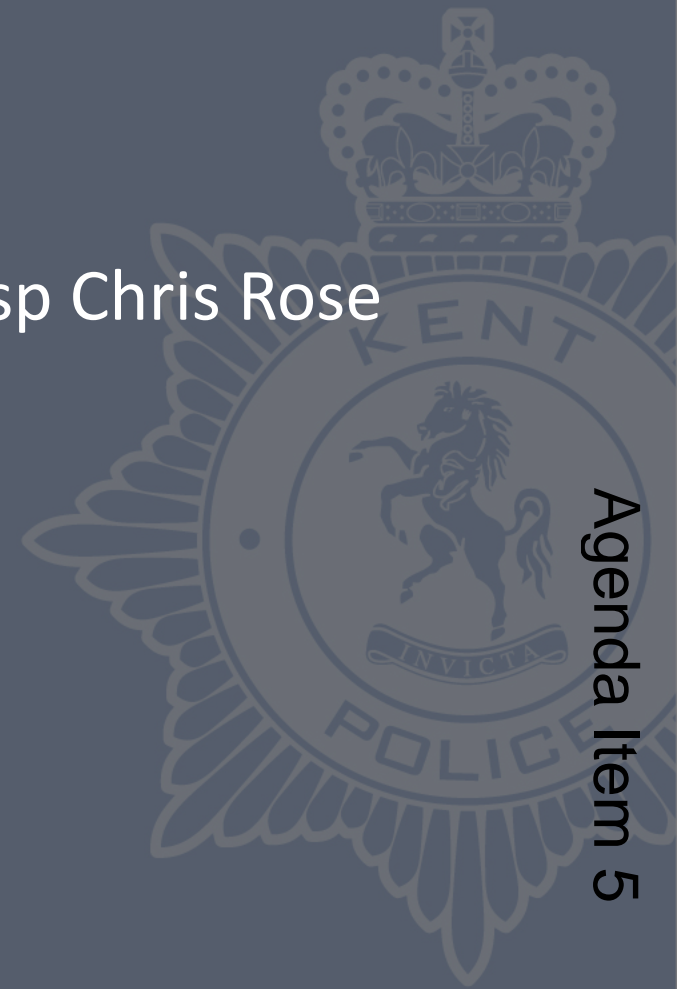


MSHT & OIC

Insp Chris Rose



What is Op Bluebird?

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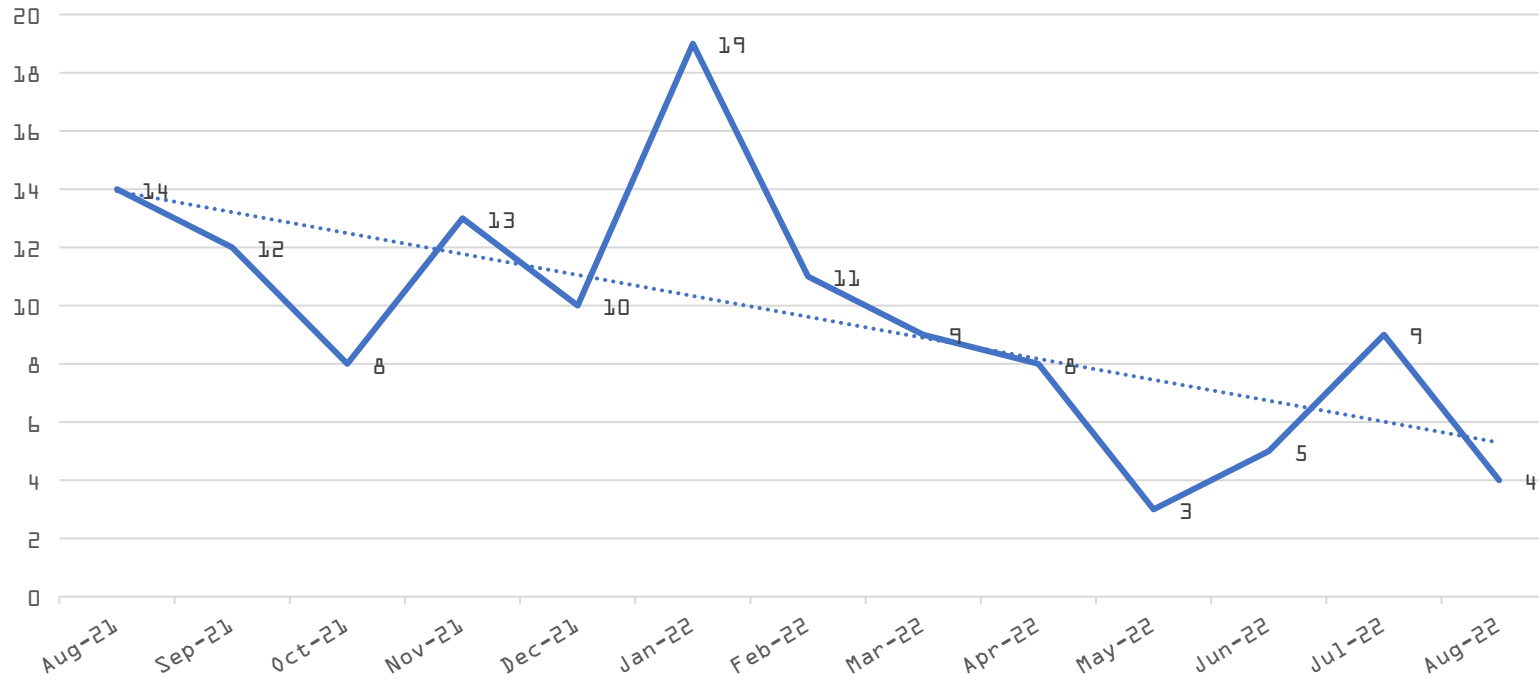


