## KEEP SAFE WITH ESSEX COMMUNITY MESSAGING

Essex Community Messaging (ECM) is a brand new system that will enable everyone in our county to receive and share the very latest information about crime and community safety in their local area.

Specially designed for Essex, and jointly funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and money seized from criminals under the Proceeds Of Crime Act, ECM will be available free of charge to everyone who lives or works in our county. It will be formally launched on October 1, 2014.

Everyone who registers for ECM will receive accurate and up-to-date information, crime prevention advice and notifications from Essex Police officers, Essex Watch liaison officers and other key partners, such as Neighbourhood Watch, about crime and community safety issues in their local area.

Users will be able to select the information they want to receive, including issues they may have a particular interest in such as scams, internet crime or rural crime. They will also be able to choose whether to receive this information via email, text or voice message.

Nick Alston, Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex, said:

"Essex Community Messaging will get key crime and crime prevention information out to communities faster than ever before. It will also improve the two-way flow of information about community safety between Essex Police, Neighbourhood and other Watch groups, and the people of Essex. "We need to help communities join Essex Police in the fight against crime. Whether it's through reporting suspicious behaviour or knowing simple measures to take to prevent crime, ECM will provide a crucial new channel for keeping our communities safe. I urge everyone to register now for ECM."

## Chief Supt Luke Collison, ECM project lead:

"I'm convinced that Essex Community Messaging will significantly enhance the quality of communication between Essex Police, key partners and the communities that we serve. I look forward to seeing ECM grow and develop over the coming months, as more and more people who live or work in our county sign up."

Alan Johnson, Chair of the Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association, said: "We're delighted that we now have a brand new messaging system, and look forward to improving our ability to help Essex Police reduce the level of crime across our county."

Whether it's alerting a community to a specific developing crime trend in their area, involving local people in the search for a vulnerable missing person, or encouraging the reporting of suspicious behaviour, ECM will transform the

speed and effectiveness of communication across Essex.

You can register for Essex Community Messaging here: http://www.essex.police.uk/contact\_us/essex\_community\_messaging.aspx