

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

TACKLE CRIME AND ASB MEETING

7 March 2017

SUBJECT: DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Report of the Chief Constable

<p>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</p> <p>1. This report outlines the Force's current position in relation to the partnership approach to Drug and Alcohol Misuse.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner uses this report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Drug and Alcohol Misuse</p>
<p>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN</p> <p>3. Substance abuse is often linked to crime and ASB and therefore causes harm not only to the individual but also to the wider community. We cannot hope to reduce crime and reoffending without tackling the underlying problems such as substance abuse, and we can only do this by working together. The PCC has said he will continually review the progress in reducing the number of people struggling with substance abuse, and will work to educate people around the risks of drugs and alcohol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioned a review of the West Yorkshire Drugs Intervention Programme• Following the review the PCC widened the definition to include all drugs and alcohol misuse.• Raised the profile and drugs and alcohol through the Community Safety Forum• Continued to provide funding for tackling drug and alcohol misuse to community safety partners in all five local authority areas in West Yorkshire• Ensured the Police have additional resource towards tackling drugs and alcohol misuse within custody settings.• There have also been 34 Projects funded under the Safer Communities Fund at a cost of £133,222 to deliver on this priority at a local level.
<p>PARTNERSHIP WORKING</p> <p>4. The PCC recognises that to tackle community safety problems through drugs and alcohol misuse is a wider partnership endeavour, public health in particular have a large role to play. The PCC has continued to provide funding through his Community Safety Fund to Community Safety Partnerships to enable them to commission appropriate services for each local area.</p>



Chief Officer Team Briefing for PCC

Title: West Yorkshire Police's Partnership Approach to Drug and Alcohol Misuse

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Summary

The report contained in this paper provides a summary of the interventions undertaken by West Yorkshire Police, in conjunction with partners, to address drug and alcohol misuse.

Report outlining the how West Yorkshire Police and partners work in conjunction to address drug and alcohol misuse.

1. **Addiction** can be defined as a chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences. It is considered a brain disease because drugs change the brain in terms of its structure and how it works.
2. **Signs of Addiction** – a person who is dependent upon alcohol / drugs will usually exhibit three or more signs of dependency. Such signs are, an inability to stop or control the amount of alcohol or drug taken; having to take more to get the same effect and exhibiting symptoms of withdrawal if not taken.
3. The Police and Crime Plan 2016 to 2021 outlines that substance abuse is often linked to crime and ASB. In order to reduce crime and reoffending it is necessary to address the underlying issues of substance abuse.
4. Offences committed whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs usually fall within two categories, those which are committed by being under the influence or being in possession of such a drug, i.e. driving whilst over the prescribed limit or possession of a controlled drug; or other criminal offences where the use of alcohol or other drug has contributed.

5. In January 2017 statistics indicated that there were 141,714 drug offences committed in England and Wales. Of these 25,175 were trafficking offences whilst 116,539 were possession offences. Both values represent small decreases on previous years.
6. In January 2016, 4235 persons were arrested and detained in custody in the West Yorkshire Police area. In January 2017, 4152 persons were again arrested and detained, this is not significantly different when comparing the two values. See Appendix A.
7. In January 2016, 613 persons (15%) were recorded as being drunk or in drink at the time of arrest / detention and 1406 persons (34%) stated they had consumed alcohol recently prior to arrest. In January 2017, 570 persons (14%) were recorded as being drunk or in drink at the time of arrest / detention and 1376 (33%) stated they had consumed alcohol recently prior to arrest.
8. When arrested In January 2016, 1013 persons (24%) and in January 2017, 1107 persons (27%) stated they were alcohol or drug dependent.
9. With regard to the data in Appendix A, it is important to remember that detained individuals who are recorded as being drunk/in drink/under the influence of alcohol/under the influence of a drug, are not necessarily suffering addictions. What can be said is that at the time of arrest and detention the individual appeared to be under the influence of an intoxicant.

Custody Interventions

10. The Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) was launched in 2003 and established partnership working between Criminal Justice, treatment and aftercare agencies to support drug users / addicts. Support is given from the point of arrest to sentencing and beyond to maximise opportunities to prevent further offending.
11. The programme offers intensive treatment encompassing the prescription of methadone to lower level interventions such as counselling combined with support to address underlying triggers to drug misuse, i.e. housing, Mental Ill-Health and relationship issues.
12. The police are usually a detainee's first contact with the Criminal Justice System and have the opportunity to identify appropriate individuals to be part of the programme. This could be through referral to supportive agencies or statutory requirements.
13. West Yorkshire Police currently utilise two criteria to perform tests of detained individuals for drugs leading to a referral to the Drugs Intervention Programme. The first being, where an offender, aged 18 years or older, is tested for a class A drug as a result of being arrested for a trigger offence, the second requiring an Inspector to authorise the test of a person, over 18 years of age, who has been arrested or charged with any offence providing that the Inspector has reasonable grounds to suspect that use by that person, of a class A drug, contributed to the offence
14. Should the detainee provide a positive result upon drug test they are required to attend an assessment to discuss their drug misuse with a member of the intervention staff. Should the individual be charged, the drug test result is passed to the courts to assist in any decision on bail and sentencing if convicted. This statutory provision also requires the detainee to attend and remain for a secondary assessment with DIP staff. Failure to comply with the requirements can lead to further arrest.

