

### A message from Mark – Hello everyone

I hope you are all managing to keep safe and well and got through the second lockdown period ok.

The fact that we have now moved straight into Tier 3 should be a clear reminder to us all that there is still a long way to go in overcoming this pandemic within West Yorkshire, albeit infection rates have come down and are looking more promising following the lockdown restrictions.



However, now is not the time to take the foot of the pedal in terms of our own vigilance and efforts to further stem the spread of this infection.

The recent positive news around vaccines is very welcome but again, there is still a present threat that can only be managed through our own behaviours and activities until a mass vaccination programme can be rolled out.

Let's keep working together to reduce the rates of transmission and we will come out stronger and more quickly at the other end.

You can find out more about the tier restrictions here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area>

It continues to be a very busy time as you'll be able to see from the items in this newsletter, such as launching road safety and domestic abuse campaigns, tackling violent crime and supporting victims of crime. I have also released my latest annual report which covers a plethora of work over the last year or so, please access the link in the section below to find out more.

I hope you find the Newsletter content informative and most importantly, stay safe out there.

Best wishes

**Mark Burns-Williamson OBE**  
**West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner**

## Latest Annual Report Released



I have released my latest Annual Report, covering 2019/2020 which details the work of my office over the last 12 months including the start of the pandemic as it unfolded.

The report details developments including the extraordinary grant round of the PCC's Safer Communities Fund, opened in April, specifically for projects and interventions which targeted issues known to be at the forefront during lockdown. These included Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Child Sexual Abuse, Mental Health, Fraud and Drugs and Alcohol. Grants of up to £6,000 were available and 32 groups received a share of £174,304.93 in total.

I am really proud of what we have delivered and I think this report demonstrates the really broad depth of work being done on behalf of the community and partners within West Yorkshire.

For more information and to access the report visit <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/our-business/annual-report>

## Youth Advisory Group Recruitment

Young people between 13 and 21 years old are being invited to help advise me on policing and community safety by joining my Youth Advisory Group (YAG).

Members of the group have the opportunity to have a more active say, to express their views and opinions on local policing matters, communication campaigns, strategies and much more.

In these uncertain times it is all the more important our young people have a voice. Their contribution is really valued and used in ways that can change what we do and deliver within our communities to young people and many others.

Anyone interested in joining the group, or looking for more information, please contact [consultation@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:consultation@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk) or visit <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/youth-advisory-group>

## Youth Advisory Group



A voice for young people  
Keeping communities safer together

### New domestic abuse campaign launches to encourage older victims to come forward

**Controlling behaviour, financial abuse or violence is Domestic Abuse**

If you **SUFFER, SEE or SUSPECT**, find help here:  
[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/elderabuse](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/elderabuse)  
Call 101 for non-emergencies or 999 in an emergency

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I have joined West Yorkshire Police and the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit in launching a new campaign to encourage older victims of domestic abuse to realise that they are being abused and to report it.

Domestic abuse can take various different forms. Many people assume that it is only when someone is physically assaulted by a partner, and whilst this is one of the most common types of domestic abuse, there are others, such as controlling and coercive behaviour. This can include manipulation, intimidation, sexual coercion and psychological abuse.

I hope this campaign will enable people to recognise if they have been a victim of this type of abuse, and encourage more to report it or seek help through victim services or the police.

Lots of information available on the force website

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/ElderAbuse](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/ElderAbuse)

## Partnership Research Tackling Serious Violent Crime and Exploitation



**West Yorkshire  
Violence Reduction Unit**  
*Tackling Violence Together*

The [West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit](#) and [West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership](#) have announced a new research project working with the criminal justice consultancy [Crest Advisory](#).

It is intended to develop a better understanding of the relationship between socio-economic risk factors for young people and their involvement in serious violent crime or exploitation.

Crest Advisory have extensive knowledge of serious violence and its drivers. Likewise, they have experience in gathering and analysing data to help inform and promote change.

Over the next three months, their research will focus on health inequalities, as well as the impact of COVID-19 on young people and their potential to be involved in serious violent crime or exploitation.

