

September 2023

SMUGGLER CAUGHT

A lorry driver who tried to smuggle £70,000 out of the UK via Harwich Port has been caught by RET officers.

RET were at the port checking for stolen agricultural equipment and plant leaving the UK.

Officers were alerted to an HGV trying to leave the port on seeing police.

The driver, Marius Raczynski, was spoken too and his vehicle searched. Inside the drivers cab a fridge was located, filled with foil packets that appeared to contain sandwiches.

On being opened the packets were found to be blocks

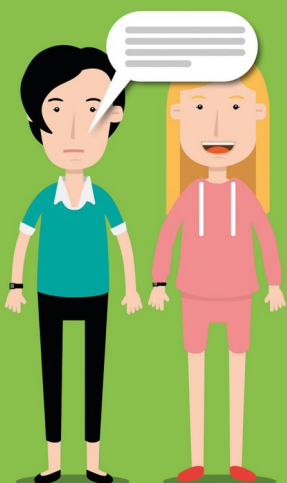


of £20 notes.

The Essex Police Proactive Money Laundering Team took over the investigation. Raczynski was sentenced to 20 weeks in prison for concealing criminal property.

Essex Police keeps £35,000 of the money to invest back into policing.

RET attend a huge variety of locations and events looking for stolen items. In the past three months we have recovered 10 stolen vehicles as well as items of plant and



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**

ANIMAL FOCUS

RET lead and advise Essex Police on wildlife and animal welfare matters.

The team has committed to attend Colchester Livestock Market every Tuesday morning. This has proved very popular with farmers across the region who have been approaching the team for advice and help.



This month we visited the Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary in Ingatestone. This charity rescue abused and injured horses and donkeys. We have been looking at ways we can help and support their work.



Our Wildlife Crime Officer, PC Raven rescued a Grey Squirrel that was being kept as a pet in a small cage in Basildon.

As an invasive species it can't be released back into the wild and we hope to be able to home it with a charity.



PC Raven also helped rescue an injured fox that had become trapped in a Basildon school. Using some food and the teachers help, the fox was safely caught and taken to a wildlife hospital from treatment.



ENCAMPMENTS

RET have been working hard managing unauthorised encampments across the county.

Traditionally the end of the travelling season, the team were kept busy with several encampments.

A large encampment in Harlow was required to move by the team due to the community and environmental impact. A second large encampment was also moved by the team the next day in Braintree.

There were 4 unauthorised encampments in Essex in September. Over the past 5 years we have reduced encampments by 75%.

RET attend all encampments and work with both the occupants and the local community to manage any impact and ensure the law is applied in a fair, even and consistent way.



DENGIE FARM WATCH

Sergeant Felton attended the Dengie Farm Watch meeting in St Lawrence, Maldon.

The members were given a full update on rural crime across Essex. Overall, all crime has fallen 7% in rural area's,

Local issues such as hare coursing and theft from farms was discussed.

We look forward to the next meeting.



ORSETT SHOW

The team attended the Orsett Show in Thurrock.

We gave out lots of great crime prevention advice.

The team have invested in new merchandise to spread RET's message. From badges and stickers, to pens and leaflets we have something for everyone.

If you want RET to attend your event, email us. -

74973@essex.police.uk



STOLEN VEHICLES

The team have been actively seeking out stolen vehicles.

Two decontamination units with £40,000 were recovered by the team in Brentwood.

At the same time we also located two stolen trailers. Meanwhile in Loughton, a stolen



Mercedes on false numberplates was spotted by our eagle eyed Special Constables.



NEW DRONE

Using money recovered from criminals, RET have invested in a new drone.

The Mavic 3T drone will be used to search for hare coursers, protect heritage sites, find missing people and a host of other tasks.

The drone is even equipped with thermal imaging so it can be flown at night.

Police officers attend a 5 day course and are highly trained to operate the drone safely and in line with CAA guidelines.

The first two officers have been trained with more to follow.

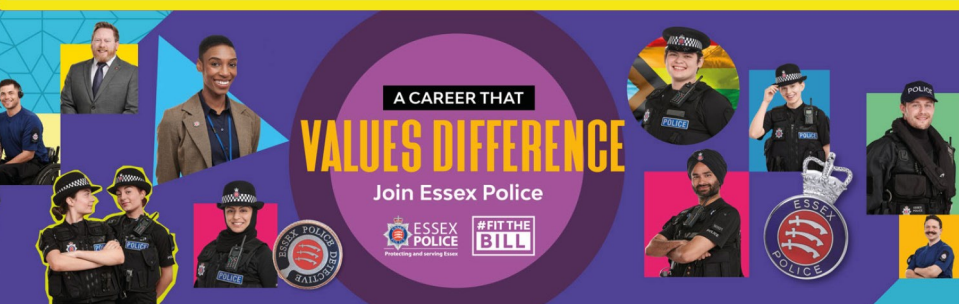


Digital 101

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**