**Policing Update/ECNWH**

**CIP Team**

**8th September 2020**

**ECM update**

No further update on ECM from previous reports- remains no longer being used and nothing yet agreed about what will be its replacement.

**Policing Update**

A lot of the way we work has changed since the pandemic and lock down in March 2020 with many of the police staff where possible working from home or remotely. Our IT has done a great job in facilitating this and the use of Teams and other web chat seems to be the new way of working. At the start of the lock down and pandemic Essex set up a dedicated Team who continue looking at all aspects of the pandemic on policing. They are now also looking at how we return to work mixed with working from home so that staff feel safe when they return. Within our own LPSU Teams, the Police officers within the Rural Engagement Team have continued working supporting Essex throughout patrolling. The rest of us have worked remotely with us now returning to the office one or two days where we can while we review our recovery plans.

**Volunteers**

During the Covid period many of our volunteers have been keeping in contact but have not been able to assist with volunteering, particularly those who have been shielding or have had to change things around to accommodate children who were at home or helping other family members. We did manage to secure 10 ex police volunteers (mainly retired police officer and staff) who had policing experience and were trained to cover police station offices had existing paid staff been able to work due to self- isolating. We were lucky in that we didn’t need to use them but they have been able to help out in areas such as delivering PPE and with Witness care now the courts are trying to recover from closed courts and rescheduled trials.

We have had an increasing interest in volunteers over the last few weeks and are looking at those and our current volunteers as part of our recovery plan – seeking at home we can ensure the return is safe and Covid-secure.

**CIP Team**

Over the last few months we, the CIP have been undergoing a restructure to bring us in line with most other forces. This means that the CIP Team like many forces will also include the Special Constabulary. The Special command will be amalgamating with CIP and this should be completed by early November with Jenny Brouard being the CIP Commander and a new CiP manager will be appointed below her. There are other changes around volunteers and CSAS staff roles which mean that some staff and roles are to be changed about. This will not affect NHW who will still be supported by the Essex Watch officers as they always have. We will be better placed to update on the changes and who will be doing what at the next meeting and of course will update Clive regularly as things change. On a positive note, while spending some time clearing out and updating things for our new joining with Specials Command I did come across 29 more NHW HV Tabards which I have posted to Clive for use by NHW.

**Cadets**

Cadet numbers remain around 380 and popularity still remain high although all cadet activity across the country has been on hold until September. We unfortunately, due to the pandemic, had to cancel summer camp and the Cadet parade this year however it gives us some space to make the events extra special in 2021. Most of the cadet units traditionally have a break over the summer holidays so we hope that we schools returning we can get the units returning and reassess our cadet numbers and recruit some new ones where we can. We have taken the opportunity to get the administration up to date and so we hope to be in a good position with supporting the units when they return.

**CSAS**

There has been a drop in some of the numbers for CSAS. Some private organisations who have relied on events for their income have been affected by the pandemic with the cancellation of events. This has meant that we have had a few CSAS organisation leave, in the hope that when things start to return to normality they will return in the future. We currently have 44 organisations and 480 accredited persons. Over the period of COVID as many or our organisations are public (local authorities) the Local policing teams have been working closely with them to support the communities which is great to see. We will be looking at supporting our CSAS organisation more as part of our restructure in CIP.

Jeff Appleby