

# Mark Burns-Williamson

## Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire



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# Annual Report

## 2016 / 17

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## Introduction



**W**elcome to my 2016-17 Annual Report, setting out key achievements and activities in my work as West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner and that of my office and our strategic partners.

My previous Annual Report covered an eighteen month period, which spanned the PCC elections of May 2016 to the publication of our new Police and Crime Plan. Having been re-elected, this document reports on the full financial year 2016-17. Whilst there is an overlap in the time period these documents cover, the volume of work being carried out by my office and our partners means there is little repetition in the two reports.

The period immediately following my re-election saw an extensive consultation ('Your Priorities, Your Plan') across our communities and our partners to inform the new Police and Crime Plan 2016-21. You can learn more about our outcomes and priorities, and how we are going to deliver the new Plan and make a difference in our communities at

[www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/our-business/the-police-crime-plan.aspx](http://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/our-business/the-police-crime-plan.aspx), where you can download a Plan at a Glance.

The Police and Crime Plan also includes the pledges which I made during my election campaign, and in this Annual Report I describe the work that has been carried out to meet them. Government cuts have been severe in West Yorkshire, but I pledged to protect frontline policing, and with the support of the people who responded to January's Community Conversation consultation, and the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel, I have been able to increase the Council Tax precept by about £5 per year for most households, to protect the number of PCSOs and to pay for the recruitment of 200 extra police officers.

This is vitally important given the challenges we all face. The threat to the safety of our communities posed by extremism, organised crime, or child sexual abuse has sadly become all too real. Complex, resource intensive investigations need the support of a police service which reflects our diverse communities. I am proud of the effort West Yorkshire Police have made to reach out to groups who are under-represented in their workforce through their Positive Action recruitment campaign. This work is also important in addressing incidents of hate crime, which were seen to increase in the aftermath of the Brexit vote and recent terror attacks.

I also pledged to put victims first - in particular those who are most

vulnerable and I was pleased to introduce the first Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) service across West Yorkshire, dealing with current and historic cases of sexual assault.

With a permanent Chief Constable now in place, and the latest HMIC inspections of our police service awarding 'Good' grades in all categories, I am confident that the police are working to deliver on the priorities and outcomes set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21. I hope, however, that we demonstrate in this Annual Report that the task of meeting those outcomes is not the role of the police alone, but the responsibility of everyone.

This document highlights a small proportion of the work the police, the OPCC, our partners in the public and third sectors, and West Yorkshire communities carry out to prevent and tackle crime across our five districts. I hope it sets out a picture of increasing collaboration amongst these groups as we strive to achieve our objective to keep West Yorkshire safe and feeling safe.

You can find more information about our work and what has been delivered on my website [www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk), but if you want more information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me at the OPCC.

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

# Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



Mark has funded the recruitment of 200 extra police officers during 2016/17.

The Police and Crime Plan 2016-21 sets out our shared vision of keeping West Yorkshire safe and feeling safe. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour is the first of four outcomes in the Plan that also includes 16 crime priorities to be addressed. These priorities reflect the views of people and partner organisations across West Yorkshire, and were formulated with the help of over 5,500 responses to the 2016 public consultation survey, 'Your Priorities, Your Plan'.

For the 2016-2021 Plan, we have included three new priorities; community cohesion, radicalisation and missing people. Although each topic was included in the previous Police and Crime Plan, they were not named priorities in their own right. Over the past year, we have sought the input of our partners working in these priority areas through a series of consultation events.

The first consultation event, which included members of the public, was held in Pudsey in November, and covered a topic which is always a high priority for our communities, **Road Safety**.

## Road Safety Community Consultation Event

Communities' concern about road safety features prominently in our public consultations. 38% of respondents to the *Your Priorities, Your Plan* consultation said that road safety was a key issue in their local area. At the event, we invited members of the public and our community safety partners to help identify better ways to tackle the barriers to making West Yorkshire's roads safer places to be. Topics such as prevention and early intervention, key service improvements, and the most efficient use of resources were covered, as well as the experience of users of the road who may be vulnerable: pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders. Key speakers on the day included Superintendent Mark Jessop of West Yorkshire Police, Mike Carr from road safety charity BRAKE, and Tim Draper from Leeds City Council.

Action to tackle road safety over the past year has included the high-profile **Operation Steerside**, which has targeted traffic offences in Bradford. Over 5,000 people were stopped during 2016 as the campaign focussed on the 'fatal four' traffic offences; speeding, driving while under the influence of drink or drugs, driving while using a mobile phone, and not wearing a seatbelt. Steerside benefitted from extra funding for patrols in offending 'hot spot' areas of the city, and a dedicated e-mail account allowing members of the public to send dashcam footage. Further OPCC investment in automatic number plate recognition equipment (ANPR) also supported the project.



Mark and ACC Angela Williams with the haul of weapons surrendered during February's campaign.

The possession and use of **weapons** on our streets often features in the headlines of national and local news stories. Thankfully, most people do not encounter criminals carrying weapons in their day-to-day life, but we do recognise the impact weapons have on the fear of crime in people's neighbourhoods. In February, I supported West Yorkshire Police's weapons surrender campaign - an initiative which aims to stop weapons getting into the wrong hands. As a result, a huge haul of 300 knives, guns and rounds of ammunition were handed in to local police stations. This is the third year in which this campaign has run and it is proving the value of giving people the opportunity to dispose of weapons safely.

**Burglary** is always a key concern within our neighbourhoods as it is a crime which can blight lives. The past year has shown some evidence of a small increase in burglaries in West Yorkshire, but thankfully, burglary is a crime which can be tackled through simple crime prevention techniques. During the year the OPCC has supported campaigns which have helped to explain how people can make their homes safer. The '*Forgotten Something?*' campaign in October 2016 encouraged people to lock their doors, shut windows, and not leave valuables on display. A few weeks before, I launched a special crime prevention round of the Safer Communities Fund, where successful bids involved initiatives such as online safety training in Huddersfield, a youth engagement programme in Hunslet, and a rural crime initiative in the Worth Valley. These projects received grants of up to £5,000.

In response to recommendations from HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), the way our neighbourhoods are policed is something which West Yorkshire Police is reviewing during 2017. An initial outcome of this work has been engagement with the government-backed **Early Intervention Foundation (EIF)**. The EIF project explores how engagement with young people in our communities can help to divert them away from crime and anti-social behaviour and ultimately improve life opportunities. The project has challenged West Yorkshire Police to build new relationships with partner organisations, with the ultimate objective of building safer neighbourhoods and reducing the demands placed on public resources.

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The Government's *Prevent* duty gives direction to the police and partners in our shared responsibility to combat the threat of **radicalisation**. Sadly, 2017 is a year which has been scarred by tragic events inspired by radical ideologies, whilst the shocking murder of our colleague and friend Jo Cox MP will resonate for many years to come.

There can be a range of complex factors which make somebody vulnerable to radicalisation, so it is crucial that we work together across communities to identify those at risk and divert them away from extremism. Mark is assisting this work by supporting a unique project led by the University of Bradford to understand the process of how someone can become susceptible to online radicalisation. This research will help us make a big step forward in understanding how the vulnerable are targeted by extremists.

### **Working to Promote Community Cohesion**

In March this year, Mark brought the police and partners together to discuss how partnerships can build stronger, more resilient communities in our towns and cities. 40% of those people who responded to our consultation to set the priorities for the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21 said that a greater sense of community cohesion would make them feel safer.

