

November 2023

## FAST WORK BY RET

RET work with rural teams across the country. We were contacted by the Sussex Rural Task Force following a burglary at a stables in their area.

A number of unique and valuable western style saddles and tack had been stolen. Following

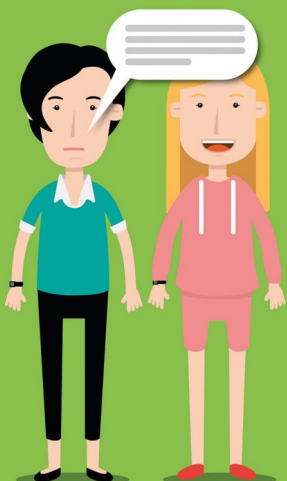


enquiries, the items were found being advertised for sale in Southend.

Sussex Police contacted us for urgent help.

RET officers attended the address and swiftly recovered all the stolen property. One male has been arrested and enquiries are ongoing.

Sussex officers came to Essex the same day and collected the items before returning them to their relieved owner within hours of asking for our help.



**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](https://essex.police.uk)

**IN AN EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS CALL 999**

## FOCUS ON ENGAGEMENT

The team work across Essex to reach out to rural communities and businesses.

During November we attended several farming focused meetings.

A meeting was arranged with the NFU in Tendring so we could update local farmers on rural crime trends and offer crime prevention advice.



Issues such as GPS theft and equipment theft, hare coursing and trespassing were discussed.



We were also delighted to attend our third Farm Watch meeting in Maldon. This well

attended and run group meet regularly and receive updates from RET on crime across Essex and in their area.



The group includes the local council enforcement officer and NFU. Between us we are able to respond to local concerns and crime.

The team is also working hard to upskill local police officers and ensure they have specialist knowledge of rural crimes.

Learning packages covering hare coursing, hunting and agricultural theft have been sent out to the whole force.

### Theft from Agricultural Machinery

The following slides contain photographs of easy to steal items from tractors and other farm vehicles.

These items run from hundreds to thousand so pounds and are quick and easy to steal.

If officers stop anyone transporting such items, consider they may be stolen.



## BRENTWOOD FOCUS

Brentwood Community Policing Team asked RET for help tackling fly tipping and dumping of stolen cars in the Navestock area.

The team have carried out high visibility checks on hotspot country lanes where rubbish has been dumped.

We also went on patrol with the Brentwood Council Enforcement Officer, using our powers to stop vehicles and his to deal with any waste disposal issues.



The drone was used in the Brentwood area to deter crime and search for offenders.

## DRONE DEPLOYED

The new RET drone has been deployed operationally throughout November.

The thermal imaging capability was used in Epping Forest to target poachers operating at night.



The drone was also used to search for hare coursers and carry out intelligence gathering flights for future operations.



## WATER BAILIFF TRAINING

PC Jed Raven, our specialist Wildlife and Heritage crime officer delivered training to new volunteer water bailiffs.

Working with the Environment Agency and the Angling Trust, PC Raven explained his role and covered various offences and signs of wildlife crime.

PC Raven has a very close working relationship with other agencies and is frequently asked to help train new staff and educate teams about wildlife crime.



## STORM CIARAN

The team were kept busy dealing with the effects of Storm Ciaran this month.

Using our 4x4's, we responded to multiple calls to tree's down across roads and cars stuck in flood water.

In Good Easter, an elderly driver drove into 3ft of water in a well signposted and flooded ford. Fortunately the team were able to quickly locate her and use our winch to pull her car from the water.



We also rescued a trapped driver in Hanningfield.

In Tendring the team used local farming contacts to remove a large tree from a major road, keeping the roads moving.

## JOINT ANIMAL TRAINING

Another member of the team has attended the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service large animal rescue course.

This course, gives students practical animal handling experience with horses and cattle.

RET are frequently called to stray animals on the counties roads and also deal with the return of all stray horses in Essex.

The training gives officers better knowledge and skills when working with large animals.



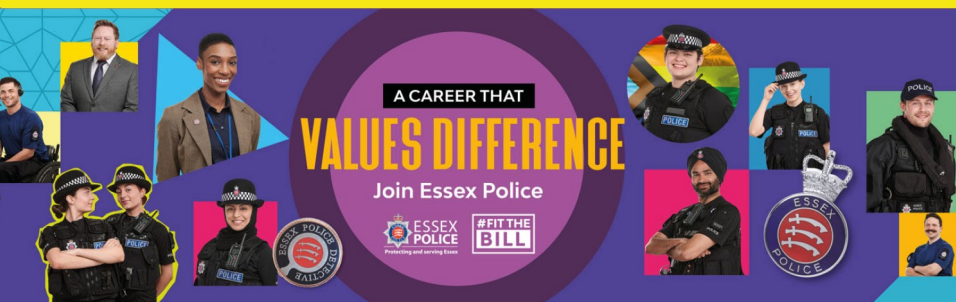
The team work closely with other agencies and share skills and knowledge where possible.



## 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**