Agenda Item No.7

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

TACKLE CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR MEETING

17 APRIL 2018

SUBJECT: SERIOUS ACQUISITIVE CRIME

Report of the Chief Constable

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. This report outlines the Force's current position in relation to Serious Acquisitive Crime (residential burglary, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle and robbery).

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner uses this report to scrutinise Force performance in response to Burglary and Serious Acquisitive Crime.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

3. Burglary sits as its own priority in the Police and Crime Plan. Responses to our Your Views survey show that burglary is often the greatest safety concern for residents after road safety. Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) is the term used to cover domestic burglary, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle, and robbery. The latest Your Views survey data records that just over half of residents feel that burglary is a problem in their local area.

KEY INFORMATION

- The PCC has run a crime prevention themed round of the SCF during 2017, to help support local communities response to neighbourhood crimes like burglary and theft.
- WYP runs two burglary prevention campaigns in the spring and the autumn to counteract the increased threat posed to households at these times.
- Last winter's campaign included a video interview with a Leeds resident, who described the upsetting personal impact of burglary on her family.
- WYP Corporate Communications have used Twitter and Facebook to promote crime prevention in specific locations being targeted by burglars.
- In October, Keighley NPT co-ordinated week long operation against suspected burglars which resulted in 20 arrests and ten charges. In December, 5 men were sentenced to a total of 14 years imprisonment for burglary and theft of vehicles from a home in Woodlesford.
- The annual weapons surrender campaigns remove weapons from our neighbourhoods which could be used in robberies. February 2017's campaign collected 300 knives, guns and rounds of ammunition
- To tackle neighbourhood crimes like burglary and theft, a Predictive Policing App is available on officers' handheld devices to help them target their patrols to areas of need at the right times of the day.

• The PCC has also funded OWL which is an advanced solution for police and communities to grow and manage Neighbourhood Watch, Business Watch, Rural Watch and dozens of other schemes. OWL provides watch members with the latest messages and crime alerts sent by email, telephone, SMS or fax.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

4. WYP have worked with partners in the WY Fire and Rescue Service to inform their 'Safe and Well' visits to vulnerable households. Safe and Well visits allow fire officers to deliver personal safety messages to residents in their homes – working in collaboration with WYP, these visits have been extended to include crime prevention advice, including advice on how to prevent burglaries.



Title: Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC)

CoT Sponsor: ACC Hankinson

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Summary

The report contained in this paper outlines the current Serious Acquisitive Crime statistics and a broad overview of the work undertaken to combat such crime. The report is for the Community Outcomes Meeting April 2018.

Report on Serious Acquisitive Crime

- 1. Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) is residential burglary, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle and robbery.
- 2. Theft is defined by section 1 of the Theft Act 1968;
 - a. A person is guilty of theft if he/she dishonestly appropriates property belonging to another with the intention of permanently depriving the other of it.
- 3. Robbery is defined by section 8 of the Theft Act 1968;
 - a. A person is guilty of robbery if he/she steals and immediately before or at the time of doing so and in order to do so he/she uses force on any person or puts or seeks to put any person in fear of being then and there subjected to force.
- 4. Burglary is defined by section 9 of the Theft Act 1968
 - a. A person is guilty of burglary if—
 - b. he/she enters any building or part of a building as a trespasser and with intent to steal, inflict GBH or commit damage; or
 - c. having entered any building or part of a building as a trespasser he/she steals or attempts to steal anything in the building or that part of it or inflicts or attempts to inflict on any person therein any grievous bodily harm.

- 5. Compliance with the National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) continues to drive improvements in the quality and consistency of crime recording in West Yorkshire. This in turn has led to an increased likelihood of a call for service becoming a recorded crime.
- 6. Analysis of calls for service and recorded crime identify that the majority of the increase is as a result of efforts to ensure the force complies with the National Standard for Crime Recording.
- 7. On the 1st April 2017 the counting rules for burglary changed. Prior to the 1st April 2017 if a burglary occurred in an outbuilding (garage, shed etc.) this would be counted as a burglary non dwelling. A burglary in an outbuilding belonging to a dwelling is now counted as burglary residential. A calculation has been applied to the burglary non dwelling offences for the purposes of this report prior to 01/04/2017 by carrying out an analysis and determining from a sample that 46.6% of these would now be burglary residential.
- The tables at appendix A have been altered accordingly with table 2a showing the burglary residential figures compared with the previous year's burglary dwelling figures. Table 2b shows the burglary residential figures with the above detailed adjustment. The figures used in this report are taken from table 2b with the adjustment included.
- 9. Burglary residential increased by 2% in 2017 / 2018.
- 10. Calculations for the crime recording year 2017/18 shows West Yorkshire Police are predicted to record 5249 thefts of motor vehicles, 15,027 theft from motor vehicles, 3119 robberies and 20,162 residential burglaries. Figures for the months of April 2017 to March 2018, as of the time of writing this report are 5249 thefts of vehicle, 13751 thefts from vehicle 2854 robberies and 18450 residential burglaries.
- 11. West Yorkshire Police actively promote crime prevention and have an appropriate communication strategy to raise public awareness and encourage the reporting of crime. The Darker Nights campaign runs each year beginning in late October as the nights draw in.
- 12. A full breakdown of the statistics relating to Serious Acquisitive Crime are attached at appendix A.