Keynote speakers at the event included Assistant Chief Constable Angela Williams, and Robin Tuddenham of the West Yorkshire Community Cohesion Board (a body which the PCC is represented on). Over 50 delegates attended and areas for action which were identified included:

- Small scale local events promoting community pride
- Media campaigns which highlight positive community cohesion themes
- Clarity on the funding streams available for community cohesion projects, and establishing a cohesion resource database for organisations to refer to
- Support to new migrant communities to find out what they need to feel secure and safe in West Yorkshire

Following this event, we have established a **Community Cohesion Advisory Board** comprised of academic staff from West Yorkshire universities. Its first meeting highlighted the barriers to good cohesion in West Yorkshire communities, and discussed best practice examples from around the world for overcoming these obstacles. The initial meeting has allowed us to focus on our ambitions for improving community cohesion and will continue to inform and guide the work of the OPCC in the months ahead.

Closely linked to building a sense of community is the way we respond to those who articulate prejudiced and intolerant views. The OPCC, in conjunction with West Yorkshire Police, have continued to work to fight **hate crime** - a priority which was particularly prominent in the days following the Brexit referendum in June 2016, and which increased in the aftermath of recent terror attacks. In response, Mark appeared on ITV's Calendar, BBC Radio Leeds, and BCB Radio to reassure communities that the police and our partners will not tolerate hatred on the grounds of race, faith, disability, sexual orientation, or gender.

To coincide with national Hate Crime Awareness Week, in October we relaunched the *Hate Hurts* campaign to help promote a better understanding of hate crime, and to signpost the available channels for reporting hate incidents. In the recent past, a number of hate crime related projects have been supported through the PCC's Safer Communities Fund, including training for students and tutors at Leeds College, research into the lived experience of Trans people, and a hate crime reporting app for adults with learning difficulties.



Members of the OPCC Youth Advisory Group visit the National Police Air Service base at Carr Gate.

The **National Police Air Service (NPAS)** is based here in West Yorkshire, and plays a vital role across the country in fighting crime and supporting our communities. NPAS was formed in 2012, and represents a unique collaboration between the 43 police services of England and Wales. West Yorkshire Police deliver this service with governance from a board comprising elected PCCs and Chief Constables from the six national policing regions. Mark chairs this board and is ultimately responsible for all NPAS aircraft and their effective use across the country.

NPAS carries out roughly 28,000 tasks on behalf of the police each year, for example in searching for missing people or suspects, in supporting vehicle pursuits, evacuating casualties, providing surveillance, and as a 'command and control' function for major incidents and large public events.

NPAS has recently had to instigate a programme of cost-cutting to reflect the reduced budgets that police forces have been allocated by the Government. In order to make these savings, the number of national bases was reduced to 15, yet despite the closures, the NPAS fleet is still able reach 88% of the UK population within 20 minutes, and 97% within 30 minutes.

### Focus on Major Threats

The **North East Counter Terrorism Unit (NECTU)** is hosted by West Yorkshire Police. NECTU supports the regional and national response to major threats through identifying and disrupting terrorist activity and preventing people from being drawn into extremism. The unit has had a number of successful prosecutions at court over the last twelve months including:

- A husband and wife from Bradford received prison sentences after attempting to assist travel to Syria.
- A 17 year old boy from Bradford was found guilty of explosives offences and received a three year Youth Rehabilitation Order.
- A 24 year old man from Huddersfield has been charged with one offence of engaging in the preparation of an act of terrorism.

Through the *Run, Hide, Tell* campaign, the police and security agencies are working to protect the public, but it is also important that communities remain vigilant. Further information can be found at [www.northeastctu.police.uk](http://www.northeastctu.police.uk)

The **Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU)** works across all police services in the Yorkshire and Humber area. Over the previous twelve months, ROCU have carried out twenty operations which have had an impact on West Yorkshire, including actions targeting drugs and firearms.

The last twelve months have seen an emphasis on work to tackle Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, Child Sexual Exploitation, Cyber Crime, and Fraud and Economic Crime. As a result, 109 people have been arrested, 41 charged, and 34 convicted and sentenced to over 200 years in prison. Other operations have led to the seizure of 11kg of Class A drugs and excess of 200kg of mixing agents, as well as six guns, a crossbow, machetes, axes, and knuckle dusters. Through the course of these investigations numerous stolen vehicles and other property have been recovered.

The **RART (Regional Asset Recovery Team)** uses specialist financial investigation skills to disrupt organised crime and remove criminals' assets. During this financial year it has achieved confiscation orders exceeding £2.5m, much of which has helped to compensate the victims of crime, such as West Yorkshire victims of bogus officials and 'boiler-room' frauds. Alongside this work, West Yorkshire Police's Economic Crime Unit has also obtained over £5million from asset recovery orders.

Serious and organised crime has quickly learned to exploit the internet. **Cyber crime** techniques are now commonly used in cases of fraud, whilst we have all become aware of the threat posed by ransomware attacks from beyond our national boundary. Thanks to investment from the OPCC, West Yorkshire Police is one of few police services in the country to have a dedicated cyber crime team. As well as contributing expertise to cyber investigations, the team supports training and awareness raising within West Yorkshire Police, local schools, and the wider public. An example of recent work was the **Yorkshire and Humber Cyber Protect Conference** held in Leeds in February, whilst in September, a campaign focusing on online fraud was backed-up with Facebook Live advice sessions with unit lead, DCI Vanessa Smith.

In the year ahead, West Yorkshire Police will continue to develop its cyber capability through collaboration with key partners, such as Leeds Beckett University. Both organisations have just completed a government-backed project relating to improving the response to cyber crime. In addition, the West Yorkshire Police Cyber Team continues to encourage colleagues to embrace social media to ensure key messages on cyber crime prevention are delivered to the public.



## Working Together

### Partnership Work on Sexual Harassment

With the support of the OPCC, Bradford Council has led on a pilot project to raise awareness of sexual harassment in and around Bradford's college and university communities. Actions have included a community arts group being commissioned to deliver engagement workshops for local young people, and the production of publicity materials highlighting the best way to report harassment incidents. In the coming year, student volunteers will be trained to help council officers deliver educational awareness sessions for perpetrators. The final element of the project will develop robust reporting and information sharing processes between key organisations.

### 'Smartwater' Prevents Anti-Social Use of Motorcycles in Wakefield

Wakefield CSP has recently funded a project which will use SelectaDNA ('Smartwater') to tackle nuisance use of motorcycles and off-road bikes using money passported from the OPCC. The primary problem in pursuing prosecutions against suspected offenders has been the lack of identification evidence. SelectaDNA is a water based identification solution; it is odourless and invisible, and can only be detected under ultraviolet light. Once the solution is applied to vehicles, property, or an offender's clothing, the police can link individuals to specific vehicles or crime scenes using UV lamps. The introduction of SelectaDNA in Wakefield has already led to one offender being held in custody awaiting trial in October.