15. Arrest Referral Workers are based in West Yorkshire Police cell areas to provide guidance and advice to detainees with drug and / or alcohol addictions. Their services are offered to detainees or they can be seen on request of a detainee to discuss addictions and obtain referrals to external agencies able to assist with support.
16. Conditional Cautions are available to be used as an alternative to charge in certain circumstances. They can place a requirement on the individual to attend an appropriate course of treatment or awareness in respect of drug and / or alcohol addiction.
17. In January 2017, 327 conditional cautions were issued with various requirements attached. Of these approximately just less than a quarter required the individual to undergo or engage in rehabilitation activities for drugs or alcohol addiction.
18. Leeds Community Healthcare (LCH) are the medical provision embedded within West Yorkshire Police cell areas. They provide 24/7 staff to deal with all medical issues including alcoholism and drug addiction. They providing advice to custody staff on welfare issues and have access to the NHS System 1 database providing them with a detainee's medical history to ensure an appropriate diagnosis. LCH will refer detainee's to appropriate agencies to provide support after release.
19. Liaison and Diversion Project (L + D) intends to improve health and criminal justice outcome for adults and children in the justice system and have complex needs as factors in their offending behaviour. This includes alcohol and drug addiction, learning disabilities and Mental Ill-Health. This is currently being developed in West Yorkshire.
20. Upon release from custody, all detainees undergo a Pre-Release Risk Assessment which encompasses the consideration of drugs and alcohol addiction amongst others. The detainee is provided the opportunity of information, leaflets and contact details of suitable agencies who can support them after release. The responsibility to make contact and engage with the support service lies with the individual although custody officers will make contact with agencies by phone on behalf of the individual if appropriate.
21. The Together Women's Project operate in Leeds and Bradford and offer a bespoke intervention service to women over the age of 18 years to assist in reducing offending. Various support services are offered including alcohol and drug intervention.

Preventative Actions

Integrated Offender Management - IOM

22. West Yorkshire Police has adopted the 3 cohort IOM model of managing offenders to reduce re-offending. This is a partnership approach to ensure;
 - local delivery which meets local needs,
 - offenders are selected based on the risk they pose to the community,
 - offenders are responsible for their own engagement and understand the consequences of disengaging which is backed up by a robust criminal justice process,
 - current governance and programmes are used efficiently,
 - all involved work towards the cessation of offending.
23. IOM Teams engage with offenders to identify their triggers to offending and provide referrals and pathways to agencies (e.g. housing, substance abuse, Mental Ill-Health, training and employment etc.) who support and guide offenders towards the removal of such triggers.

24. IOM teams have strong links to the Drugs Intervention Programme but also refer offenders to voluntary and funded agencies who support offenders to manage their addictions and thus reduce the risk of offending.

Mental Ill-Health

25. Research suggests that alcohol and drug addiction is common place with person who suffer mental health issues but although closely linked one does not directly cause the other. Persons with mental health issues often use alcohol and drugs to self-medicate leading to a worsening of symptoms.
26. Such persons often come to the attention of the police due to committing crimes or a need for officers to secure the persons safety in their own best interests.
27. West Yorkshire Police work closely with Mental Health Services to provide the best possible care for such individuals putting their needs first by utilising the Street Triage Service and having mental health professionals based in District Hubs to provide advice and guidance to district staff.
28. This collaborative approach between the police and Mental Health Services provides a sharing of information, appropriate interventions to be applied and clear lines of communication between the partners ensuring individuals are dealt with effectively and efficiently.

Partnership Working Area (Neighbourhood Teams)

29. The issues of drug and alcohol abuse tend to be associated with Anti-Social Behaviour which directly impacts on the community. Partnership Working Area teams collaborate with partners to address the various triggers of ASB and make referrals where appropriate. This includes providing information on drug and alcohol support services.
30. PWA's often utilise Designated Place Prevention Orders. For example Inner South PWA, Leeds has such an order covering the city centre which provide police with discretionary powers to stop persons from drinking alcohol and to seize alcohol in public places. Leeds are also looking to utilise a Public Space Prevention Order to encompass intoxicating substances to address the issue of legal highs.

Reference

31. Crime Statistic for England and Wales – published January 2017.

Strategic Risk Implications

32. Reducing crime and attacking criminality are part of the Police and Crime Commissioners and West Yorkshire Police Force Policing Strategy. The link between alcohol and drugs addiction and demand for service on the police are well documented and it would be a risk not to engage collaboratively to address these issues.