They will also be looking at the root causes that influence women and girls' involvement in different types of serious violent crime and exploitation.

Through the research, they aim to provide insights and recommendations enabling the partnership to understand and address the root causes.

The team need localised information on the theme to help answer research questions and also interviewees who are directly engaged with young people in West Yorkshire.

Similarly, they want to hear about case studies which evidence new or upcoming best practice.

If you can support, please contact [jessica.lumley@crestadvisory.com](mailto:jessica.lumley@crestadvisory.com)

**Christmas Drink/Drug Drive Campaign**

**Dying for a pint?**

Drinking and driving can cost you...  
your licence  
your car  
your job  
your life...

**#WYPTheCost**

Safer Roads West Yorkshire

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner West Yorkshire

WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

Myself and West Yorkshire Police are also supporting the annual Christmas Drink/Drug Drive campaign by the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) with the key message being that even though the pubs may be closed, drinking at home can still leave you over the limit.

Throughout December, West Yorkshire Police will be carrying out increased enforcement activity on our roads including roadside patrols and taking every opportunity to remind people of the potentially fatal consequences for yourself and others of driving while under the influence of drink or drugs.

Last year we saw more than 450 arrests for drink and drug driving in December more than any other month in the year.

I hope that this initiative will help to reduce numbers, keep our roads safer, and underline what is important at this time of year, and it certainly isn't

putting other people's lives at risk to drive whilst under the influence of drink or substance misuse.

To find out more visit <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/news-events/news/wypthecost-christmas-drinkdrug-drive-campaign>

## **Restorative Justice Week**

November saw Restorative Justice Week, which was an important opportunity to raise awareness of a service which can be really beneficial for victims of crime.

Restorative justice brings those harmed by crime, and those responsible for that harm, into communication with each other. This contact can offer victims the opportunity to be heard, to ask questions of the offender, and to have their say in the resolution.

Raising awareness of restorative justice services and opportunities is particularly important, as it helps to put victims at the heart of the criminal justice process, understanding some of the very human aspects involved.

There is clear evidence to indicate that this approach has made a genuine difference to people's lives over the years, which is why I commissioned the service in 2018, investing £900,000 over a three year period.

To find out more about the service, visit [www.rjwestyorkshire.org.uk](http://www.rjwestyorkshire.org.uk)

## **Legally Qualified Chairs and Independent Lay Members Appointed**

Through collaboration with other Police and Crime Commissioners across the north east of England, a number of Legally Qualified Chairs have been appointed on a 4 year term to preside over Police Misconduct Hearings across the region. These hearings deal with allegations of gross misconduct by Police Officers or Special Constables.

Following a separate recruitment campaign, I have appointed a number of Independent Lay Members to sit on Police Misconduct Hearings and Police Appeals Tribunals held in West Yorkshire. Police Appeals Tribunals hear appeals against the findings of disciplinary proceedings; they are presided over by a Chair who is appointed by the Home Office. It is the role of the Independent Members to provide independent and impartial assurance that

decisions made during these proceedings are objective, reasonable, proportionate and fair.

I would like to welcome all these individuals to the roles which provide an important contribution to the delivery of policing for our communities.

## **NHS and Government Coronavirus Guidance**

### **Government and NHS Advice**

For the latest health updates and guidance from the Government visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

NHS guidance can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

**A full list of all Government guidance can be found here:**

[https://www.gov.uk/search/all?topical\\_events%5B%5D=coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response&order=updated-newest](https://www.gov.uk/search/all?topical_events%5B%5D=coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response&order=updated-newest)

## **Contacting the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner**

Along with the office I am currently working remotely. This means that face to face meetings at the office and elsewhere will not be taking place and we are not able to deal with correspondence posted through our letter box, either in person or by Royal Mail.

However, you can still get in touch by email

[contact@westyorkshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:contact@westyorkshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk) and telephone 01924 294000 in the usual manner.

Website: [www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/WestYorksOPCC](https://www.twitter.com/WestYorksOPCC)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WestYorksOPCC](https://www.facebook.com/WestYorksOPCC)