### Hate Incident Reporting in Schools (HIRS)

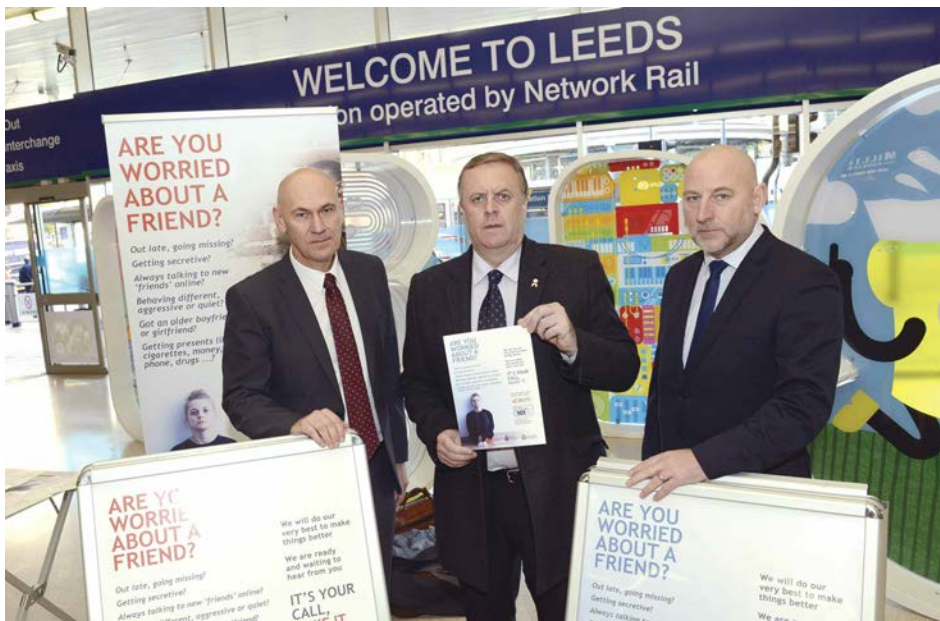
HIRS is a multi-agency project in Leeds that helps bring stakeholders together to develop strategies to ensure that children and young people feel safe. The scheme has recorded more than 1300 hate or bullying incidents in schools and other children's settings since 2014. HIRS and Safer Schools Officers support victims and address perpetrators' behaviour through discussions with parents, participation in restorative conversations, and work with neighbouring schools. As part of the development of a revised hate crime strategy for Leeds, officers are identifying a range of actions to support the existing Hate Incident Reporting Centre network and the development of stronger links with local community organisations.

### Reducing Fly-Tipping

Fly-tipping is a criminal activity, a blight on local environments, and a potential danger to public health. In 2014/15, 1,985 tonnes of waste was illegally dumped in Bradford, costing the council over £270,000 in collection and disposal fees.

Bradford's Environmental Enforcement Team is responsible for tackling waste crime, and alongside other strategies, the team employs surveillance cameras to identify offenders. Last year the team used £10,000 of CSP funding through the Bradford Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership to purchase additional cameras. These have now been placed at fly-tipping hotspots and have been very effective in catching perpetrators. In 2016/17 the team secured an unprecedented 28 fly-tipping prosecutions, in contrast to two prosecutions in the previous two years. The team also seized and crushed a van involved in multiple fly-tips.

# Safeguard Vulnerable People



Mark at Leeds Rail Station to promote West Yorkshire's Safeguarding Week with Superintendent Darren Minton and OPCC Safeguarding Advisor, Stuart Piper.

**S**afeguarding vulnerable people is the second outcome in the Police and Crime Plan, and it was welcome news in the spring that HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) had recognised the great effort that the police and partner agencies across West Yorkshire had made to **improve the way we protect vulnerable people**. In their annual 'PEEL' report, HMIC graded West Yorkshire Police's effectiveness in protecting the vulnerable as 'good' – an advance on the 'requires improvement' grade of the previous year. Abuse of the vulnerable can come in many guises: physical, emotional, sexual, or financial. Community safety partners in West Yorkshire work in each of these areas - in the past year, the OPCC has been particularly active in working to address human trafficking and slavery, and child sexual exploitation (CSE).

The trafficking of people and **modern slavery** are abhorrent abuses of human rights and PCCs across the country are working together with police services and communities to tackle these criminal activities. Two years ago, our growing awareness of this threat led Mark to establish the role of Safeguarding Advisor within the OPCC to support his work with the **West Yorkshire Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network (WYATMSN)**, and in the inception of its national equivalent, the National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network (NATMSN), which Mark chairs on behalf of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners.

Over the last year, the West Yorkshire Network has grown the breadth of its partnership to bring statutory and non-statutory organisations and businesses together to tackle slavery abuses. We have invited slavery experts to address the group, including representatives from the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner's Office, and the CEO of the UK Modern Slavery Helpline. In the national context, West Yorkshire's partnership is leading the way and is used as an example of good practice.

Reviewing the past year, it was encouraging to see that West Yorkshire was recognised by the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (IASC) in his first annual report, and that innovative slavery detection work between West Yorkshire Police and financial institutions has been shared nationally as best practice. The West Yorkshire OPCC has also helped to develop the largest successful bid to the **Police Transformation Fund**, which has resulted in a £8.5 million programme to improve the national fight against modern slavery.

In the autumn Mark supported the foundation of the **West Yorkshire Financial Exploitation and Abuse Team (WYFEAT)**, which calls on the expertise of specialists from West Yorkshire Police, adult social care, and Trading Standards, to deter criminals who exploit vulnerable and older victims for financial gain. The team have successfully prosecuted crime groups operating across the North of England who sell shoddy and over-priced home improvements to older or disabled people.

Latterly, WYFEAT has broadened its remit to fight those in the building trade who exploit others as a cheap source of labour. In January 2017, homelessness charity 'The Passage' presented the findings of their latest research to the West Yorkshire Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network to help raise awareness of homeless people's risk of exploitation. In the year ahead, we hope to see more local charities who work with the homeless looking to apply to our Safer Communities Fund for resources which could help prevent labour exploitation of vulnerable people.

The OPCC works to promote closer collaboration between the police, safeguarding boards, and local authorities in their work to **protect vulnerable children from harm**. Since 2015, the OPCC (in collaboration with the Directors of Children's Services across West Yorkshire), has been delivering a series of projects aimed at tackling CSE by raising awareness in schools. Work has also been undertaken to improve partners' data collection and sharing in relation to CSE and missing children.

Working in conjunction with partners, we have been able to support some important campaign work. A good example has been the multi-agency collaboration of the **West Yorkshire Safeguarding Week** (October 17th – 23rd October 2016). An example of work in Kirklees saw West Yorkshire Police and local social work and youth staff visit local businesses, taxi firms, and takeaway outlets to engage with young people and promote safety messages.



Other important partnership activity over the last twelve months includes two events to raise awareness and build networks to fight the abuse of children and young people. Technology and the digital world is all around us, and whilst it provides us all with many exciting opportunities, there are also risks attached. Those risks were discussed at the '**Safeguarding Children in the Digital World**' conference, which gave practitioners the opportunity to share ideas and discuss the response to sexual exploitation over the internet. Professor Tink Palmer of the Marie Collins Foundation provided a keynote speech to over 300 delegates from the safeguarding, business, charity and criminal justice sectors.

To mark National Learning Disability week in June 2016, we joined with the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Board to help raise awareness of **the risk of CSE to children and young persons with learning disabilities**. The event brought together frontline partners to discuss how to provide the best services to those with learning disabilities. Representatives from the five West Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Boards attended the event, as well as representatives from agencies such as Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (PACE), the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC), The Children's Society, and Barnardo's.

The **West Yorkshire Criminal Justice and Mental Health Forum** has been established to ensure that partners are working collectively to help people with mental health issues who find themselves in the criminal justice system. It also looks for new opportunities to support those suffering damaging mental health problems at the earliest stage. An important area of work during the year has been the collaboration between partners on the Urgent and Emergency Care Vanguard programme, whose target is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of partners' care for people in need. This includes avoiding unnecessary referrals to A&E services, the inappropriate deployment of police and ambulance staff, and appropriate spaces to support people in crisis.

During 2016/17, the Forum worked to submit proposals for the improvement and expansion of health based places of safety - spaces where people detained under the Mental Health Act can be appropriately managed and assessed by mental health professionals. The successful bid to the Dept. of Health has brought new facilities online at the Becklin Centre in Leeds, and 'The Haven' in Bradford. Both centres provide an alternative to A&E or a police station for people suffering mental health crisis. Further facilities across the districts are in the pipeline.

