



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

Tuesday 15 December 2020

Via Skype

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ALSO PRESENT</u>
Mark Burns-Williamson - West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) DCC Russ Foster – WYP T/ACC Oz Khan - WYP C/Supt Jo Morgan - WYP C/Supt Kate Riley - Director of Corporate Services - WYP Supt Ed Chesters - WYP	Sharon Waugh - Engagement Manager Paige Cowling – Engagement Officer Celeste Armitage – Engagement Officer D/Supt Intendent Paula Bickerdike – WYP

1. Notes of the previous meeting including matters arising

The notes of the meetings held on 15 September 2020 were agreed as a correct record and there were no matters arising.

2. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

3. Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable Announcements:

- a) **Annual Report** – the report detailed the work of the past 12 months and touched on some of the challenges faced during the Covid period. Highlights included the opening of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), which had been a long held partnership ambition, further work of the Safer Communities Fund (SCF) and work to support victims and witnesses – which included the Supporting People Harmed by Crime Strategy. He encouraged colleagues to view the document <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/our-business/annual-report>.
- b) **Government Spending Review** – the PCC commented on the announcement made on 25 November regarding the government spending review. He said the details of the policing settlement were expected on 17 December, however from what he knew so far, the announcement made had been disappointing for policing and pay rises for police officers and staff would be frozen despite the excellent work undertaken this year. He felt that officers and staff had stepped up to the challenges throughout 2020.

He had briefed a number of West Yorkshire MP's where he had raised funding short falls particularly in relation to police staff (the uplift programme was mainly around recruitment of new police officers). He informed colleagues would consult around the public appetite to raise the police precept, as it was critical to protect as many policing roles as possible within the 2021/22 budget. There were big challenges ahead and he would raise them with government and the home office to try relieve some of the pressures.

However, he recognised the concerns that staff would have, the work WYP had already done around savings and the realistic options available for the next financial year.

4. Countering Terrorism (CT)

The PCC discussed the ongoing Manchester arena enquiry taking place in which tragically 22 innocent people came to lose their lives on 22 May 2017. He said we would wait to see the outcome and the recommendations that come out of that. He explained that within the wider work there was something called the Protect Duty, which had venues looking at what more they could do to protect people and work with victims organisations to ensure that the appropriate support could be provided. He was aware a number of West Yorkshire residents had been badly affected by this and were supported by Victim Support. The refreshed Police and Crime Plan reframed this priority from 'Radicalisation' to 'Countering Terrorism'. He discussed radicalisation and extremism and said we must do what we could with our communities to ensure we could protect ourselves against these attacks. He welcomed the report from WYP and partner's efforts to see what work was being done.

DCC Foster spoke about the focus of the report and handed over to T/ACC Khan who presented the prevent plan 2020-2021. T/ACC Khan described the partnership approach being used to identify those who were vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism or radicalisation. He described that once they were identified, individuals were safeguarded by a partnership approach, which included partners from the third sector, not just public sector. He also highlighted aspects from the report such as managing risk, including overseas influences, mental health, overseas returnee's and the risk of radicalisation.

He described that prevent referrals within the Covid period initially dropped but that they were back to pre-Covid levels of referral. He was pleased to say that they had maintained their business as usual approach during this year. T/ACC Khan discussed the national review of Prevent and that he had sat on the thematic board that morning. West Yorkshire had received a visit as part of this review but it had currently been suspended. They were awaiting further details to see what the process might look like.

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

The PCC asked for more detail on how they had engaged with local businesses in West Yorkshire and he commented that clearly public events were currently suspended but asked for more information on how they were preparing for when public gatherings resumed.

The PCC was advised that the NE Region had taken part in a "Crowded Places" Review, they had worked with the businesses and CT partners to recommend improvements to potential threats. He said there were over 100 sites that CT staff had engaged with and offered advice. He reassured the PCC that they were working closely with businesses which included throughout the Covid period.

The PCC asked whether they were acting on what were likely to be the key findings from the Manchester review. T/ACC Khan said that the Head of CT unit was firmly linked in to the arena enquiry and he said it would shape future work.

The PCC mentioned that ACC Neil Basu- Met Police had commented on the increase of young people being drawn into terrorism activity online and the impact of Covid isolation. The PCC asked what was being done to safeguard those at risk. T/ACC Khan said all WYP prevent officers and staff had been trained in research techniques, they were also equipped with the software to tackle this. They had also raised awareness of the risks with key partners and provided information on where to turn to for support. The PCC said he appreciated how difficult it was with the volumes of people who were now online.

