



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

Tuesday, 10 March 2020

PRESENT

Mark Burns-Williamson - West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
Jayne Sykes - Interim Chief Executive (CX)
John Robins - Chief Constable (CC)
Matt Davison – Chief Supt
Richard Close – Supt
Chris Gibson – Det Supt

ALSO PRESENT

Sharon Waugh - Engagement Manager
Allison Kemp - OPCC Liaison Officer
Celeste Armitage – Engagement Officer

1. Notes of the previous meeting including matters arising

The notes of the meeting held on 3 December 2020 were confirmed as an accurate record. All actions were completed or ongoing.

2. Urgent Items

The Chief Constable gave an update and offered reassurance in relation to preparedness to respond to Covid 19.

The Chief Constable said WYP were in the planning and response stage working with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) and the Government. Locally WYP were also part of the local resilience forum. ACC Tim Kingsman was gold commander and leading on the WYP response. There were a number of issues for WYP including organisational issues, as an employer of a public service, maintaining effective and efficient policing and civil contingencies. Whilst things were changing day by day/hour by hour he was confident that WYP were as prepared as they could be.

The PCC also said he was linked in to the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) again flexing with what was a fluid situation.

He also spoke about the potential of a West Yorkshire devolution deal and had taken part in early discussions. It was likely that the change would come in 2024 and would be similar to the current model in Greater Manchester and London.

3. Police and Crime Commissioner Announcements:

- a) **Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) launch 5 March 2020** - The unit had been set up with £3.37million following a successful bid by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding from the Home Office's Serious Violence Fund. It was one of 18 VRU's which had been set up in a bid to tackle violent crime across the country. Violence Reduction Units took a multi-agency approach, bringing together police, local government, public health, voluntary and third sector, community leaders and other key partners to tackle violent crime and crucially to understand its underlying causes. West Yorkshire's VRU was going to be responsible for identifying the key drivers of serious violence locally and were currently developing a coordinated response to tackle them.
- b) **The Supporting People Harmed by Crime' strategy** - was officially launched on 19 Feb by the Police and Crime Commissioner with the national Victims Commissioner for England and Wales, Dame Vera Baird QC and ACC Russ Foster, the new strategy would raise awareness of what was available, including to victims who do not report to the police.
- c) **Transparency Quality Mark** – the CoPaCC Transparency Quality Mark for meeting key information requirements on his office's website. The Quality Mark was awarded to PCC's that comply with requirements as laid out in the Home Office specific guidance for PCCs published in 2013, which is based on the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011. The PCC thanked all staff involved.

Chief Constables' Announcement

Following an independent inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), West Yorkshire Police has been awarded an 'outstanding' grading for efficiency. HMICFRS published its 2018/19 PEEL (Police Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy) report today. The force is considered to be 'good' at preventing crime and tackling anti-social behaviour, protecting vulnerable people and tackling serious organised crime. The CC and PCC thanked all Officers and staff for their contribution to achieve the outstanding rating.

4. Counter Terrorism – Prevent

The PCC and CC had recently attended the Counter Terrorism oversight group where national issues had been reviewed.

Chief Supt Matt Davison introduced the report and updated the PCC on the Prevent Business Plan 2020/21. The plan was divided into three sections as detailed in the report. It also included work being conducted by the National Returnees Team which was being supported by Prevent in conjunction with the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), Home Office and Department for Education (DfE) in order to create a toolkit designed to support local authorities to safeguard children and vulnerable adults returning to the UK. A new ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) Safeguarding campaign would be launched in April 2020 and would be rolled out across West Yorkshire. This Prevent campaign would support the identification of those vulnerable to extremism within families. Work with partners, to assess, manage and disrupt those individuals who posed a CT or extremism risk and those who sought to radicalise the vulnerable.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The PCC asked about the work being done to connect the national with the local in the context of safeguarding those vulnerable to radicalisation.

CS Davison said that one of the key recommendations was the PREVENT strand of safeguarding, so all strands work together with the central safeguarding unit. This included training officers and events such as safeguarding weeks. He assured the PCC there was complete join up.

