

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING
SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND WITNESSES**

31 JULY 2017

SUBJECT: SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

Report of the Chief Constable

<p>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</p> <p>1. To provide an update to the PCC on the work West Yorkshire Police do to support victims and witnesses.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is satisfied that the Force is providing key information to victims and gaining consent for referral to support services from vulnerable victims.</p>
<p>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN</p> <p>3. Supporting Victims and Witnesses is one of the Outcomes in the Police and Crime Plan. Being a victim of crime can have a significant impact on a person's life, on their family and their community. The PCC has pledged to put victims, in particular those who are the most vulnerable, first and around 37% of respondents to the Your Priorities, Your Plan survey agreed that we should keep a focus on supporting victims and witnesses.</p>
<p>KEY INFORMATION</p> <p>4. The PCC has provided a wide range of victim support services which are available to all victims in West Yorkshire whether or not they have reported a crime to the police. All services are focused on enabling victims to both cope and recover from the impact of crime.</p> <p>5. Victims Hubs are centres dedicated to supporting victims and witnesses operate in each district of West Yorkshire. They are Open to the public for drop in support, appointments and information. They can also be used for 1-1 meetings with partner agencies for victim support work.</p> <p>6. The PCC regularly supports campaigns to support vulnerable victims including the Hate Hurts campaign, a variety of Domestic Abuse campaigns and Honour Based Abuse campaigns among others.</p> <p>7. In November 2017, the PCC will be hosting a Third Sector Conference titled 'Police and Third Sector – Working Together to keep Yorkshire Safe and Feeling Safe'. The third sector already play a very important role, for example, in meeting the needs of victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence.</p> <p>8. The PCC chairs the Local Criminal Justice Board where criminal justice agencies work together to ensure that victims and witnesses are supported throughout the criminal justice system.</p>

ATTACHMENT

- [Chief Constables report – Supporting Victims](#) (PDF 160KB)
- [Appendix A and B – Supporting Victims](#) (PDF 484KB)