Crime Data Integrity

- 13. As of the 1st April 2015 the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR) linked to the National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) altered and guidance was provided by HMIC to ensure all forces were recording high quality data to establish where, when and how many crimes and incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) were occurring. This information is essential for appropriate deployment and tasking, ensuring an accurate picture of crime and ASB and providing vulnerable victims of crime and ASB access to support services.
- 14. As a result the following policy was introduced requiring crimes to be created;
 - a. Crimes to be recorded within 24 hours of reporting.

- b. Third Party reported crimes to be recorded if the Third Party was acting in a professional capacity for the victim, whether the victim is aware of the report or not.
- c. Offender under the age of 10 years proportionate investigation.
- d. Offender lacks capacity.
- e. Offences of rape and attempt rape to be recorded at first point of contact, unless the report is by a witness not acting in a professional capacity, a carer or parent or the crime occurred in another Force area.
- 15. The result of this alteration to West Yorkshire Police's Crime Recording Policy increased the likelihood of a crime being created when a report is received. This led to increases in recorded crime in all Forces across the country and is not just a West Yorkshire issue.

Victim Satisfaction

- 16. Satisfaction rates are a measure of a person's / victims view of the police after interaction with a member of West Yorkshire Police.
- 17. Up until the 31st March 2017 forces were required by the Home Office to survey victims of a limited number of crime types namely Burglary, Violent crime, Vehicle crime and Hate and Domestic Abuse victims. This requirement ceased in April 2017 but was replaced with an expectation from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services that forces will seek feedback from service users using robust methodologies and that the feedback will be used to inform and improve practices.
- 18. A new programme for assessing victim satisfaction was introduced in April 2017 which distinguished between those crimes we attended and those which were dealt with by a telephone investigation. The new programme now includes a wider range of victims and will include all crime types based on the Home Office Crime tree categorisation.
- 19. Overall satisfaction for the combined measure of burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime victims has steadily declined from a high of 89.7% in September 2014 to the current level of 75.7% for the 12 months to December 2017 (4.4% reduction in comparison to the previous 12 months).
- 20. In comparison to the previous 12 months, satisfaction reductions have been seen across the below crime types; burglary victims (down 4.2%), vehicle crime (Theft of motor vehicle down 3.7% and Theft from motor vehicle down 5.6%). Burglary victims are most satisfied with the service they receive (approx. 85%).

Crime Prevention

21. The Crime Prevention business area has grown during the 2017/18 period, with the expansion of the Headquarters team to include three new Crime Prevention Officers to support in delivering against the strategic threat areas for the Force and emerging issues at a local level. There has been a significant investment in the delivery of crime prevention training for frontline and 'first point of contact' officers/staff; crime prevention features in the training of Special Constables, PCSO's, the post foundation course for police constables, the Operational Sergeants course, Customer Contact

Centre staff training and all Crime Scene Investigators received inputs during 2017. All West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service crews are also receiving crime prevention training as part of their Safe & Well programme, in order to enhance existing collaboration and deliver key messages.

- 22. The Force has reviewed and enhanced its problem solving model, underpinned by the delivery of problem solving masterclasses across the five Policing Districts. Masterclasses continue to be delivered to officers and staff from a range of teams, including Neighbourhood, Response, Safeguarding, Crime and ASB. The model is designed to assist in developing sustainable solutions to local problems and has been recognised as good practice by the College of Policing.
- 23. Crime prevention and problem solving form one of the key strategic pillars of our Neighbourhood Policing model, as well as being at the forefront of delivering against our joint vision with the Police and Crime Commissioner in keeping communities in West Yorkshire Safer and Feeling Safer.

