

## Crimestoppers Update

The last year update for Crimestoppers.

Last financial year Crimestoppers heard from over 500,000 people via phone and online, this led to over 176,000 reports being sent to national forces, a slight increase in the previous year. We received a large increase in contacts due to the Covid pandemic, where people were attempting to use us to report covid breaches. We worked with the NPCC to decide on what information we would pass, this ended up being breaches of isolation, deliberate spreading of the virus and planned covid parties (these were few and during the first few months).

We have seen a large increase into our online reporting services, to about 70% of all contacts now online, the volume of callers has remained steady over the last few years.

Essex unfortunately saw a 15% decrease in information on the previous year, and for the start of this year, it's down 9%. We have some projects due to start over the next few months, one being a large Rural Crime project in August.

We ran a few projects over the last year, some key highlights are the Organised Immigration Crime, this ran for 8 weeks national with an extra two weeks in Essex before. This led to a 50% increase in reports relating to Immigration Offences, 20% increase in reports relating to people smuggling, 203% increase in reports of MDS and 144% increase in reports on Human Trafficking.

We also worked with both Kent and Essex police to raise the awareness of MDS, we saw a 100% increase in info on brothels in Essex post the project.

**Philip Breckon | Regional Manager Eastern.**

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