The PCC said the online world was increasingly a significant factor in the spreading of hate ideologues and the grooming of those vulnerable to exploitation and radicalisation especially children, he added in West Yorkshire we have invested in a strong cybercrime team who were using their expertise to engage with communities, children and businesses to prevent and identify cyber related crime. He asked if the experience and assets were connected to the work of counter terrorism policing.

CS Davison responded by explaining that the current threat showed online and lone actor ideologies fed each other. The North East CTU were leading a significant piece of work on this area, and he added that the cybercrime team and their current work had provided a real springboard to understanding the similarities in methodologies and approaches. He was delighted with the progress made and added that the rest of the country was looking to West Yorkshire. The Chief Constable also spoke about the ongoing work to counter extreme right wing terrorism.

The interim CX spoke of the value in linking in with the North East business resilience centre and their ethical hacker's team.

Action

Jayne Sykes to send details of the North East business resilience centre to WYP (Ch. Supt Davison).

5. Safeguarding

The report highlighted that in May 2019 West Yorkshire Police was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) to determine effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy across all areas of Policing. The final (PEEL) report had not yet been published, however West Yorkshire Police (WYP) were expected to receive a "good" grading in the key area of protecting vulnerable people. The expectation was to maintain the same grading achieved in the previous inspection conducted in 2017. The previous 'Safeguarding' Community Outcomes paper presented in October 2019 highlighted significant increases in demand across all areas of safeguarding and also emphasised the rise in complex non recent child sexual abuse investigations. Whilst HMICFRS acknowledged the demand pressures placed on the force, three areas for improvement (AFI's) were generated following the conclusion of the inspection and were detailed in the report.

In response, WYP had commissioned a safeguarding review led by a Detective Chief Inspector with a wealth of experience in this area.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

Whilst it is pleasing to see that WY was graded as GOOD at protecting vulnerable people the PCC noted the comments and plans in the paper including the safeguarding review to address the 3 areas for improvement?

The CC gave an assurance that WYP were not just waiting, they had a safeguarding review ongoing, which included WYP structures and response to safeguarding whether that be recent or non-recent cases and he added he was grateful to the PCC for his support and investment. There was also an investigations review which was about the victim's journey and in the short term the local policing governance board was overseeing fast track and actions regarding investigations, there was also local accountability at both district and department level. He was looking at short/medium and long term strategies to take WYP forward both in terms of deployment and future growth measured of course against the realities of demand.

In terms of partnership working WYP were working with others, the CC said a whole system approach was critical and that rather than criticising different agencies they could work together at finding solutions.

The interim CX asked about AFI 1 and the skills gap analysis, she questioned whether there was any threat from Operation uplift in terms of specialist training. The CC said that there was a potential conflict but it was good as it would mean more detective and safeguarding training.

6. Serious and Violent Crime

This was a fast paced area of work which had moved on since the Government strategy had been published, the PCC spoke briefly about funding which included surge activity and the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), the Early Youth Intervention Fund and Safer Communities Fund all working with and to support communities.

DS Gibson presented the report which provided an update regarding West Yorkshire Police's response to the additional funding provided by the Home Office totalling £4.02M to tackle Serious Violent Crime and knife crime, the report also included updates on Programme Precision, Organised Crime, County Lines and the VRU. The Police response was centred on the Home Office primary objective which is to reduce serious violence in public spaces with a focus on reducing knife crimes committed against young people. The key measures of success at a national level were; a reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object, especially among those victims aged under 25, a reduction in knife-enabled serious violence, especially amongst those victims aged under 25 and a reduction in all non-domestic homicides, especially amongst those victims aged under 25 involving knives.

The CC mentioned WYP achievements in crime recording, he said WY was a far better place to live, work in comparison to other metropolitan force areas. He was proud of all the work so far and added homicide was down, gun discharge was down, knife injuries down and injuries to young people down. He wanted to sustain the decreases and reduce them further. He looked forward to the VRU delivering a long term sustained approach. Front line officers and staff were totally committed and he commended those involved for their work so far. The PCC agreed there had been some really good surge work so far and flagged that some of the results from the VRU would be long term as it could take a while for the prevention and intervention investment to impact communities.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The PCC said with regards to Investigative Response and Approach to Child Offenders he noted that reference was made to support provided through Jemlock funding to some case-building in complex cases provision and he asked if WYP had put in place support to back office functions which were required after an arrest.

