

Listening to You First – Survey Results



I launched my 'Listening to you First' survey in December 2012. I would like to thank all of those who took the time to complete the survey.

The survey was publicised widely across West Yorkshire, 2,176 responses were received and key findings are listed below. These findings have informed the Police and Crime Plan that sets out my vision for policing and crime prevention in our communities over the next five years.

What matters to you, your concerns and priorities are reflected and I would encourage you to read the plan. I welcome your ideas and feedback.



Mark Burns-Williamson OBE
West Yorkshire's Police & Crime Commissioner

Q1 Can you tell me how safe and protected you feel where you live?

- On the whole the majority (74.1%) of respondents felt safe
- Those from **Kirklees** were more likely to say they felt safe than those from **Wakefield**
- More respondents describing themselves as **bisexual** said they felt unsafe compared to **gay/lesbian** respondents
- **BME** respondents were less likely to say they felt safe and more likely to say they felt unsafe compared to **white** respondents
- More respondents **under the age of 34** reported feeling unsafe than **older** respondents

✓ **It is clear feelings of safety vary and within the Police and Crime Plan I set out my commitment to find the best way to establish whether those people I have been elected to represent feel safe.**

Q2 What do you think the police, local charities and other organisations could do to make you feel safer?

- The top response to this question was **bobbies on the beat** (53.3%) followed by **tackle crime and ASB** (10.7%) and **nothing** (8.9%)
- Respondents from **Bradford** were more likely to say nothing would make them feel safer than those from **Wakefield**
- More **gay/lesbian** than **heterosexual** respondents and more **BME** than **white** respondents said police response would make them feel safer

✓ **In my plan I make a commitment to protecting frontline and neighbourhood policing, and preventing and tackling crime and ASB are key priorities.**

Q3 Have you ever been a victim of crime?

- The **majority of respondents** (71.1%) indicated they had been a **victim of crime**
- More respondents with a **disability** than those **without** reported having been a victim
- Fewer respondents **aged 34 and under** said they had been a victim of crime than those **older**

✓ **A priority within my Plan is that the quality of support provided to victims will improve and I will listen to the concerns of victims and witnesses. I have made five promises to victims and witnesses and these are included within my plan.**

Q4 In your view, what can be done to tackle anti social behaviour?

- Overall the majority of respondents (22.9%) said **tougher consequences** followed by **policing issues** (21.5%) and **opportunities for young people/offenders** (14.5%)
- Opportunities for young people/offenders was the top response for **female** respondents and those who identify themselves as **Muslim**
- More **males** and **white** respondents said tougher consequences

- ✓ **Anti-social behaviour is a priority within my plan. Reports of anti-social behaviour will be responded to in a way that victims and communities are happy with.**

Q5 What do you think are the causes of crime....

- 41.9% of all respondents said **social issues** were the top cause of crime, followed by 34.9% saying **substance abuse/addiction** and 18.4% saying **family/parental responsibility**
- More **females** than **males** said a lack of family/parental responsibility, boredom and social issues caused crime
- More **males** than **females** said a lack of deterrent caused crime

...and what can be done to tackle them?

- **Tougher consequences** was the top response overall with 32.9% followed by **education** (19.2%) and **opportunities** (17.7%)
- More **female** than **male** respondents said crime can be tackled through support and education
- More **male** than **female** respondents said police involvement can help tackle crime

- ✓ **During my election campaign I promised to be tough on crime.**
- ✓ **I am committed to working in partnership with those who represent those in poverty and who are socially excluded.**
- ✓ **A priority in my plan is tackling and treating drug and alcohol addiction.**
- ✓ **A further priority is for the criminal justice system to be effective and efficient.**

Q6 Have you ever felt threatened or been attacked because of who you are?

- 77.6% of respondents responded no to this question
- Those who were more likely to say they had felt threatened or attacked because of who they are were, **females, disabled, gay/lesbian, Muslim, BME, under the age of 55 and finally those who were not existing contacts.**

Q7 How can organisations and communities challenge crimes like domestic abuse and hate crime?

- **Education** was the top answer with 25.1% of all responses, followed by **harsher consequences** with 21.2% and **reporting issues** (18.2%)
- More **female** respondents than **males** said talk about it, education, reporting issues and care for victims and witnesses
- More **male** respondents than **females** said harsher consequences

- ✓ **Tackling hate crime is a priority in my Police and Crime Plan.**
- ✓ **I am committed to working with partners to encourage reporting of domestic abuse and better tackle this crime.**

Q8 To what extent would you agree that the amount you pay for policing in West Yorkshire offers value for money?

- Responses to this question were mixed with 47.3% of respondents **agreeing**, 21.8% **disagreeing** and 30.9% choosing the **neither** option
- **Males** and respondents with a **disability** were more likely to disagree than **females** and those **without a disability**
- **BME** respondents and **not existing contacts** were less likely to agree than **females** and **existing contacts**

Q9 Importance of policing functions¹

The points below relate to the average amount assigned to each of the functions in £.

- The policing function which received on average the highest amount of money assigned to it (£18.12) was **maintaining the number of police officers and staff available for patrol and responding to calls for assistance**
- The second highest function was **tackling serious and organised crime** with £13.26 followed by **tackling crime such as burglary, car crime, robbery and theft by concentrating on the neighbourhoods most affected by it** £12.74
- **Female** respondents assigned more money than **males** to improving our understanding of our communities, tackling domestic violence, tackling serious sexual offences and working with partners to reduce re-offending
- **Male** respondents assigned more money than **females** to tackling violent crime, tackling burglary, car crime, robbery and theft, protecting communities from ASB and investigating priority crime
- Respondents with a **disability** assigned more money than those **without a disability** to improving our understanding of our communities but less to investigating priority crime
- **BME** respondents assigned less money than **white** respondents to tackling the threat of terrorism and violent extremism and maintaining the number of police officers and staff available for patrol and responding to calls for assistance

- ✓ **In my plan I make a commitment to protecting frontline and neighbourhood policing.**
- ✓ **Tackling serious and organised crime, reducing the risk of burglary are key priorities.**

Q12 Would you support your Police and Crime Commissioner lobbying Central Government to get more of the proceeds of crime to be returned to West Yorkshire?

- The majority of respondents (86.9%) responded **yes** to this question
- **Male** respondents were more likely than **females** to say they would not support the Commissioner
- More **female** respondents than **male** were likely to say they weren't sure

- ✓ **Responses to this question were used to inform my Police and Crime Plan. I am committed to lobbying Government to try and get more of the proceeds of crime to be returned to West Yorkshire.**

¹ Members of the public were asked to imagine that they had £140 to allocate to policing functions, and to allocate money to these functions, with the amount they decide to allocate reflecting the importance they place on it. They were directed to assign money to only functions they considered to be important to them.

Q13 If I was able to successfully lobby Central Government and secure additional money from proceeds of crime, what would you like to see this additional money spent on?

- 60.9% of respondents said **frontline policing** followed by **tackling re-offending** 11.1% and **community projects** 10.7%
- More **existing contacts** than **not existing contacts** said they wanted extra money spending on frontline policing
- More of those who were **not existing contacts** than **existing contacts** said they wanted extra money spending on community projects
- More **males** than **females** said they wanted extra money spending on frontline policing
- More **females** than **males** said they wanted extra money spending on community projects and tackling re-offending
- Fewer respondents with a **disability** than those **without a disability** wanted extra money spending on community projects

✓ **I will decide together with communities and the police how proceeds of crime money will be spent locally.**