

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING
SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND WITNESSES**

20 NOVEMBER 2018

SUBJECT: MENTAL HEALTH

Report of the Chief Constable

<p>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</p> <p>1. To provide an update to the PCC on Mental Health.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>2. That the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) seeks to understand the impact of Mental Health and how this is recognised within the West Yorkshire Police.</p>
<p>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN</p> <p>3. Mental Health is recognised as a priority in the Police and Crime Plan. Safeguarding vulnerable people is included as one of the four outcomes in the Plan. We have seen some successes in the responses made to people experiencing a mental health crisis. However more needs to be done to reduce the risk of those with mental health issues both committing and becoming victims of crime, and of victims not getting the treatment they need for mental health issues they may experience following crime.</p>
<p>KEY INFORMATION</p> <p>4. The West Yorkshire Criminal Justice and Mental Health Forum was launched in 2015. It is chaired by the OPCC Interim CEO on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Its members include West Yorkshire Police, Transport Police and the other emergency services, CCGs, Mental Health Trusts, NHS England, Public Health England, and the third sector. Through the Forum the PCC makes sure that partners are working together to collectively support people with mental health issues who find themselves in contact with the criminal justice system – as either offenders or victims - and look for opportunities to intervene at the earliest stage.</p> <p>5. West Yorkshire has responded positively to the changes in legislation affecting the use of Section 136 of the Mental Health Act which were implemented last December. West Yorkshire is complying with the new legislation but it does pose daily challenges for the Police, NHS and third sector. The use of S136 has reduced significantly in one district, where partners are working particularly well together to seek alternative approaches. The Forum receives regular reports on progress.</p> <p>6. The Forum has a number of strands of works at the current time. These include: a) responses to people experiencing a mental health crisis</p>

- b) therapeutic support for victims of crime
- c) mental health treatment orders
- d) support for people with multiple and complex needs
- e) West Yorkshire wide roll out of liaison and diversion

7. Therapeutic support for victims of crime is a new strand of work. Following discussion at the Forum, including a presentation about the services available from one trust, Victim Support is working with the trust to achieve greater mutual understanding of the support each can provide to victims who may be experiencing mental health problems as a result of crime. It is hoped this can result in a strengthening of referral pathways in that district, and the lessons learned be applied West Yorkshire wide.

ATTACHMENT

- [Chief Constables report – Mental Health \(PDF 428KB\)](#)