DS Gibson said WYP had recognised the need and impact of surge activities and had included additional funding as part of the Home office bid. Monies were set aside to increase resilience and pay for overtime. They were also working with the CPS to ensure there was not a backlog.

With regard to Liaison and Diversion the PCC asked how confident were WYP in their referral processes.

He was assured that Liaison and Diversion were embedded in all 5 district areas, the team also worked with St Giles Trust and were also looking at diversion and engagement with voluntary attenders. The CC also spoke about "chance to change" a Leeds based initiative, he was looking at how it would be developed over time.

The PCC commented that prisons within WY were hotspots, and breeding grounds for developing Organised Crime Groups, he asked what work was being done to address this and improve work to tackle Prison crime and reduce the risk presented.

The CC said there was a dedicated team that not just looked at prisons but also looked at engagement, he also mentioned the work of the offender's management hub. He added prison governors had the responsibility to deal with crime in prisons but there was a need to work together. The PCC and CC referenced the progressive work in Armley prison

In terms of Domestic Abuse the PCC asked about the strategic level contact between the Force Leads for serious violent crime and domestic abuse to ensure daily work was ongoing and complimentary. He was reassured this was the case.

7. Strategic Policing Requirement

The statutory Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) was initially published on 31st July 2012 in execution of the Home Secretary's statutory duty, to set out what are the national threats and the appropriate national policing capabilities required to counter those threats. Whilst many threats can be tackled by individual police Force areas, the SPR identifies those threats which could require a coordinated or aggregated response, possibly from a number of Forces. In 2014, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (now HMICFRS) recommended the SPR should be reviewed periodically. In 2015, the SPR was reviewed and a sixth national threat of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) was added. This provided Forces with an opportunity to join up together with an integrated approach or effectively target local resources, recognising that offenders commit offences across Force boundaries and the severity of those offences.

The SPR is structured into two parts, A and B Part A of the SPR identifies the national threats which require a cross boundary policing response, which Forces and PCCs are expected to plan and prepare for in support of national arrangements. These are; Terrorism, Serious and Organised Crime (SOC), National Cyber Security Incident, Public Disorder, Civil Emergencies and Child Sexual Abuse

Part B of the SPR outlines the policing response that is required nationally to counter the threats.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The PCC complimented the detail in the report which was particularly pertinent in light of the current corona virus.

He asked what impact had resourcing Op Jemlock had on WYP's ability to respond to non-surge activity. The CC explained that there was a balancing act in place but that both surge and VRU activity were complimenting non-surge day to day policing.

The report detailed the existence of established operational structures within West Yorkshire and the region and strong links nationally with the National Cyber Crime Unit. The PCC asked Supt Close to expand on how WYP were engaging with the communities of West Yorkshire to raise awareness of how individuals, families businesses and communities could best protect themselves from cybercrime.

He was advised that this was about communicating which included school engagement, events with harder to reach communities, sessions with teachers, universities and collaboration with the chamber of commerce and senior leadership buy in was high on the agenda there was also a cybercrime national helpline.

The PCC asked about the Multi-agency response to child sexual abuse in the family environment: joint targeted area inspections (JTAs) report published in February highlighted a number of concerns regarding the response to child sexual abuse in the home environment. The report highlighted that the majority of CSA is in the home and that some agencies were not equipped adequately to deal with

The CC said this was a longstanding child protection issue which was being dealt with, there were structures in place and it was part of the ongoing safeguarding review which would look at victim care, prosecution, dealing with offenders and supporting victims.

8. Road Safety

The PCC said that the public felt very strongly about Road safety he also added that Bradford council had confirmed very positive support for vision zero.

