



June 2021 Patrols

An extension to the social distancing rules required us to continue supporting the guidelines in the public houses and bars in town, especially with the EURO21 Football competition. In addition, we had reports of anti-social behaviour across the town and housing estates and therefore wanted to provide more visible policing in these areas.

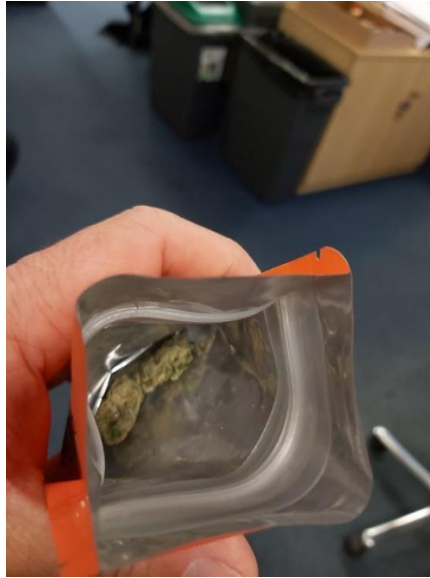
June 3rd

A small socially distanced celebration was organised by the Witham Town Council to mark the three-year anniversary of the Community Special Constable scheme and we were joined by Councillors, the Deputy Town Clerk, and the Mayor as well as Acting Chief Inspector Cox, Inspector Jenna Mirrington-French and Special Constabulary Coordinator Les Hawkins. If you would like to join our team and support your community in this specialist role then please follow the link below for more information.

<https://www.essex.police.uk/police-forces/essex-police/areas/essex-police/ca/careers/special-constabulary>



Even during the brief celebration, we attended a nearby concern for safety following reports that teenagers had climbed on to the roof of the Library building. Fortunately, they were safely down and had disappeared upon our arrival. We then continued with foot patrol before Inspector Campbell departed and Acting Sergeant Mabey & Myself met up with PC Wilshire to continue our patrols on the estates. During our visit to Humber Road we noticed a vehicle acting suspiciously & with PC Wilshire recognising the driver we headed back in to the estate to try and stop the car. We found the car parked up in the estate, however, the driver had fled the scene, leaving his female passenger abandoned on the pavement and the engine still running. A search of the vehicle confirmed a strong smell of cannabis and further evidence of this was found in a packet which was seized for destruction. We carried out an area search for the driver but there was no further trace, enquiries are ongoing.



In the evening Sergeant Mabey & Myself were first on scene due to our local knowledge for a male who had self-harmed and needed immediate medical attention. We were able to stabilise the person until the paramedics arrived and he was taken to hospital.



June 18th

With England's EURO21 football campaign kicking off earlier in the week, we were able to support a planned increase in visible policing around the local pubs and bars that were showing the game between England & Scotland. The social distancing was well managed by the various establishments, but we provided some reassurance to people arriving and leaving the game and we were on hand to deter anti-social behaviour. We had four officers out on patrol including myself and SC Eaketts who is joining the Witham CSC team. I am pleased to report that there were no concerns over the duration of our shift.



June 20th

Out on patrol today to provide increased visibility, especially, in areas that had seen recent reports of anti-social behaviour. I met with residents to discuss their concerns and noted these for additional future patrol plans. I also carried out foot patrols along the River Walk, providing warnings for the illegal operation of E-scooters before attending a concern for welfare for a young man in Newlands Precinct. After returning him safely home I attended a road traffic collision (RTC) at Powers Hall End where fortunately both parties involved were shaken but otherwise unharmed. I then continued my mobile patrol around Allectus Way where I found a suspicious vehicle parked out of place and enquiries are ongoing.





June 22nd

It was another England EURO21 game and this was shown in a number of the pubs and bars in town. I started my checks at The Cherry Tree then on to The White Horse, The Woolpack and The Railway before heading in to the town to The George, The Red Lion, The White Hart and The Swan. I also called in to Battersford Court where people were likely to visit following the game. There was a considerable reduction in the number of people out watching the game and therefore the social distancing was well controlled by the venues and people seemed to be in good spirits. I was on patrol with two other officers, PC Davies from the Witham Town Team and another Special Constable who were carrying out mobile patrols between the different venues while I was out on foot patrol. From the town centre I followed the River Walk from Mill Lane up to Chipping Hill where I headed up Church Street to cross over the railway bridge and back on to Cressing Road. We were able to complete our patrols with no reported incidents.





June 24th

An active patrol with planned speed checks in three areas previously identified on social media and online reports to the Community Policing Team. <https://www.essex.police.uk/ro/report>

I was also able to combine this with attending the various locations identified around the town for anti-social behaviour and pleased to report no issues observed. My first speed check was on Maldon Road and this time I changed location to monitor the speed of traffic leaving the town centre towards Maldon. With my position at the junction of Blackman Way I was clearly visible and positioned for clear sight of the pedestrian crossing. At this location I stopped several drivers for excess speed with 1 ticket issued for 39mph and others for verbal warnings. In general, however, the speeds were close to the posted 30mph limit which was very encouraging. I then moved up to Collingwood Road where there have been reports of vehicles driving at excessive speeds. Traffic was very light, but I did stop one vehicle for speeding at 40mph! Further checks will be carried out in this area at different times to build a speed profile picture. After conducting some further patrols around Cypress Road, I then headed over to Allectus Way where I had received concerns of cars speeding on the estate. This is particularly dangerous due to the number of young children on the estate who were play nearby. Due to the number of parked cars it is challenging to find a suitable and safe location to stop vehicles in the areas identified, so I was relying on my highly visible appearance to encourage drivers to slow down. Unfortunately, while I was talking with a member of public and their young son a vehicle came around the corner at speed and then failed to stop. Due to the nature of the driving I then carried out an area search on the estate until I located the car. The vehicle was unattended and because the driver details could not be established at the scene the vehicle was seized and this was recovered a short while after. While waiting for the vehicle recovery I also had a positive stop and search for possession of cannabis and although this may appear to be a small quantity it will now assist us in reinforcing actions for this individual.



