

December 2023

STOLEN SUCCESSES

RET have recovered nearly £400,000 worth of stolen vehicles and plant in December.

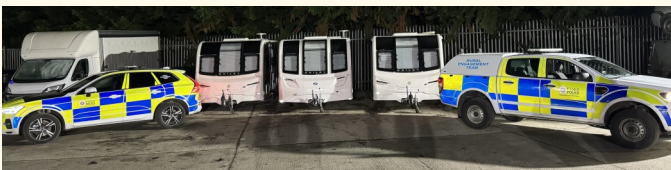
The team searched the county and acted on intelligence to recover the stolen items.

In Southend a £90,000 telehandler stolen in Essex in 2021 was found.



In Rochford £200,00 of stolen plant was found in one location and one male was arrested.

In Brentwood three stolen caravans worth £70,000 were found using our drone.

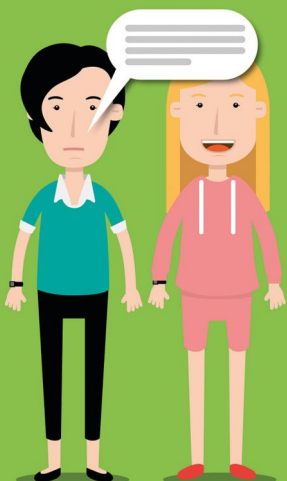


Following a burglary, a John Deer ride on mower worth £25,000 was recovered after it was hidden in bushes on Canvey Island.

Over the past 5 years, theft of agricultural and construction equipment in Essex has dropped 75%.

The team recovered 60 stolen vehicles and items of plant in 2023.

We encourage the marking of items by engraving, painting or using a commercially available chemical marking product.



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**

DECEMBER ENGAGEMENT

The team have been busy visiting various groups during December, spreading our rural crime message.

The team visited Lawford C of E Primary school in Tendring, delivering a talk on the role of a police officer and rural road safety.



We visited the Christmas Charity Tractor Run at R W Crawfords in Chelmsford where we met the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Community Officer with their tractor.



The team were kept busy visiting Essex 'Warm Places' hubs across the county. The hubs have been set up to provide warmth, social contact

and help over the festive season. A full list can be found on the Essex Council Community 360 website.

A presentation on RET's role was given to Stow Maries Parish Council.



We also visited rural groups out in the countryside, including a well organised and run shoot in Maldon.

We discussed safe shooting and handed out leaflets about shooting and conservation.

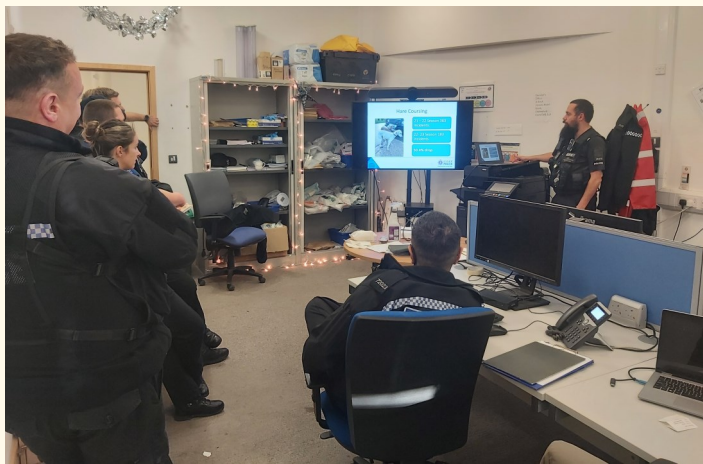


UPSKILL TRAINING

The team have continued to deliver upskill training to Community Policing Teams across Essex.

Training on wildlife crime, agricultural theft and hunting have been delivered to the Brentwood and Braintree teams.

Raising awareness of the types of crime that are unique to rural settings and equipping local officers with the knowledge to tackle them is part of RET's aim.



Sgt Felton also visited Essex Police Training College to speak to week 11 trainee officers about rural crime. After a presentation on RET's role the class had many very interesting questions.

RET RESCUE SEAL

The team were on foot patrol on Frinton sea front when they were alerted to a seal pup in distress on the beach.

The three week old seal had become separated from its mother and had washed ashore on the busy Frinton beach where it was vulnerable to attack by dogs.

The seal pup was still reliant on milk from its mother and didn't yet have the ability to swim properly.



The team called out British Divers Marine Life Rescue. The seal was safely captured and taken to the Essex Wildlife Hospital for checks.

DRINK DRIVE FOCUS

RET lead the force on rural road safety.

Throughout the year we carry out speeding checks and engage with schools and community groups.

The team descended on Wivenhoe in December for an evening of action, focused on drink driving.

40 vehicles were stopped and 13 breath tests carried out. Fortunately none were over the legal limit.

1 vehicle was seized for having no insurance and another driver was issued a ticket for having no MOT.



HARE COURSING OPERATION

RET joined forces with Braintree Community Policing Team to target hare coursers and deter offences.



After receiving training and knowledge from RET on how to deal with hare coursers and the signs of hunting with dogs, the team crewed up with local officers to go on patrol.

The operation was a success as no hare coursing incidents were reported.

High visibility patrols in rural area's, coupled with intelligence has helped us reduce hare coursing dramatically in the past 5 years.

HARE COURSERS TACKLED

RET have continued to target hare coursers across the county.

In Uttlesford, 2 suspected coursers were stopped by the team and issued with Community Protection Warnings.

So far this season 22 suspected coursers have been caught by the team.



The team have seized two vehicles in December used by coursers to travel in Essex.

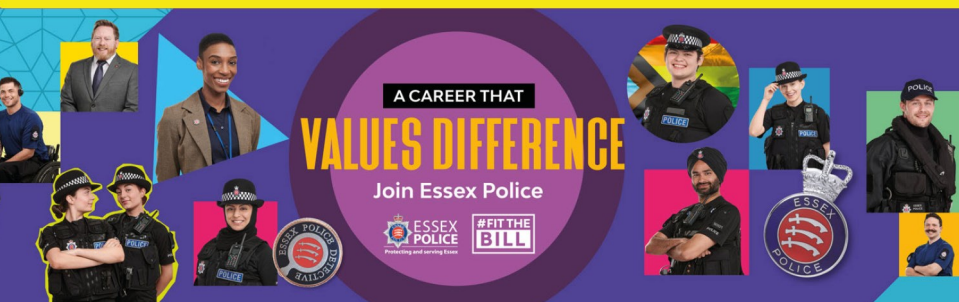


Digital 101

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**