The CC presented a regular update report on the issues highlighted in the 2019 Road Safety briefing to the PCC, which covered emerging issues and challenges for 2020 and beyond. The West Yorkshire Roads Policy Strategy 2019-2022 continued to be the bedrock of activity within West Yorkshire, with a continued ambition to deliver 'Vision Zero' in West Yorkshire with the Strategic Roads Executive Partnership. Vision Zero was currently 'work in progress' to gain both the Combined Authorities' endorsement (initially tabled on the 29th January 2020) and also the five local authorities to commit to the principle of 'safe systems of travel'. This would not dilute the very well recognised NPCC focus of the 'Fatal Four', but would encompass it as part of a wider and far-reaching partnership approach to safe travel and use of the road by engineering, education and enforcement.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The PCC said the overall number of Killed and seriously injured was worryingly high and higher than other forces. The CC explained that non-fatal injuries were coming down, May and June were generally difficult months and impacted on the figures but there was much to learn from Manchester's approach (subject to accurate crime recording). Vision zero had been in place there for some time and had impacted positively. The CC said there was a need to review what they were doing with ACC Kingsman, the Force lead

The bulk of the Police activity mentioned in the paper had been in place for some time, the PCC asked about new and additional measures.

The PCC was advised that dash cam footage should be live from June onwards, and there would be some returning to specialist roles but education and enforcement was key. In terms of the Fatal 4 drugs, alcohol and not wearing seatbelts were factors but the numbers of Killed or Seriously Injured were usually a combination of issues such as speed and no seatbelt.

In response to a question about ANPR the CC offered reassurance that it was being used to support county lines and all areas of policing.

9. Hate Crime – exception Report

The report presented both a National and local Overview on Hate incidents or crimes and are categorised across the monitored Hate strands, namely Race, Faith, Disability, Sexual Orientation and Transgender Identity. In terms of the west Yorkshire overview in 2018 there were 8,330 hate incidents to the police and of these 7,948 were recorded as hate crimes. In 2019 there were 8,254 hate incidents reported and from these, 8,240 crimes were then recorded, therefore 14 were hate non-crime incidents. A full breakdown of all statistics relating to Hate Incidents and Crimes, by strand were attached to the report. The statistics identified a 17.7% increase in hate crimes recorded in 2017 then an increase in 2018 of 38.7% and a further 3.7% increase so far this year. The recent increases are predominantly associated with administrative change in relation to Force crime recording processes, which have resulted in an increased likelihood of a crime being recorded following an incident report to the Police.

Crime increases were reported across a number of crime types this year and the increases in hate crime followed a similar pattern to related offences such as public order and low level violence without injury.

The tables at Appendix A to the report identified that 86.9% of hate crime related to offences of either public order where the victim is caused to feel under threat, distressed or alarmed (52% of all hate crime) or violence without injury (34.8% of all hate crime). Just 4.8% of recorded Hate Crimes took place on-line during 2019.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The PCC said that reporting was a double edged sword as it showed confidence in reporting but increased the need to better understand in particular repeat offences. He said Taxi drivers were specifically mentioned in the report as a group that under-reports and asked what more could be done to improve reporting.

Supt Close said WYP were realistic and knew there was underreporting despite public confidence and that reporting took times which was identified as an issue by Taxi drivers, he added that WYP needed to channel efforts to educate and deter offenders he added that 40% who reported hate crime did not want to pursue a criminal case.

The PCC said it was worrying that victim satisfaction levels had declined and asked about improvements he was advised that work was in train but it was unlikely that rates would improve in the short term.

The CC confirmed that WYP were working well with partners and whilst GDPR did cause some issues they were working hard to support more referrals to victim support and other third sector support.

The PCC said according to the data, there were 319 incidents of race and faith based criminal damage in 2019. Do these show any geographical trends or are certain areas being targeted. Supt Close explained there were no specific geographical hotspots but that transport hubs and larger population areas such as Leeds or Bradford did flag as they were heavily populated. The CC added Hate Crime co-ordinators also looked for patterns. WYP also worked quickly to address concerns and provide reassurance around specific religious premises. In response to a question about Coronavirus, there were no specific Coronavirus related hate crime incidents which had been reported in West Yorkshire although there had been issues nationally.

8. Future Agenda Items

Next meeting will discuss WYP response to Covid 19.

These items will now be discussed at the next meeting on 15 September 2020

- ASB
- Drugs and alcohol
- Mental Health
- Use of Force
- Neighbourhood Policing
- Covid Update

9. Any other business

No items of any other business were discussed

10. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on 15 September 2020.