Robbery

- 24. Robbery offences were plateaued in 2014 and began to rise slowly through 2015 reaching 2443 for 2016/17. The predicted figure for 2017/18 is 3119 (comprising 457 business and 2662 personal property). Overall, this is a total increase of 16.5% on the previous year.
- 25. When comparing West Yorkshire with eight other similar forces we have the 6th highest reports of business robbery and the 5th highest reports of personal robbery offences.
- 26. The detection rate for 2016/2017 for robbery was 15.5%. The detection rate for 2017/2018 year to date (April 2017 Feb 2018) is 13.6% showing a slight decrease.
- 27. In Calderdale robbery of business property is down by 27.1% but with all other districts in both business and personal robbery there is an increase on figures expected at the 2017/2018 year end. Leeds has seen a 98.7% rise in business robbery which is an increase from 110 in 2016/2017 to the projected 219 at the yearend 2017/2018. Leeds saw a rise of 29.3% in personal robbery.
- 28. It is estimated that around two thirds of the increase reported so far this year for personal robbery is as a result of changes in recording practice, whilst around one third of the increase relates to increased 'risk' and reflects an increase in calls for service in relation to this offence.
- 29. The increasing threat of Business Robberies has been identified in the Forces Strategic Assessment and has been rated as one of the Forces Top Ten threats, with an acknowledgement of the significant impact that these offences can have on the local community.
- 30. Offences are fairly evenly spread across all days but are most likely to occur between 4pm and 9pm.

- 31. After cash, mobile phones are the most frequently stolen item (in approximately 40% of all Robbery offences).
- 32. Males aged 16-25 are most likely to be the victims of personal robbery.
- 33. 24% of Robbery victims are female.
- 34. 15% of suspects linked to Robbery where the ethnicity was recorded were Black or Mixed and were over-represented compared with the overall population.
- 35. Almost 4 out of 5 suspects where the gender and age were recorded were males aged under 35 years.
- 36. Almost a quarter of suspects linked to Robbery were linked to another Robbery recorded in the previous 12 months.

Burglary Residential

- 37. Using the calculation outlined above and shown on chart 2b, appendix 'A' there was a small drop in burglaries reported in 2014 / 15 at 17368 and since then a steady rise until 2016/17 saw 19764. The predicted amount of residential burglaries for this year end is 20162 showing an increase of 2% from 2016/2017.
- 38. In 2016/2017 5.8% of burglary dwelling offences were detected. This year to date (April 2017 Feb 2018) 4.2% of burglary residential offences have been detected. Please note that no calculation has been applied to these detection figures and so they are difficult to apply like for like, they do however offer some indication as to where the detection rate sits.
- 39. When compared to eight similar forces West Yorkshire has the highest amount of burglary reported.
- 40. Kirklees and Wakefield are showing a decrease of reported burglary residential / burglary dwelling offences from 2016/2017 to the projected figure for 2017/2018 with burglary residential for Kirklees showing a decrease of 9.6% and Wakefield of 1.9%. The other districts have shown slight increases.
- 41. Where an MO was recorded, just under half of offences were classed as 'Forced' entry, Euro Profile breaches are still prevalent and often associated with 2 in 1 burglaries or likely attempts.
- 42. Approximately 11% of burglaries involve theft of vehicle keys and the taking of the associated vehicle.
- 43. Where vehicles are targeted these are generally performance German models.

- 44. Burglary offences were most prevalent overnight between 01:00-04:00. This overnight peak was most apparent during British Summer Time and most distinct June-August. During the winter months (GMT) the overnight peak was less distinct and with a longer risk period of 19:00-05:00 and a secondary peak around 14:00.
- 45. Where an entry method is known, approximately 1 in 4 are through an insecure door or window.
- 46. Combatting these trends, West Yorkshire Police initiated the Darker Nights Operation and the Spring Burglary Campaign, raising public awareness of the need for vigilance with home security.