OPCC funding for mental health nurses placed in police control rooms in Leeds and Bradford has also allowed better decision-making about the most appropriate care response when people experiencing mental ill-health are reported to the police. Both services ran successfully throughout 2016/17, and work is ongoing to secure funding to extend provision for a further three years.



A range of safeguarding campaigns have been developed with our partners; some have benefited from input from the OPCC's Youth Advisory Group.

## Working Together

### Missing Persons Event

In December 2016, the OPCC hosted a partnership event in Huddersfield to bring together a wide range of partners to discuss how we can work together to tackle the issues which can lead to people going missing. West Yorkshire Police receive nearly 5,000 calls regarding missing people every year - 20% of which are considered to be 'high-risk' cases.

Responding to the growing issue of missing people is a priority within the new Police and Crime Plan because missing from home episodes can be linked to other serious problems like mental health crisis, exploitation, and physical or emotional abuse. Over 70 delegates from organisations across West Yorkshire attended the event, and the outcomes from these discussions will feed into a wider partnership strategy for the county.

### West Yorkshire Safeguarding Week: British Transport Police Campaign

To mark Safeguarding Week, a campaign between the OPCC, West Yorkshire Police, and British Transport Police was launched in October to help protect vulnerable young people from sexual exploitation. The campaign highlighted some of the common signs that indicate that a young person may be being exploited, and encouraged people to report their concerns to the police.

During Safeguarding Week, officers worked together to patrol transport networks across the county, speaking to young people about the dangers of child sexual exploitation and explaining what they should do if they have concerns for themselves or a friend.

### Modern Slavery Summit

The Modern Slavery Act now requires any business with a turnover of over £36million to publish an annual report describing how it identifies and prevents slavery in their supply chains. In October, the WYATMSN, the West Yorkshire Police Human Trafficking Team, and our partner agencies, held a Modern Slavery Summit to help raise awareness of modern slavery amongst representatives from the public, banking, and recruitment sectors.

140 delegates attended the event, which included presentations from Kevin Hyland (the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner), Paul Broadbent (Chief Executive of the Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority), Offer Stern-Weiner from the Home Office Modern Slavery Unit, and Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer of Devon and Cornwall Police. The event included a workshop for delegates to discuss strategies to help recognise and combat modern slavery in their industry.

### Action to Stop Child Sexual Exploitation in Bradford

Between April 2016 and March 2017, funding passported to Bradford CSP has supported the Barnardo's NightWatch initiative. The project aimed to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation through training and guidance delivered to businesses and the general public. During the year, employers and staff at housing associations, transport providers, taxi firms, snooker halls, shisha bars, hotels and B&Bs received training which helps them to recognise and report the signs of CSE, which in turn provides the police and partners with information which can be put to work to help protect children.

# Make Sure Criminal Justice Works for Communities



Mark in Huddersfield at the launch of the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21

There are increasing challenges in achieving our third outcome 'Make sure Criminal Justice works for communities'. West Yorkshire has lost £140m from its policing budget since 2010 – the result being the loss of 2,000 police officers and staff. Mark's concern about the pressures placed on frontline policing generated by government cuts led him to set a budget at the start of 2016 which allowed for the **recruitment of 200 extra police officers**, and which would protect the number of PCSOs. Despite this, we will still need to make the case for a review of police funding arrangements in the year ahead so that we can keep communities safe and allow police officers and staff to provide the best service they can.

Mark is Chair of the **Tri-Service Collaboration Board**, which brings together West Yorkshire Police with representatives from the local Ambulance and Fire & Rescue Services. The Board looks to identify areas where the services can integrate their operations more effectively. The outcome for the public is important, as closer collaboration improves the quality of response to emergencies, and improves efficiency by preventing duplication of effort. This year, the Board have approved a project focussing on a joint approach to the provision of occupational health services, and a review of the delivery of driver training services. Both projects look to reduce operating costs and re-invest the subsequent savings.

It is essential that the police service in West Yorkshire reflects the diversity of the communities it protects, so it has been reassuring to see the work done to encourage **applications from members of BAME communities** for new police posts. West Yorkshire Police have introduced a Positive Action Co-ordinator, PC Amjad Ditta, to promote the police service as a career option to minority groups. His work in holding workshops to offer advice to people considering a career in policing was 'highly commended' at the Asian Fire Service Association Awards in October.

Data for March 2017 records the BAME proportion of West Yorkshire Police's workforce as 5.5% - a small improvement on the previous year's figure of 5.3%, but good progress on the figure of three years previously (4.8%). Amongst the new recruits of 2016/17, 8.7% of new police officers and 10.0% of police staff are from a BAME background.



Building a police workforce which fully represents the diverse population of West Yorkshire is the objective of the Positive Action campaign

**HM Inspectorate of Constabulary’s (HMIC)** review of police services provides an independent annual assessment of how well police services are performing in their core responsibilities. Over three ‘PEEL’ reports, HMIC evaluate the police’s efficiency, legitimacy, and effectiveness. In 2016, West Yorkshire Police attained ‘Good’ grades in each of these three categories.

We were particularly eager to scrutinise the findings of West Yorkshire Police’s Effectiveness review, which in 2015 identified two areas as ‘requiring improvement’: ‘investigating crime and reducing re-offending’, and ‘protecting the vulnerable and supporting victims’.

How effective are West Yorkshire Police at:	2016 HMIC Review Grading
Preventing crime, ASB and keeping people safe	Requires improvement
Investigating crime and reducing re-offending	Good
Protecting the vulnerable and supporting victims	Good
Tackling serious and organised crime	Good

This year, HMIC gave improved grades in both categories, and it was encouraging to see that the report recognised the great effort made by West Yorkshire Police to improve the service it offers to victims, and the commitment made to improve skills and awareness around important vulnerability and investigatory practices. HMIC also acknowledged improvements in the response to victims of domestic abuse, and in the development of specialised capabilities around high-tech (cyber) crime.

However, this year’s report has identified that work to prevent crime now ‘requires improvement’, specifically in the approach taken toward neighbourhood policing and in partnership work to tackle serious and organised crime. In 2017, we are already seeing West Yorkshire Police’s response to these recommendations through the initiation of a comprehensive ‘Neighbourhood Policing Review’, and through projects to strengthen relationships with partners to help stifle organised crime groups.

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West Yorkshire's **Local Criminal Justice Board** is chaired by Mark and brings together partners from the Crown Prosecution Service, HM Courts and Tribunals Service, the police, prison and reoffending agencies, and Victim Support. The Board co-ordinates the work of these partners to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System (CJS), and to ensure it supports victims and witnesses of crime. Two programmes of reform; Transforming Summary Justice (TSJ) in Magistrates' Courts; and Better Case Management (in Crown Courts); are driving the work to bring greater efficiency and effectiveness to the CJS. In the last year, domestic abuse, youth, and remand cases have adopted TSJ processes, which has led to increased conviction and guilty plea rates at cases' first hearing. This has particular significance in domestic abuse cases, as guilty pleas negate the requirement for a victim to attend court and provide sensitive evidence as part of a trial.

At West Yorkshire Magistrates' Courts, guilty pleas now take on average 1.72 hearings, with contested pleas taking an average of 2.83 hearings. This compares well against the national targets of 1.75 and 3.00 hearings, respectively. The proportion of ineffective trials has also been reduced, with the 2016/17 figure of 13.8% now below the target of 15%.