June 26th

I was once again crewed with PC Wilshire and we began our shift with enquiries relating to the previously seized vehicle. After establishing the driver details, we then proceeded in to the town centre where we carried out foot patrols through Newlands Precinct then down Newland Street, through Kings Chase to the Witham Town Park and onto the Grove. From here we headed up in to The Grove Centre where we had lots of positive engagement and dealt positively with an E-scooter. After returning to our vehicle and heading out towards Faulkbourne we received a call for immediate assistance near to Humber Road for an elderly person who appeared lost and confused. Fortunately, a local resident had made the person comfortable and we were able to attend a few minutes later. The elderly lady was very confused, but we were able to determine enough information that enabled us to firstly take them to a nearby relative, where we discussed safeguarding needs and then we returned the lady home, settling them in and PC Wilshire made a perfect cup of tea. Following this incident, we headed back out towards Faulkbourne and finished our shift in Witham.



27th June

On my way in to Witham for my patrol I stopped to assist due to road safety concerns near to Cressing Temple. I was able to request Highways England to help in the relocation of the road closure signs to prevent accidents following some very close encounters. Once this had been resolved I then began with a patrol around Conrad Road and on to Rickstones Road before heading on to Cypress Road. After checking for signs of anti-social behaviour I then drove in to town to conduct foot patrols where I had some good engagement with residents. I walked down Newland Street before passing through Kings Chase in to the Witham Town Park and across in to The Grove Centre before returning to my vehicle to assist PCSO Beverley with a concern for safety at the bridge over the A12. Fortunately, when I arrived PCSO Beverley was with the person and after offering support, we left to continue our patrols. I headed in to the Hatfield Road estate and drove around Allectus Way. Due to my location I was asked by the Force Control Room to attend an incident that had only recently occurred, and I was able to offer support to the family involved as well as an increased visible presence on the estate to provide reassurance. Later in the afternoon I moved up to Rickstones Road where I carried out speed checks for 100 passing vehicles. I had to issue 4 tickets for speeding as well as multiple stops for words of advice. There were also a couple of drivers that I was unable to stop for safety reasons but again were in excess of the 30mph limit. It was a disappointing result and will prompt further speed checks in the future. Nearly all the drivers stopped were very local to the area – this is your community so please slow down!



Speed Check Investigation

Vehicle	Time	Speed	Notes
1	10.15	35	Advised
2	10.20	30	Advised
3	10.25	32	Advised
4	10.30	38	Ticket
5	10.35	31	Advised
6	10.40	34	Advised
7	10.45	36	Advised
8	10.50	33	Advised
9	10.55	37	Ticket
10	11.00	30	Advised
11	11.05	32	Advised
12	11.10	35	Advised
13	11.15	31	Advised
14	11.20	34	Advised
15	11.25	36	Advised
16	11.30	33	Advised
17	11.35	37	Ticket
18	11.40	30	Advised
19	11.45	32	Advised
20	11.50	35	Advised
21	11.55	31	Advised
22	12.00	34	Advised
23	12.05	36	Advised
24	12.10	33	Advised
25	12.15	37	Ticket
26	12.20	30	Advised
27	12.25	32	Advised
28	12.30	35	Advised
29	12.35	31	Advised
30	12.40	34	Advised





30th June

Another England Euro21 football game and therefore an opportunity to provide visibility in the town and visit each of the local establishments hosting the game. I began with The Cherry Tree, where a good crowd had already found their seats ready for the game before I headed across the railway bridge and on to Church Street. I stopped by the Woolpack but had to leave after it was suggested that as the last person in, I had to buy a round! Luckily, from here I walked down to The White Horse where I met with the landlord who informed me that they were fully booked and waiting for kick-off. I then headed over to The Railway where the football supporters were gathered around the screen and all in order. In each location I was welcomed and thanked for visiting which has been noticeable over the past month. A slightly longer walk in to town, saw me check on Sir Charlie Lockram's Bar which was closed and then Crofters which was also shut for the night. I was with PC Davies & Special Constable Eaketts and they were also out on foot patrol before the game checking in at The White Hart, The Red Lion & The George. With the kick-off I then continued my foot patrol around the town checking on the Newlands Precinct, Newland Street and The Grove where some businesses were still open, but it was eerily quiet! At half time we headed as a team up to Spa Road and checked on a location identified for potential drug supply. We headed back in to town for the second half of the England game and this is when we witnessed some great celebrations as England scored twice. I was outside The George for the first goal and outside The Swan for the second and the atmosphere was fantastic. The game finished and we maintained a good visibility in town before heading out to the other pubs where the celebrations continued but without incident. On our route to Cressing Road we located a vehicle that had been involved in an incident over the previous weekend and managed to stop this on Maldon Road. After obtaining details in relation to the vehicle and driver we continued our patrols, moving up towards Cypress Road, checking for anti-social behaviour. To finish our shift, we attended a concern for safety following reports of a person walking along Faulkbourne Road.



This concludes the monthly report for June 2021.