Vehicle crime

Theft from vehicle

- 47. Theft from vehicle offences previously fell through 2014 to a plateau in 2015 and started to rise slightly towards the end of that year and saw a steady rise up to 2017. It is predicted that by the year end 2017/2018 there will be a decrease of 920 reports of theft from motor vehicle which is a decrease of 5.8% from the previous year across the force.
- 48. When comparing the amount of theft from vehicle offences with eight other similar forces West Yorkshire Police recorded the 6th most offences.
- 49. In 2016/2017 2.3% of reported theft from vehicles were detected. In 2017/18 from April 2017 to February 2018 there has been 1.9% detected.
- 50. Bradford, Calderdale and Leeds have all seen decreases (10.1%, 19.4%, 5.5% respectively) with a slight increase seen in Kirklees and Wakefield in this area. (4.6% and 1.5% respectively)
- 51. Offences occur at all times of day with an increase in offending between 21:00 and 05:00 hours. The main property stolen was 'In Vehicle Technology' which included integrated Satellite Navigation Systems.
- 52. The overall profile of vehicle crime has changed little in terms of MO, property types or models stolen. Items on view continue to be the volume issue but power tools from commercial vehicles is an increasing trend and now accounts for 10% of TFMV. Registration plates and in car technology account for 7% and 11% respectively.
- 53. Integrated entertainment / sat nav systems from VW Audi group vehicles are specifically targeted, likely linked to low level Organised Crime Group activity, half of all systems stolen are from this vehicle group.
- 54. The main profile for offenders linked to theft from motor vehicle offences is white males aged between 12 and 21.

- 55. The use of low loaders and pickup vehicles to steal vehicles continues in low volumes corroborated by both crime and intelligence data.
- 56. West Yorkshire and the Region continue to be highlighted nationally in terms of both Transit van (despite reducing numbers) and Plant theft, both these issues are linked to the travelling fraternity through both crime and intelligence data and have strong links to OCGs.

Theft of vehicle

- 57. Recorded thefts of vehicle in the year 2014/2015 was 3574, in 2015 / 16 it was 4950 and in 2016 / 17 it rose to 5621. It is predicted that the year 2017 / 2018 will end with 5249 recorded theft of vehicles. This will be a decrease of 6.6%.
- 58. When looking at theft of vehicle offences with eight other similar forces West Yorkshire recorded the 6th highest.
- 59. In 2016/2017 there was a 7.9% detection rate with a 6.8% detection rate seen in 2017 to February 2018.
- 60. Wakefield district saw the largest decrease between 2016/2017 and 17/18 with 19% followed closely by Calderdale at 17%. A decrease was seen at Leeds with 6.9% and also at Kirklees with a 5.5% decrease. The only district that saw a small rise with reported theft of vehicles was Bradford with 3.5%.
- 61. Theft of motor vehicle offences have occurred mainly overnight, peaking around 00:00 hours and being reported around 07:00 09:00 hours. Offences are spread across all days of the week with a slight increase between Monday and Wednesday.
- 62. Cars account for 47% of all vehicles stolen, with Volkswagen Golf and Ford Fiesta being the most targeted.
- 63. Motorbikes and Scooters/Mopeds accounted for 36% of theft of motor vehicle offences Force wide. Although vans accounted for only 14% of all theft of motor vehicle offences, Transit vans accounted for the highest proportion of all vehicles stolen at 7%.

Ongoing Work

- 64. Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) is discussed at regular District pacesetter meetings throughout the day, ensuring appropriate offenders are prioritised based on threat, risk and victim vulnerability.
- 65. It is also discussed regularly in strategic governance forums such as Local Accountability Meetings and Force Accountability Meetings.

- 66. Emerging SAC patterns, series and hotspot locations are identified based on up-to-date information and responsibilities allocated to ensure offences are deterred and investigations are progressed expeditiously in conjunction with the daily business of policing.
- 67. Integrated Offender Management Teams (IOM) apply interventions to manage offenders in conjunction with partners to reduce re-offending and promote rehabilitation.
- 68. West Yorkshire Police continue to explore new methods of addressing serious acquisitive crime, including evidence based aspects of criminology that have been researched by academia and proven to have a positive outcome in reducing the opportunity for crime to occur. Place-based approaches that have reduced incidents of violent crime in the United States are currently being discussed in relation to addressing burglary and will be piloted during the 2018/19 period.

Strategic Risk implications

69. Increases in SAC is a risk to the police. Reducing crime and attacking criminality are part of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Crime and Policing Plan and the West Yorkshire Police Force Policing Strategy.