The conviction rate at Crown Court fell slightly last year to 80% against a national target of 82.5%. Guilty pleas at the first hearing rose to 37.2%, just below the national target of 37.5%. The introduction of Better Case Management practice has seen cases destined for the Crown Court receive improved management at Magistrates' Courts, resulting in an increase in guilty pleas from 32.8% to 40.9%. Consequently, these cases are counted as a success in the Magistrates' Court and not the Crown Court.

Last year saw the closure of the Magistrates' Courts in Halifax and Wakefield and LCJB partners are responding by working with the PCC to provide facilities for vulnerable victims to give evidence via a video link. A separate scheme is under consideration to provide remote evidence links for cases held at the Crown Court.

The application of new technology can bring new opportunities and efficiencies in the work of West Yorkshire Police. Using our Transformation Fund, during the past year we have made a £2M investment in **Body Worn Video (BWV) cameras**. BWV technology provides a major step forward in bringing transparency to the police's work, and will help to build public confidence. By collecting live footage of police deployments, BWV cameras improve evidence gathering and also ensure public complaints can be resolved quickly. This investment in new technology follows on from investment made in upgrading our network of Automatic Number-Plate Recognition cameras (ANPR) during 2015/16. Mark acts as the national lead on ANPR for the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC).

West Yorkshire Police provides a regional **forensic capability** from its Scientific Support Unit (SSU) headquarters at the Sir Alec Jeffreys Building. During 2016/17, the SSU have been co-ordinating a national 'proof of concept' pilot project in the rapid analysis of fingerprint and DNA samples. The project has attracted a £2.5m Home Office investment to test new digital capture technologies for fingerprinting and to trial a £200,000 DNA 'fast lab'. These technologies can reduce DNA and fingerprint analysis times down from days to a few hours.



No effective plan for reducing crime in our districts can ignore the challenge of managing the release of convicted offenders back into our communities. This year, the OPCC has led on the strategic development of services to **reduce re-offending**. Through our Interim Chief Executive, we have established a Reducing Re-offending Strategy Board with partners in West Yorkshire Police, the Prison Service, NHS, local probation services, and our Third Sector and Community Safety Partnership networks. The development and delivery of a Reducing Re-offending Strategy gives the opportunity for these partners to focus on the collective delivery of services which give offenders the best possible opportunity to resist criminality. The work of the Board is in its early stages of development, but progress will be monitored through the OPCC Partnership Executive Group in the year ahead.

Three policing bodies who operate on a national (and international) platform report directly to the PCC; WyFi, the Police National Legal Database (PNLD), and the National VIPER Bureau.

Funded through the OPCC, the **West Yorkshire for Innovation (WyFi)** team work on research projects which apply new technologies to policing with the aim of improving practice. WyFi's projects draw together international consortiums of law enforcement agencies, academics, and private industry. Recent projects include co-ordinating research looking at best practice in community policing across Europe, and a project to prove the concept that first responders can benefit from using virtual reality technology in their training programmes.

**PNLD** are a national organisation recognised for providing an online criminal law resource for the police and its criminal justice partners. Over the past year they have seen a 16% increase in usage of their legal database, supported by an initiative to allow police officers and staff to access PNLD resources via personal mobile devices. This has helped PNLD to share their legal expertise with a broader audience. The past year has also seen PNLD launch a new 'Help for Victims' app, and reach out to customers via a Q&A webchat.

The **National VIPER Bureau** is utilised by the UK police to produce video identification (ID) parades. Video ID parades replace the old fashioned line-ups of suspects, removing the requirement to seek volunteers to stand on a parade, and for witnesses to confront a suspect face to face. Images of volunteers are pre-recorded and stored on the VIPER database and then shown alongside images of a suspect as part of a video ID parade. The short video clips can be played at a police station or at a witness's home. There are over 20 police forces in the UK which rely on VIPER to produce their video ID parades.



Regional scientific and forensic services are co-ordinated by West Yorkshire Police.

# Working Together

## **Leeds Safer Schools Officers: Restorative Justice Project**

The OPCC has continued to support the use of restorative justice (RJ) in Leeds through the 28 Safer Schools Police Officers. Officers visit schools, Pupil Referral Units, Colleges and Universities to explore whether restorative practices can be applied to any of the criminal investigations which take place each year. Through restorative justice, offenders are made to account for their actions and asked to repair the harm they have done; a response which places the victim's needs at the centre of the process. RJ in Leeds has helped contribute to a 50% reduction in the number of young people sent to Youth Court since 2012, and this innovative approach to RJ has been recognised in a report by the N8 University Research Partnership.

## **Employer Supported Policing, Bradford**

CSP funding has been used to support the development of the national Employer Supported Policing scheme (ESP) in Bradford. Employers across the district were invited to allow members of staff to train to become Special Constables. Businesses and local partners who took part included the Kirkgate Centre, Bradford College, the Pavilion Café, City Park, and Bradford District Mental Health Trust. These new officers are undertaking tutored patrols, including those directly linked to their employer's needs, for example running policing operations in the locality of Bradford College, or Special Constables from the Mental Health Trust being able to deliver immediate assessment of individuals in need. The ESP scheme was recognised at the annual Lord Ferrers Awards in September 2016, which promotes the outstanding contribution of volunteers to the police service.

## **Building Community Safety in Kirklees**

The 'Integrated Community Safety' initiative supported by CSP funding involves a new way of working between the Council and its partners to enhance the quality of life for residents across Kirklees. This new approach brings services together to work across traditional agency boundaries to work on prevention and early intervention of anti-social behaviour, hate crime, supporting victims, and maintaining quality public spaces.

Developing this approach involves reviewing the way that services are delivered, and removing barriers which hamper effectiveness. The outcome will enable our work to be intelligence led – allowing us to tackle problems more quickly and help prevent serious issues from escalating.

## **Domestic Violence**

Leeds have secured government funding of £463,000 to deliver a West Yorkshire-wide programme to support victims of domestic violence whose complex issues restrict access to help. A team of specialist staff is being established to embed support throughout domestic violence services, as well as helping to develop better referral protocols to improve joint-working across the county. A quality-mark to promote consistency and best practice in response to domestic violence will also be developed.

Specifically in Leeds, a pilot project has been run in Armley to test a multi-agency conference meeting to address standard and medium risk domestic violence cases. The success of the pilot will lead to a scoping exercise to explore extending the model across the city.

## Support Victims and Witnesses



West Yorkshire Police received their White Ribbon accreditation at the beginning of the national 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Abuse campaign.

**B**eing a victim of crime can have a devastating impact; on a person's life, on their family, and their community. With Mark making an election pledge to put victims first, it is right that support for victims and witnesses is at the heart of our Police and Crime Plan 2016 -21. We share with our partners the ambition to improve the services we provide to victims and witnesses so that everyone in West Yorkshire will have access to information, advice, and support services wherever they live.

From April 2016 we began the second year of providing victim support services in West Yorkshire using a £2.6M budget from the Ministry of Justice. It is essential that specialist help is available to aid victims and their families in their recovery from the impacts of crime. Our **Help for Victims** website has now been in place for 3 years and includes information on over 400 organisations offering generalist and specialist services for victims. Users of the site can also ask their own questions and receive a response prepared by qualified lawyers, available in the five most commonly spoken languages in West Yorkshire.

**Victims' Hubs** are now running in four of the five West Yorkshire districts - the Huddersfield hub having opened in January 2017. They provide an important link between victims, our communities, and the support services which are available. In particular, the visibility of the centres has helped draw in victims who had not previously considered reporting their crimes. Victims' charity, **Victim Support**, are responsible for establishing and running Victims' Hubs – they are currently working to establish hub coverage in all five districts of West Yorkshire.