Supporting Information

Appendix A

Primary Arrests January 2016

Risk assessment Alcohol question: Have you consumed alcohol recently;
 Risk assessment A/Depend question: Do you have any drug/alcohol dependences
 Risk assessment Medical question: Are you taking or supposed to be taking any tablets or medication

Risk assessment figures represent the number of records which contain a response to the above questions

Primary Arrest Reason	Total Arrests	Alcohol Related Arrest Classification	Domestic Violence Arrest Classification	Risk Assessment "Alcohol"	Risk Assessment "A/Depend"	Risk Assessment "Medical"
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	6	0	1	1	4	4
Aggravated Vehicle Taking	11	0	0	2	1	3
Breach of Bail	1	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of the Peace	238	58	135	154	61	116
Burglary Dwelling	151	0	9	22	48	63
Burglary Other	72	0	1	11	22	26
Criminal Damage	260	30	107	103	49	104
Disorder - Other	49	8	5	18	10	25
Disorder - Serious	121	28	28	59	22	52
Drugs Other	1	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs Possess Class A	14	1	1	4	5	3
Drugs Possess Class B	14	0	3	5	5	2
Drugs Possess W/I Supply Class A	26	1	0	4	11	8
Drugs Possess W/I Supply Class B	38	0	0	0	11	9
Drugs Possess W/I Supply Class C	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs Produce Class B	28	0	1	6	13	7
Drugs Produce Class C	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs Supply Class A	12	0	0	2	4	9
Drunk and Disorderly	119	108	0	109	27	45
Fraud and Forgery	44	0	1	3	2	12
Going Equipped for Stealing	23	0	0	0	5	7
Handling Stolen Goods	7	0	0	1	1	3
Homicide	4	0	0	4	2	4
Mental Health Act	8	0	0	4	1	4
Other Crime	154	2	45	9	25	83
Other Non-Crime	268	11	36	45	73	105
Other Theft	417	12	9	70	182	232
Other Violence Against Person	284	28	135	75	52	149
Prison Production	6	0	0	0	1	3
Recall to Prison	27	1	0	5	10	12
Robbery	93	2	5	13	25	43
S.18 Wounding	50	3	15	16	4	15
S.20 Wounding	15	3	4	7	2	4
S.39 Assault	454	49	370	174	78	224
S.47 Assault	505	80	347	219	87	238
Sexual Offence	140	3	25	24	14	67
Theft From Vehicle	44	1	0	9	13	16
Theft Of Vehicle	77	4	3	21	16	24
Traffic General	16	2	0	2	4	6
Traffic OPL	223	177	3	171	34	96
Warrant	215	1	3	35	89	103
Total	4235	613	1292	1407	1013	1926
		15%	31%	34%	24%	46%

Primary Arrests January 2017

Risk assessment Alcohol question: Have you consumed alcohol recently:
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Risk assessment figures represent the number of records which contain a response to the above questions

Primary Arrest Reason	Total Arrests	Alcohol Related Arrest Classification	Domestic Violence Arrest Classification	Risk Assessment "Alcohol"	Risk Assessment "A/Depend"	Risk Assessment "Medical"
Aggravated Burglary Dwelling	13	0	0	1	2	5
Aggravated Vehicle Taking	9	1	0	3	1	3
Breach of Bail	3	0	0	1	1	2
Breach of the Peace	203	62	113	136	74	111
Burglary Dwelling	186	7	20	17	49	75
Burglary Other	45	0	1	4	17	23
Criminal Damage	223	29	112	93	54	89
Disorder - Other	39	6	3	17	8	18
Disorder - Serious	125	20	46	65	17	53
Drugs Other	2	0	0	0	2	1
Drugs Possess Class A	14	0	0	7	7	5
Drugs Possess Class B	7	2	1	2	4	2
Drugs Possess W/I Supply Class A	50	1	0	4	11	14
Drugs Possess W/I Supply Class B	31	0	0	1	7	11
Drugs Possess W/I Supply Class C	1	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs Produce Class B	26	0	0	1	6	7
Drugs Produce Class C	1	0	1	0	0	0
Drugs Supply Class A	26	0	0	3	5	12
Drunk and Disorderly	85	74	2	77	18	31
Fraud and Forgery	40	1	1	3	7	19
Going Equipped for Stealing	17	1	0	1	2	4
Handling Stolen Goods	9	0	0	0	2	3
Homicide	11	0	1	1	4	5
Mental Health Act	8	1	0	3	2	6
Other Crime	146	7	33	19	29	58
Other Non-Crime	263	7	44	43	56	127
Other Theft	405	9	18	80	214	241
Other Violence Against Person	362	27	182	99	80	157
Prison Production	1	0	0	0	0	0
Recall to Prison	36	0	1	7	13	19
Robbery	71	0	3	7	21	34
S.18 Wounding	93	8	27	35	20	45
S.20 Wounding	8	1	2	2	1	3
S.39 Assault	431	57	340	183	92	187
S.47 Assault	429	69	313	199	97	202
Sexual Offence	121	4	16	28	17	51
Theft From Vehicle	33	2	0	4	19	15
Theft Of Vehicle	82	4	4	17	17	24
Traffic General	13	5	0	3	3	4
Traffic OPL	215	163	5	164	37	89
Warrant	269	2	0	46	91	125
Total	4152	570	1289	1376	1107	1880
		14%	31%	33%	27%	45%