BH welcomes the use of business as a conduit to better protect their employees but also the impact that will have on the community as a whole.
- DHo sees the integration of raising awareness of Domestic Abuse in the business community as stepping beyond what has traditionally been seen as an issue for business. Essex is ahead of other counties on this matter.

7. Festival of Business

- DR updated the Board on the Festival of Business and the involvement of the BCT at the event.
- The Festival, taking place at Hylands House on Wednesday 27th April, aims to bring the Essex business community together and promote the diversity, inclusion and talent within Essex.
- The BCT, Police Dog unit, Police Cadets will all be present on the day representing Essex Police.

8. AOB

9. Date and location of next meeting: Friday 25th March 2022, via Teams.

Signed



Date 25.03.2022