During the year, we have also drawn on a 'Victim Champion' service which particularly focusses on the needs of victims within ethnic minority communities. The Victim Champion has also contributed to the development of the West Yorkshire Domestic and Sexual Abuse strategy, and advises on issues such as **forced marriage and honour-based abuse (HBA)**.

During this and the previous year, the OPCC has supported West Yorkshire Police's forced marriage and honour-based abuse campaigns, and through our Safer Communities Fund, we have been able to directly support local organisations who support those with the courage to come forward to look for help. For example, during 2016/17, £5,000 grants were awarded to Radio Asian Fever (Leeds), the Himmat Project (Halifax), and national charity Karma Nirvana, to deliver educational and awareness raising activities in West Yorkshire on domestic and HBA themes.

It is estimated that West Yorkshire Police deal with four incidents of **domestic abuse** in every hour, yet the very nature of abuse or violence in the home means that not every incident will be reported to the Police. The serious impact which domestic abuse has on victims, children, and families led Mark to allocate £1M of funding to commission third sector organisation CGL to provide a Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme for low or medium risk offenders. This project offers one-to-one and small group meetings to help perpetrators understand the causes and impact of their behaviour.



Domestic abuse campaign work to coincide with Euro 2016.

In 2017 the decision was taken to expand the West Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Board's remit to include sexual abuse. As some victims and survivors have experience of both issues, it is hoped that services can be enhanced by bringing together advisors and advocates with skills in both fields. The Ministry of Justice's Victim and Witnesses Fund includes an indicative allocation for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse, and this resource was used to support the establishment of the West Yorkshire Child Sexual Assault and Assessment Service. The service provides, for the first time, support for the immediate needs of victims wherever they live in West Yorkshire. Two other services which have benefitted from OPCC funding are West Yorkshire's first full **Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)**, and **Ben's Place**.

Mark visited **Ben's Place** in January 2017 – a new facility dedicated to male victims of sexual abuse. Ben's Place offers specialist care to victims aged 16 and over who are struggling with the emotional stress of their experiences. Operating charity *Survivors West Yorkshire* hope to expand their services in the year ahead, in the meantime, the OPCC has provided funding to support the development of their online services to victims.

During 2016-17, Mark allocated funding to local Community Safety Partnerships to ensure adult **restorative justice (RJ)** was available in each of the five local authority areas. RJ referrals have increased throughout the year, in particular, the Bradford Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership has gained recognition for its work. Restorative Justice offers the victims of crime the chance to influence decisions about the resolution of an offence. Those affected are given the opportunity to ask questions through a volunteer facilitator, and for the victim, RJ can offer a route to closure by challenging offenders to recognise the impact of their actions. Our RJ Strategy Group includes representatives of from the OPCC, police, and the five CSPs, as well as the probation services, prisons and the Third Sector.

The SARC was developed with additional funding from West Yorkshire Police and NHS England. It provides specialist provision for children and young people with the aim of meeting victims' immediate health needs following an assault. During the year, SARC services have been complemented by a team of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) who are available to provide victims with practical support and signposting to the police and criminal justice services. In 2017/18 it is hoped that new premises will be found for the SARC to help further develop its services.

### Working in Partnership with the Third Sector

In April 2015, Mark appointed a Third Sector Advisor to help the OPCC gather the expertise of groups working across West Yorkshire through a Third Sector Advisory Group. The 'Third Sector', comprising voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise organisations, plays a vital role in providing support services for victims and witnesses. It is often the source of specialist services designed for those who are particularly vulnerable. Our engagement with the sector was strengthened in 2016 by funding provided from the OPCC's Innovation Fund and the Ministry of Justice's Victims and Witnesses Fund. This led to the development of district-based Third Sector Networks which link to West Yorkshire's five CSPs.

Four Third Sector Conferences have been organised since 2013. Each one has taken place in a different district with the support of the local CSP. The last event took place in Wakefield in November 2016 and attracted 140 delegates from across West Yorkshire. The event explored the sector's role in building the involvement of victims and offenders into the design of support services. Bringing partners together to share ideas and experience at these events draws-in vital feedback which helps the OPCC and its partners build better outcomes for victims across the county.



November's Third Sector Conference at Unity Works, Wakefield.

# Working Together

## **Coercive and controlling behaviour conference**

In March, Mark chaired a session at a special conference on 'Coercive and Controlling Behaviour' arranged by human rights charity Karma Nirvana. The event in Leeds discussed offences between intimate partners or family members which can be associated with so called 'honour-based abuse' (HBA). HBA is often physical, but it can also include controlling or coercive behaviour designed to make a victim feel subordinate or frightened.

Tackling HBA is a priority in the Police and Crime Plan, and third sector partners like Karma Nirvana are helping us to build support networks which victims can be confident using. The event helped to build a wider understanding of the issue and also highlighted how legislation in the 2015 Serious Crime Act can be applied to address it.

## **Ground-breaking research into online radicalisation**

The OPCC has joined forces with West Yorkshire Police, the North East Counter Terrorism Unit, and the University of Bradford, to help fund a unique research project into online radicalisation. The consequences of radicalisation can be devastating, which makes tackling religious and political extremism a priority for the police, community educators, and local authorities. This new research will examine the circumstances that surround an individual becoming radicalised, and will yield new tools to enable partners to focus their intervention strategies in the most effective way.

## **'Exploiting - Exploited': grooming and radicalisation partnership event**

350 practitioners from the public sector (including law enforcement, health, and education representatives), gathered in Leeds in October for the CSP safeguarding conference 'Exploiting - Exploited: Grooming and Radicalisation'. The event explored the issues and triggers surrounding Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and radicalisation, using case studies to highlight the importance of identifying people's vulnerability and the opportunities for early intervention.

The event was a further step in promoting a joined-up approach to tackling this priority. The OPCC has supported these efforts with a £250,000 investment in West Yorkshire Police's Cyber Crime Team, and ongoing support for the police's awareness-raising campaigns.

## **Kirklees Victims Hub**

Over the past year, Safer Kirklees has worked with Victim Support and the OPCC to develop an enhanced service for victims of crime in Kirklees. In January 2017, a new Victims Hub was opened at Brian Jackson House in central Huddersfield, providing professional and volunteer-led face-to-face support for victims, as well as telephone support and signposting to appropriate partners and services. Plans are in hand to develop a similar service in North Kirklees.

The OPCC have also helped provide funding for Victim Support to employ a dedicated case worker in the Kirklees area, who will provide an enhanced service for vulnerable and high risk victims of crime.

The Hub is part of a wider offer of preventative and partnership-led services for victims and witnesses in Kirklees, which aim to quickly link vulnerable victims to specialist services.

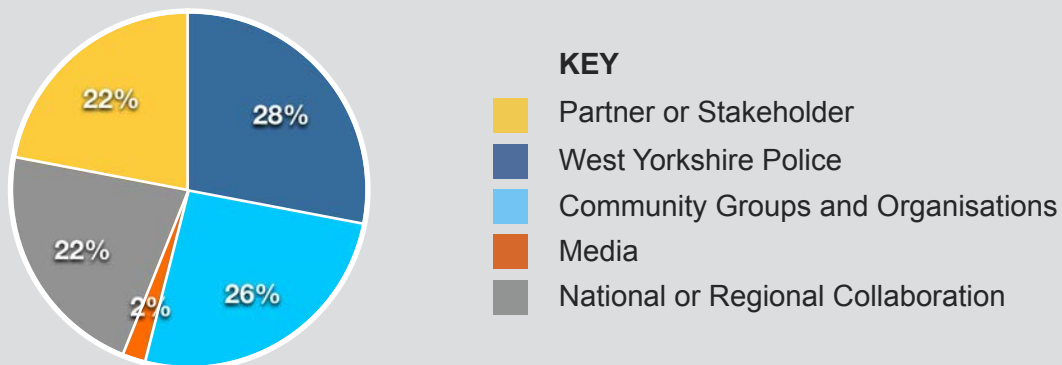
## Engagement and Accountability



Pontefract Academies Trust received a SCF grant to support their engagement work with young people.

