



Newsletter

June 2019

Modern Slavery Independent Review Final Report

I welcomed the final report from the Independent review of the Modern Slavery Act which was released in late May. We have come a long way in tackling these issues, especially over the 4 years since the Act became law, and this final report builds on that good work with 80 recommendations for improvements. These largely align with many of my own observations. Specifically the points on transparency in supply chains (TISC) and the role of independent child trafficking advocates (ICTAs). The release of the report came as my National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network (NATMSN) held one of its quarterly meetings with a number of the recommendations already on the agenda. The Modern Slavery Police Transformation Programme are one of the key partners on the NATMSN and have also just launched their Annual Report. It details work in partnership to tackle modern slavery and the huge impact that has had, most noticeably on referrals to the National Referral Mechanism as well as the number of on-going cases nationally. The MSPTP was due to end this year but has just received a further year's funding from the Home Office.

[Find out more](#)



My office wins prestigious national award for custody visiting

My office won a Gold Standard Quality Assurance award for the quality of its independent custody visiting scheme. The awards were introduced by The Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) to help schemes reflect on how they comply with the Code of Practice, celebrate areas of strength, promote custody visiting and increase sharing of good practice. Here in West Yorkshire we have a truly dedicated team of Independent Custody Visitors who selflessly give up their time to make a real difference to policing in on behalf of our communities. This award is for all our ICV volunteers and our hard working OPCC staff. I am proud that the Gold standard award reflects their hard work and commitment to our scheme, my thanks goes to each and every one of them for the difference they continue to make. If you would like to become an ICV in West Yorkshire, or to find out more about this rewarding volunteer opportunity please email contact@westyorkshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk or call 01924 294000.

[Find out more](#)



The gloves were on as PCC joins Kirklees Rural NPT at Rawthorpe Amateur Boxing Club

I had a busy day in Kirklees last month visiting the Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) as well as Safer Communities Fund grant recipient, Rawthorpe Amateur Boxing Club (RABC). I met with the NPT at Holmfirth Police Station and joined a team briefing as well as speaking to the duty Inspector, Inspector Briggs, officers and staff. I am a big supporter of NPTs and the real difference they make in both tackling and preventing crime as well as community safety issues generally. I then went on to visit RABC which the Rural NPT link in with to help provide youth diversionary activities on Friday nights. RABC were also awarded a grant of £5000 from the most recent round of my Safer Communities Fund to help with their youth diversion project which provides boxing and recreational activities to young people in the area. Diversionary activities have a really important role to play in reducing and preventing crime and I was pleased to be able to support RABC who are clearly making a positive contribution to their community.

[Find out more](#)

Crime recording judged as 'Outstanding'

West Yorkshire Police has been praised by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) as 'Outstanding' for the way it records crime. The Force is one of only two in the country (of the 34 inspected so far) in this programme of inspections which have been judged as achieving an 'Outstanding' performance; and it is the first among the country's metropolitan forces to be graded as 'Outstanding'. Awarding the top grade, HMICFRS said in its Crime Data Integrity Inspection 2018: "Victims are at the forefront of the force's crime-recording arrangements." It added: "The Force has made excellent progress in improving its crime recording standards since our 2014 inspection". I am delighted that West Yorkshire Police have been awarded this outstanding grading for the way it records crime and I would like to thank all the police officers and staff who have worked so incredibly hard to make this happen. [Find out more](#)



Chair of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC)

As part of my work as the Chair of the APCC I attended a meeting looking at how cases of a fraud are dealt with nationally and how we can improve our response. This initial meeting provided an outline of the national landscape for fraud and economic crime including the drivers for change, challenges and opportunities as well as providing a networking opportunity to share experiences and consider best practice. I also attended a Police System Performance meeting with Nick Hurd MP and the APCC general meeting which I chaired in London with representatives from the Home Office and the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC).



Safer Communities Fund projects targeting violent crime across West Yorkshire

Projects funded by my Safer Communities Fund are tackling violent crime across the region. I visited a number of these schemes last month including Sunnyvale Outdoor Activity Centre in Calderdale and On Trak Community Initiative in Bradford with my office also visiting RADYCAL in Kirklees. These initiatives all received several thousand pounds in order to provide diversionary activities and awareness raising sessions for young people, as well as one project producing a piece of theatre focusing on knife crime which was performed in front of a host of local colleges. These projects are some fantastic examples of the prevention and early intervention work that I have championed as being so crucial in helping to tackle serious violence and general crime issues. My thanks to all the projects for all their hard work and it was great to make personal visits to hear about the activities first hand. The current round of the Safer Communities Fund closed for applications on 24 May. We received over 175 applications, with these due to be distributed in September. [Find out more](#)

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If you've been affected by crime, Victim Support can give you the help you need to move forward. Their services are free, confidential and available to anyone in England and Wales, regardless of whether the crime has been reported or how long ago it happened. To find out more about their services visit www.victimsupport.org.uk or call 0300 303 1971.