



## **COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February

### PRESENT

Mark Burns-Williamson – West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)  
Jayne Sykes – Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Dee Collins – Chief Constable (CC)  
Angela Williams – Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)  
Andy Battle – Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)

### APOLOGIES

John Robins – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)

### ALSO PRESENT

Sharon Waugh – Engagement Manager  
Celeste Armitage - Engagement Officer  
Paul Cumming – Sergeant  
Pamela Quinn – Sergeant  
David Smith – Victims and Witnesses Advisor

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#### **1. Notes of the previous meeting including matters arising**

The notes of the meeting held on 8 January were confirmed as a correct record.

#### **2. Urgent Items**

None to report.

#### **3. Police and Crime Commissioner Announcements**

**Safer Communities Fund** – The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) highlighted that Grant Round 13 of the Safer Communities Fund had closed on 9 February 2018. 205 applications had been received covering all 16 priority areas of the Police and Crime Plan. The outcome of applications would be celebrated at an Awards Evening on 19 April 2018 in Leeds.

#### 4. **Mental Health Update**

The PCC thanked colleagues for the update report which outlined the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) response which followed significant new mental Health legislation which had become statute since the last report update. He spoke about the context of mental health, the work of the quarterly Mental Health Forum and initiatives such as mental health nurses in Control rooms. The PCC also commented that he was pleased to see that no-one had been taken into police custody under Section 136 since the introduction of the new legislation on 11 December 2017.

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

The PCC asked about the main risks to manage in the coming months.

The Chief Constable(CC) explained that WYP often dealt with people with very complex needs for example those with mental health issues coupled with drink and/or drugs issues, she said that officers relied heavily on the view of health professionals to support them. ACC Battle added that risks going forward were understanding primacy, officers were first aid trained but this did not cover the spectrum of mental health issues. He also said that one of the unintended outcomes was that officers were being tied up for longer periods of time than expected. He did however recognise the overall context which was the legislation was still fairly new.

The Chief Executive commented on the low figures recoded in the section 136 data, she asked if there was a possibility that this was due to officers being reluctant to make an arrest.

ACC Battle gave reassurance that officers were not hesitant and would act, however he highlighted that officers would speak to health professionals prior to not making a decision to arrest. The Chief Constable confirmed that police officers needed to rely on expertise from medical professionals.

The PCC asked if other vehicles could be made available, not strictly ambulances but also triage vehicles.

**Action – Ch. Supt Minton be asked to raise the transport issue for discussion with appropriate strategic partners at his next meeting.**

The PCC said that Central Government had provided additional capital funding for health based places of safety but had not matched this with any revenue, he asked what the challenges were for the Police and asked if Health Based Places of Safety (HBOS) were of a consistent standard across West Yorkshire, especially for children and young people under 18.

ACC Battle confirmed there was good access to HBOS as there had been some applied capital funding, however this was not the case in respect of children where provision was limited both in terms of support and availability. The PCC added that he was keen to work with WYP colleagues and the Mental Health Forum to get a more systematic approach.

The Chief Constable also commented that this was an issue for the Care Quality Commission Inspection process.

The PCC referred to the report and the role of the Big Lottery which had funded the West Yorkshire Finding Independence Programme, a consortium of voluntary organisations supporting people with complex needs, he asked what risks would arise from the Big Lottery funding for this programme ending in 2020.

The Chief constable explained that Sheffield Hallam University were undertaking research to show that the consortium had resulted in a decrease in calls and Anti-Social Behaviour, it was felt there would be a significant impact to both Safeguarding and Neighbourhood Policing when the funding stopped, there was a need to look at the funding stream collectively.

Finally, the PCC asked what scope there was for the police to support the development of better prevention and early intervention strategies around mental health, to avoid the need to deal with crisis situations.

ACC Battle stated that there was lots of scope to work with partners and opportunities for the police to input into early help, neighbourhood policing working with district health professionals could do more to work with the most vulnerable and those with complex needs, he spoke about current work which had focussed on 10 of the most complex users. The Chief Constable added that a lot more needed to be done to improve information sharing, especially around the need for urgent mental health consideration.

## **5. Digital Mobile Update**

ACC Battle introduced the report which showed the progress made in relation to both Mobile handheld devices and Body Worn Cameras

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

The PCC began by commenting on the recently launched mobile fingerprinting technology which would allow frontline officers to use their hand held device to identify people. ACC Battle commented that there had been some misunderstanding of its use, and he gave an example of where someone's identity might be checked at the roadside after a vehicle was stopped. The system could be quickly used to confirm identity saving time not only for the officer but also the person stopped. Clear safeguards were in place as part of the Home Office pilot. He added that WYP were working hard to reassure the public about the integrity of its use and that processes which were in place.