**P**olice and Crime Commissioners need to understand the issues people experience in their neighbourhoods so they can set the right priorities for the work of police and community safety partners. Mark spends a large proportion of his working year meeting representatives from community groups and partner organisations who are committed to working to improve safety and wellbeing in West Yorkshire. These meetings provide a great opportunity for the PCC to learn about the issues which really matter to our communities.

### PCC Meetings in 2016/17



**During 2016/17, Mark attended or held over 650 meetings** in carrying out his responsibilities as PCC; over 400 of these meetings were with external organisations and partners. 26% of the meetings were with community organisations based in our districts, and a further 22% were meetings with partners and stakeholders (other than the police), who are working with the OPCC to deliver the outcomes of the Police and Crime Plan. Mark also held 120 meetings with members of West Yorkshire Police.

Mark's work does not only cover activity here in West Yorkshire; on nearly 100 occasions he attended meetings which covered national or regional collaboration and strategic issues, for example work on the National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network or meetings of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners.

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Many of the groups Mark meets during the year have been successful applicants to the PCC's **Safer Communities Fund (SCF)**. The SCF exists to support organisations working in our communities who help to deliver the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan through work to safeguard vulnerable people, support victims, prevent crime, reduce re-offending, or tackle anti-social behaviour. It is financed by cash seized from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA), and has now distributed over £1.9M to 430 projects across West Yorkshire.

Some examples of projects supported in 2016/17 include:

- Badgers Karting Team; a project based in Wakefield working with young people at risk of going missing from home or from engaging in criminality. The programme provides training in mechanics and road craft.
- 'Why Don't We?'; funding to help extend a programme of disability hate workshops for adults with learning disabilities. The project helps to raise awareness of forms of prejudice and abuse, in particular 'Mate Crime'.
- Benson Lane Children's Home; a peer-led project which allows looked-after children at risk of going missing to share their experiences and build a better understanding of their own vulnerability.

### **Community Consultation and Engagement**

Following his re-election in May, Mark published the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21. In response to the priorities set out in this document, we have held four partnership workshop events to explore what is needed to achieve improvements to the way we address road safety, missing people, community cohesion, and domestic abuse. These events are complemented by our regular programme of inviting feedback from residents on their opinions and concerns for safety and policing through our consultation surveys.

During this year we have run surveys to collect people's opinions on priorities for inclusion in the new Police and Crime Plan; the channels communities prefer to use for non-emergency contact with the police; police use of Stop and Search; and the PCC's proposals for increasing funding for police recruitment through the Council Tax precept.

PCCs nationwide aim to represent all communities, and they can play an important role in building links to specific groups who may feel particularly vulnerable. For example, in August 2016, Mark held a joint-meeting with West Yorkshire Police in Leeds to support **LGBT communities** in the wake of the Orlando shooting. The aim of the meeting was to reassure the community of the Police and partners' commitment to tackle hatred and intolerance. The meeting also gave Mark the opportunity to hear the LGBT community's feedback on what they need from their police service, with key issues identified being communication, consistency in response from the police and other services, and developing trust and confidence.

West Yorkshire's young people are represented by our **Youth Advisory Group (YAG)**. YAG met on six occasions last year to question Mark, and discuss group members' views on topics such as community cohesion, crime prevention campaigns (e.g. on child sexual exploitation and hate crime), and the Police and Crime Plan. The group also enjoyed learning about the policing of their communities through presentations from officers, and visits to West Yorkshire Police's contact centre and training facility at Carr Gate.





Dee Collins was confirmed as Chief Constable in November

### Accountability for Policing

One of the most important roles for Police and Crime Commissioners is the duty to hold Chief Constables to account for the performance of their police services. One way in which the PCC achieves this is by holding **Community Outcome Meetings (COM)** with the Chief Constable and senior police officers. These meetings give Mark the opportunity to question the Chief Constable on West Yorkshire Police's progress in addressing the 16 crime priorities we have included in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21. The meetings are filmed and later uploaded to our website, providing residents with reassurance that Mark is overseeing police activity on behalf of the community.

### National and Regional Roles and Responsibilities

Mark complements his work as PCC in West Yorkshire by leading on a number of national issues for the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC). In addition to his chairing of the National Modern Slavery and Anti-Trafficking Network and NPAS (the National Police Air Service), Mark is national lead for the APCC on the ANPR Advisory Board (Automatic Number Plate Recognition), the Digital Policing Board, the Digital Contact Board, the Forensic Information National Database, and the Police Technology and Digital Portfolio group. Mark is also Chair of the Labour Group of PCCs and national lead for the Home Office's Biometrics Programme. At Yorkshire and Humber level, Mark chairs the Regional Collaboration Board, and the Tri-Service Collaboration Board.

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## Working Together

### **Keeping revellers safe with Leeds Street Angels**

In December, Mark spent a Friday night with Leeds Street Angels, helping to keep revellers safe in Leeds City Centre. During a busy night, the Street Angels helped four revellers get home safely, assisted two people to get medical treatment, and helped a homeless man who was distressed. They also gave out foil blankets, bottles of water, and flip flops, and gave directions to sixteen people. Leeds Street Angels do an important job working alongside other agencies to keep Leeds City Centre safe at night.

### **Street Drinking in Dewsbury Successfully Tackled by Police and Partners**

Mark visited Dewsbury during spring 2016 to see first-hand how local police officers and partners have begun to tackle street drinking. At the end of 2015, there were reports of intimidating groups of drinkers congregating in the town centre. West Yorkshire Police, in partnership with other agencies, local businesses, and councillors, have started to work with individuals to address their underlying issues and support them to find solutions to their alcohol misuse. This work is a good example of how vital neighbourhood policing and partnership working can be in helping keep our communities safe.

### **Cleaner, Greener, Safer: Halifax's Week of Action**

Calderdale Community Safety Partnership supported a 'week of action' in Halifax in October 2016. The aim of the week was to highlight the joint-work of the Council, the Police, the Fire Service, and other partners, and promote Halifax as a safer and cleaner place to visit and live in.

Activities focused on road safety and street crime, problem parking, licensing inspections, and fire safety checks at nightclubs and bars. On the cleaner and greener agenda, action was taken to remove graffiti from subways, as well as recycling and pest control initiatives.

The week of action coincided with Halifax becoming a Business Improvement District and the award for the 5th year running of Purple Flag status, recognising a safe and thriving night-time economy. The success of the event has led to further action days in Elland (February 2017) and Todmorden (June 2017).

### **Recognising West Yorkshire's Neighbourhood Watch volunteers**

Dedicated Neighbourhood Watch volunteers were thanked for their efforts in helping to keep our communities safe at an awards event held in November. Mark was joined by Deputy Chief Constable, John Robins, to show his appreciation to those members of our communities who devote their free time to helping prevent crime. Neighbourhood Watch is the largest voluntary crime prevention group in the country and has operated in West Yorkshire for over 30 years. Research has shown that an active Neighbourhood Watch group can reduce crime in an area by a quarter.