- The Essex Police Reactive Response to an Organised Immigration Crime Event
- Came into effect March 2020
- Definition 'Any person(s) found or presents to police officers who is an illegal entrant having arrived at any time clandestinely by whatever means evading immigration controls.'

Total Op Bluebird Incidents in Essex Aug 21 – Aug 22.

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Total OIC Incidents across Force



The focus of Operation Bluebird is

- To equip attending officers with the tools to effectively manage a clandestine event.
- Areas of responsibility are mapped from the initial call at control through to ongoing investigation within CID.
- This includes liaison with other departments and agencies to capture best evidence.
- Such as Scenes of crime, traffic and or commercial vehicle officers and Immigration.
- It includes the ongoing management of the undocumented entrants in a dignified and age-appropriate manner.



Section 5 (1) (a) Crime and Courts Act 2013

Director General of the NCA requests a Chief Constable to perform a task in this case in Oct 2021.

- Manage and disseminate community intelligence.
- Adopt proactive Intelligence led OIC Investigations.
- Undertake proactive Haulage operations and preventative activity.
- Improve intelligence gathering in respect routes and crossing methods.
- Effectively share information with law enforcement partners.
- Record OIC related threat and audit disruptions achieved.



Manage and disseminate community intelligence and effectively share information with law enforcement partners.

- We have a strategic intelligence requirement, actively seeking reporting.
- All relevant strands of intelligence are allocated to an intelligence officer for research and development.
- Partner agencies participate in this phase and cross reference their own systems for a more holistic product.
- Once a compelling intelligence case is made, the investigation team take over.
- A monthly meeting is held to share learning, trends and non-sensitive material between representatives of many local and regional agencies.



Adopt proactive Intelligence led OIC Investigations.

- The investigation team is the first of its type in the Country.
- The officers are vetted to a high level and are based within the Serious Crime Directorate.
- They have access to specialist covert tactics.
- The intention is to identify, disrupt and prosecute those profiting from this crime. Who are often orchestrating these offences from a far.
- They are exclusively focused on Organised Crime Groups who pose a threat via OIC. Where this threat is accompanied by other serious organised crime such as drugs, money laundering or firearms the team will adopt it too.



Undertake proactive Haulage operations, preventative activity and improve intelligence gathering in respect routes and crossing methods..

- Operation Buffalo was initiated by Sgt Harris.
- Support from a wide range of agencies was secured to target those utilising the strategic road network.
- The Clandestine Entrants Civil Penalties Team among them.
- Our key partner Justice and Care have funded a dedicated lead for OIC who has engaged with victims on behalf of law enforcement.



Record OIC related threat and audit disruptions achieved.

- Essex Police have identified strategic locations which have been scored for tactical vulnerabilities.
- Efforts to boost reporting in these areas are underway with a coordinated drive for more intelligence.
- Liaison with the owners/operators to look at a range of options to target harden have taken place.
- Identified Organised Crime Groups have been scored to quantify threat posed to the community and to audit tangible disruption to their criminal enterprises.



The legacy of Operation Melrose continues to underpin all of our efforts.



Thank You

Any Questions?



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