Supporting Documentation

70. Appendix A – West Yorkshire Police statistics

Appendix A

Serious Acquisitive Crime Performance

Table (1) Trends in Serious Acquisitive Crime – West Yorkshire

	Serious Acquisitive Crime								
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*			
Burglary - residential	17855	17368	18267	19764	18450	20162			
Robbery	1841	1862	2121	2443	2854	3119			
of business property	263	283	283	287	418	457			
of personal property	1578	1579	1838	2156	2436	2662			

Table (2a) – Burglary Residential

Burglary - residential										
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*	Change in 2017/18	% Change		
Bradford	3191	3006	3774	4022	5404	5906	1884	46.8%		
Calderdale	991	744	845	1068	1578	1724	656	61.5%		
Kirklees	1838	1828	1902	2204	2623	2866	662	30.1%		
Leeds	4522	4781	4795	5538	7067	7723	2185	39.5%		
Wakefield	950	920	1175	1185	1778	1943	758	64.0%		
West Yorkshire	11492	11279	12491	14017	18450	20162	6145	43.8%		

Table (2b) – Burglary Residential with Adjustment

Burglary - residential with adjustment										
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*	Change in 2017/18	% Change		
Bradford	4859	4601	5211	5415	5404	5906	491	9.1%		
Calderdale	1635	1252	1431	1670	1578	1724	55	3.3%		
Kirklees	2777	2742	2932	3170	2623	2866	-303	-9.6%		
Leeds	6761	6980	6705	7530	7067	7723	193	2.6%		
Wakefield	1823	1792	1989	1980	1778	1943	-37	-1.9%		
West Yorkshire	17855	17368	18267	19764	18450	20162	398	2.0%		

Table (2c) – Theft of Motor Vehicle

Theft of motor vehicle										
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*	Change in 2017/18	% Change		
Bradford	864	991	1407	1442	1366	1493	51	3.5%		
Calderdale	389	362	529	503	382	417	-86	-17.0%		
Kirklees	613	542	749	827	715	781	-46	-5.5%		
Leeds	1120	1197	1639	2069	1762	1926	-143	-6.9%		
Wakefield	466	482	626	780	578	632	-148	-19.0%		
West Yorkshire	3452	3574	4950	5621	4803	5249	-372	-6.6%		

Table (2d) – Theft from Motor Vehicle

Theft from motor vehicle										
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*	Change in 2017/18	% Change		
Bradford	4874	3992	4236	4850	3992	4363	-487	-10.1%		
Calderdale	1492	1136	1091	1387	1023	1118	-269	-19.4%		
Kirklees	2280	1854	2001	2323	2224	2430	107	4.6%		
Leeds	5738	5031	5384	5461	4723	5161	-300	-5.5%		
Wakefield	1931	1685	1611	1926	1789	1955	29	1.5%		
West Yorkshire	16315	13698	14323	15947	13751	15027	-920	-5.8%		

Table (2e) – Business Robbery

Robbery of business property										
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*	Change in 2017/18	% Change		
Bradford	69	81	55	84	100	109	25	30.1%		
Calderdale	29	18	13	30	20	22	-8	-27.1%		
Kirklees	29	49	43	37	65	71	34	92.0%		
Leeds	116	112	149	110	200	219	109	98.7%		
Wakefield	20	23	23	26	33	36	10	38.7%		
West Yorkshire	263	283	283	287	418	457	170	59.2%		

Table (2f) – Personal Robbery

Robbery of personal property										
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18*	Change in 2017/18	% Change		
Bradford	436	496	550	621	675	738	117	18.8%		
Calderdale	63	81	112	139	166	181	42	30.5%		
Kirklees	221	226	256	361	389	425	64	17.8%		
Leeds	779	674	790	878	1039	1135	257	29.3%		
Wakefield	79	102	130	157	167	183	26	16.2%		
West Yorkshire	1578	1579	1838	2156	2436	2662	506	23.5%		

Please note all above figures in "2016 / 17*" are expected out turn to the year end.

Crime Comparisons with Most Similar Forces¹ from 31st March 2017

Crimes Per 1000 Households										
SAC Offence	Lowest Rate in MSG	Highest Rate in MSG	MSG Average	West Yorkshire	Position in MSG (1 being lowest crime rate, 8 being highest)					
Domestic Burglary	7.5	16	11.9	16	8th					

¹West Yorkshires Most Similar Group of Forces (MSG) includes Greater Manchester (GMP), South Yorkshire, Northumbria, Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, West Midlands and South Wales.

SAC Offence	Lowest Rate in MSG	Highest Rate in MSG	MSG Average	West Yorkshire	Position in MSG (1 being lowest crime rate, 8 being highest)
Theft of Vehicle	1.1	3.4	2.1	2.3	6th
Theft from Vehicle	3.6	7.3	5.6	6.8	6th
Business Robbery	0.05	0.32	0.16	0.19	6th
Personal Robbery	0.33	2.22	1.05	1.06	5th