## Performance and Delivery Overview

### Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour is a complex and challenging task - different problems require different responses and the input of different partners. To understand our collective progress in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, we closely monitor recorded crime levels along with other measures such as public confidence, and communities' feelings of safety.

During 2016/17, total recorded crime has increased by 18% to 238,913 offences. Whilst the majority of this increase is due to improvements in the way that West Yorkshire Police is recording crime, it is calculated that there has been a real increase in crime of around 6%. The PCC continues to work with West Yorkshire Police and partners to prevent crime and re-offending and we expect this figure to reduce over the next year.

Re-offending rates and the proportion of police officers in operational functions have remained stable this year, which should be seen as a success given the pressures facing the criminal justice system. Encouragingly, HMIC have once again graded West Yorkshire Police as GOOD in their overall PEEL inspections for 2016. The proportion of respondents to our surveys that say they feel safe in West Yorkshire is also increasing.

Objective	Measures	West Yorkshire		
		12 months to March 2016	12 months to March 2017	Trend over time
Significantly reduce the volume of crimes committed in West Yorkshire	Total recorded crime	202,804 (+29%)	238,913 (+18%)	Deteriorating
	Risk of household crime	13.3%	10.2% (Dec 16)	Improving
	Risk of personal crime	4.1%	3.5% (Dec 16)	Improving
Significantly reduce the re-offending rate in West Yorkshire	Reoffending rates of the managed cohort	Adult - 25.8% Youth - 38.0%	Adult - 25.4% Youth - 38.0%	Performance maintained
HMIC PEEL inspections will grade West Yorkshire Police as GOOD or OUTSTANDING at effectively reducing crime	HMIC PEEL Effectiveness inspection	GOOD	GOOD	Performance maintained
More people will feel safe in West Yorkshire	Feelings of Safety survey / Your Views	82.0%	83.8%	Slightly Improving
Frontline policing will be protected and resourced to deter, detect and deal with criminals	Proportion of police officers in operational functions will remain the same or improve	93.2%	93.1%	Performance maintained

## Safeguard Vulnerable People

The importance of safeguarding vulnerable people crosses over every outcome and priority in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21. In 2015, HMIC noted that our ability to safeguard the vulnerable required improvement, but we are pleased to report that the 2016 HMIC PEEL inspection has now graded West Yorkshire Police's performance as 'good'. We continue to bring safeguarding boards together through the OPCC Safeguarding Advisor to ensure that all vulnerable people receive a consistent level of service, regardless of who they are or where they live in West Yorkshire.

Objective	Measures	West Yorkshire		
		12 months to March 2016	12 months to March 2017	Trend over time
HMIC PEEL inspections will grade West Yorkshire Police as GOOD or OUTSTANDING at protecting the vulnerable	HMIC PEEL vulnerability inspection	Requires improvement	Good	Improving
The most vulnerable people will be identified and supported	The volume of people who go missing repeatedly will reduce	7,510 missing 24.8% repeat rate	9,413 missing 26.0% repeat rate	Deteriorating

## Support Victims and Witnesses

We closely monitor the victim satisfaction rates of those who have been supported by West Yorkshire Police and the specialist services the PCC commissions from *Victim Support*. Unfortunately we have seen a drop in the levels of satisfaction with West Yorkshire Police over the last year. All calls for service from the public go through the police's 'THRIVE' assessment, which enables control centres to make decisions about the deployment of officers to where they are needed most. Unfortunately, making this assessment can mean that some people who have been a victim of crime (such as a vehicle crime) may feel they are not receiving the level of service they expect. We will continue to work with the Chief Constable to ensure that victims are getting the appropriate level of service, and will work with partners to ensure that complementary support services are available across the five districts.

Objective	Measures	West Yorkshire		
		12 months to March 2016	12 months to March 2017	Trend over time
More victims will be satisfied with the level of service they receive from the police	Victim satisfaction survey	84.3%	78.6%	Deteriorating
More victims who choose to access victims services will be satisfied with the service they receive	Victim services data **Unavailable for Q4	82% (Apr-Jun 16)	86%** (Jul-Sep 16)	Improving

### Make Sure Criminal Justice Works

The PCC has responsibility not only for policing, but also to make sure that criminal justice agencies are working together to provide an effective service for the public. During this year Mark has taken over as Chair of the Local Criminal Justice Board, which brings criminal justice partners together to discuss and deliver improvements to services. We monitor a number of measures which help to identify areas of potential weakness in performance, as well as highlighting the advances being made. Co-ordinated by the OPCC, the new Your Views survey asks West Yorkshire residents to share their views on their experience of the work of community safety partners and the police. Currently the results of the survey are showing a stable trend, but we will be referring to this information throughout the year to monitor any change in public perception of the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

In the last year we have seen improvements in all of the other measures of progress around this outcome; the percentage of ineffective trials is reducing, as is the average time taken for Magistrates' Courts to reach resolutions, whilst the demographic profile of the West Yorkshire Police workforce is bringing us closer to the target of a police service which is representative of the community it serves.

Objective	Measures	West Yorkshire		
		12 months to March 2016	12 months to March 2017	Trend over time
Increase the confidence of communities in their community safety partners	Your Views survey	41.0% (PPS - Mar 15)	38.8% (PPS - Mar 16)	Performance maintained
Ensure all relevant partners are working together to achieve effective results	Ineffective trial rate	Mags: 15.4% Crown: 16.1%	Mags: 13.8% Crown: 17.7%	Improving
Ensure all relevant partners are working together to achieve efficient results	Average time taken for cases to be brought to resolution	37.1 days	34.7 days	Improving
Have a police service which is more representative of the people it serves	The demographic breakdown of those recruited into West Yorkshire Police	5.3% BME	5.5% BME	Improving

# The Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 21

The Police and Crime Plan 2016-21 is all about keeping West Yorkshire safe and feeling safe. It guides the police and other partners as we work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, safeguard vulnerable people, make sure criminal justice works for communities, and support victims and witnesses.

The Plan sets the strategic direction for policing and community safety over the next five years, and is the result of an extensive consultation with people across West Yorkshire, our partners and the police, which ran between May and September 2016. Each outcome that we are working towards in the Plan includes a range of more detailed objectives and specific delivery measures. The plan also includes 16 priorities which have been identified through the consultation.

Importantly, the Police and Crime Plan provides the basis for how the PCC will hold the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police to account. The Chief Constable will report back on progress made against the outcomes and priorities in various ways, including Delivery Quarterly meetings (where progress around the outcomes is assessed), and public facing Community Outcomes Meetings (where progress against the priorities is measured). Where partners have been supported or resourced by the OPCC, they are also expected to provide progress updates against these outcomes and priorities through similar mechanisms. All of this information is made publicly available through the OPCC website.

The heart of the plan is a commitment to work together to make a better West Yorkshire for everyone. To read the full version of the Police and Crime Plan, please visit the OPCC website at [www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk), or request a hardcopy by contacting our office.

What we are going to deliver	
Our vision	Our outcomes
Keeping West Yorkshire safe and feeling safe	Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour Safeguard vulnerable people Make sure criminal justice works for communities Support victims and witnesses
Our priorities	
Burglary Child sexual abuse Community cohesion Cyber crime Domestic abuse Drug and alcohol misuse Hate crime "Honour" based abuse	Human trafficking and modern slavery Major threats Mental health Missing people Radicalisation Road safety Sexual abuse Strategic Policing Requirement

## OPCC Financial Statement

A full record of the budget and accounts for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire is available at our website at:

<https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/our-business/finance.aspx>



Office of the  
**Police & Crime  
Commissioner**  
West Yorkshire