**Action – future update report to include usage of fingerprint technology.**

### **a) Hand held Devices**

The PCC asked ACC Battle to say more about the new risk assessments for vulnerable adults and children and further asked how this was an improvement to current practices.

Essentially the app allowed for an electronic version of the public protection notice to be recorded and shared in real time for example with social care partners/safeguarding teams it

also allowed for automatic updating on NICHE with copy referrals although DASH and Human Trafficking had not been rolled out yet.

With regards to missing person's returns/intelligence again this allowed for real time recording. It also allowed for a more thorough and timely recorded return interviews as the current document would have to be produced then scanned in. Now all the data was recorded this allowed for better search functions within the system again linked to safeguarding. PRONTO and SAC data was also live time.

The PCC said that Social Media was a great way for officers to showcase the great work they did. Following the HMCFRS inspection and the query raised about not being able to access social media on hand held devices, the PCC asked why access to social media via the internet was preferred over installing the social media apps onto the devices.

ACC Battle explained that this was entirely a security issue, colleagues were frustrated with the current software but that this would be addressed with the new software on the Samsung 8, and security would be managed by WYP corporate services.

The PCC asked for the latest statistics with regards to use by frontline officers.

ACC Battle explained 42% of uniformed officers had used their handheld device 10 or more times per week, 59% had used them 5 times or more and 70% used once. Overall, organisationally 33% were using 10 times or more. It was anticipated that usage would increase as more specialist apps rolled out.

The Chief Executive asked if there had been a tangible increase in officer visibility linked to usage of the handhelds. ACC Battle said so far the increase was estimated at 40 mins to 1hr per officer per day.

The Chief Constable added that there was more work to do to inform public perception, she also confirmed that the incremental use would continue to increase as newly trained officers were already more dependent on the devices.

In terms of both Officer and public feedback the Chief Constable explained that officers liked to use the devices and usage would further increase as IT stations reduced, there were also other opportunities for non-frontline staff. She accepted some colleagues had found the technology a challenge but reiterated that as more systems were accessible online more officers would be encouraged to use them.

## **b) Body Worn Video**

The PCC asked if there was a timeframe for resolution for the battery and other technical issues highlighted within the report.

An engineer was working with WYP to help resolve some the issues and contract management was being undertaken by procurement, the aim was to resolve the issues within the next 6 months. Concerns were being flagged as part of the maintenance contract and audit were looking at linkage of BWV to investment.

Officers were really pleased with the cameras which through WYP professional standards had allowed for the early resolution of complaints quickly and efficiently, officers had also received positive comments on professionalism. Footage was also being used in cases where officers were assaulted. Members of the public had also got more used to the cameras.

The PCC welcomed the new improvements to enable officers to be truly 'mobile'.

## **6. Citizens in Policing Update**

ACC Williams introduced the update report formerly known as the volunteering paper, the report covered Special Constables, Police Support Volunteers and community volunteers.

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

The PCC welcomed the positive statistics around BME and women in Special Constables included in the report. He asked (following the closure of the recruitment campaign for Special Constables on 26 January) for a breakdown of protected characteristics for the applicants and whether there any specific work was undertaken to promote the opportunity to all underrepresented groups.

ACC Williams confirmed that a great deal of work had been done around the inclusion strategy and that out of the 436 applicants, 22% were disabled, 16% BME and 15% LGBT.

The PCC welcomed the roll out of the cadet scheme which was new in 4 of the districts last year (Bradford district was the pilot), he asked if there was evaluation or review planned before further decisions are taken on the future of the scheme. The original Bradford Pilot had been evaluated and further work had informed the Chief Officer Team. Currently 60% were from a vulnerable background and 25% were not. She recognised Cadets were not a cheap option, however the scheme was working well with many providing visibility at events, she added that WYP were currently looking at sponsorship.

The Chief Constable added that the cadet scheme had already resulted in a number of positive case studies highlighted by the vulnerability of some of those involved.

The PCC asked about Cadet recruitment, he was advised that all of the districts had recruited in different ways, Bradford and Kirklees had taken a targeted approach, and Wakefield had advertised which meant 50 were unsuccessful as it was oversubscribed. The Cadets had met in venues such as schools and colleges provided for free.

Calderdale street Angels were mentioned in the report, and the PCC asked why other similar projects were not highlighted.

The Chief Constable confirmed that many of the other schemes and initiatives were more fluid however Calderdale interaction had been consistent. She spoke about other associate volunteers such as Mountain Rescue who also worked with WYP.

The PCC and Chief Constable took the opportunity to place on record their thanks all volunteers.

## **7. Future Agenda Items**

Under the outcome of 'Tackle Crime and Antisocial Behaviour', the following topics will be discussed at the next meeting:

- Serious and Acquisitive Crime
- Cybercrime
- Hate Crime
- Antisocial Behaviour
- Road Safety
- Drugs and Alcohol

**8. Any other business**

No other business.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 14:30.