The PCC also asked about the Act Early campaign previously mentioned and said that his office had supported it on social media and he added he believed that Huddersfield University was taking part in

some of the research. He asked whether WYP were confident that this had contributed towards preventing radicalisation and he said he would be keen to know how the Act Early campaign had impacted in West Yorkshire.

T/ACC Khan responded and said that any piece of work that they did (CT Policing, their partnerships or the OPCC), would always make a difference no matter how small or large. He told the PCC that the feedback so far was that it was making a difference and had allowed WYP to reach further into communities. They had established a monitoring procedure for the website and as time progressed, would report further on how this had helped.

The PCC was pleased to hear about the advisory group, and said they had a Regional Collaboration Board of CC's and PCC's. He asked if the development of this work could be shared at a future meeting of the collaboration board and thanked T/ACC Khan for the update.

Action – PCC to share development of this work at a future Regional Collaboration Board.

5. Safeguarding

The PCC explained why Safeguarding was so important, feedback from public consultations had shown 70% of respondents said safeguarding was something which they were concerned about. The PCC explained that the WY Children's Risk and Vulnerability Group had continued to meet virtually throughout 2020 and the group was about sharing best practice across West Yorkshire.

DCC Foster explained that WYP continued to put the victim at the heart of everything they did. He said they had seen an increase in demand and the complexity of demand, with most investigations having a digital footprint. There had been investments in the SARC and across safeguarding teams to ensure WYP could bring perpetrators to justice. He also spoke about the increase in domestic abuse and child abuse in 2020. DS Paula Bickerdike gave an overview of the report.

She explained that child abuse, domestic abuse and the management of sexual offenders was by no means an exhaustive list but were some themes included in the report. She mentioned the impact of Covid and its impact on the court systems. She discussed the partnership approach being used to support children who were absent from school. She informed the PCC that WYP had recently been visited by HMICFRS during the Covid period and had identified the need to share best practice with other agencies and the OPCC. She explained that WYP were working as normal to protect children and domestic abuse victims and the risk to staff catching Covid did not override this. She said there was a need to acknowledge that they were only at the start of understanding the impact of Covid and that academic research was emerging. It had identified the impact which included mental health, increased consumption of alcohol and financial struggles, which were known factors to contribute to the likelihood of being a perpetrator of domestic abuse / increase the risk of vulnerability for people who could become victims of abuse.

She said children starting the new academic year had an impact on reporting rates for neglect as they were able to see trusted adults on a daily basis. GP Practices, health visitors and third sectors were partners WYP were working with to tackle this. WYP were currently at 5% under usual levels but were aware that not all children had returned to school. WYP had not seen an increase in sexual abuse of children in the figures available through third parties although she said the NSPCC had reported an increase in calls. She was aware that sexual abuse was rarely disclosed at the time, so it was expected to see an increase in the future. She said there had been a slight increase in calls for service since lockdown 1 (3%), due to people being locked up with their abusers. She said due to victims not being able to call in the normal way, an online reporting tool had developed which they would continue to make available for victims to use once the pandemic was over (if it was successful).

The DS stated that the management of registered sex offenders was business as usual and that officers visited them on a regular basis. A Covid risk assessment was put in place and they had worked with probation to overcome some of their challenges due to working remotely. WYP were mindful of the impact on colleagues working in adult social care, as it had really affected their ability to look after vulnerable adults. WYP were working to support them wherever they could. She also discussed the mental health partnership which had a 24 hour helpline for those experiencing mental health issues. It does depend on where the persons GP is situated but the information is as follows:

Mental Health Useful Number

24 Hour Helpline 0800 183 0558 - The service covers Calderdale, Wakefield, Leeds and Kirklees BUT does depend on the location of the patients Doctors surgery. Officers in Bradford should continue to contact or signpost to First Response 24/7 on 01274 22 181.

She reassured the PCC that Court backlogs had now reached a turning point due to recovery plans put in place in October. She was pleased to say there were no outstanding domestic abuse cases in holding court. Some victims were requiring additional support and had received an enhanced package.

She summarised to say since the outbreak of Covid, they had worked hard to safeguard the vulnerable but having children removed from education had provided some huge challenges. There was a nationally anticipated rise in reporting when children first went back to school from 1st June. Of the children who were eligible to attend (that had additional needs / an allocated social worker), only 18% of those children went back. She said 90% were in consistent attendance and that the department of education were trying to identify those children who were not attending. She explained that Safer Schools Officers had been tasked with providing staying safe messaging and a physical presence for teachers and children to speak to in school.

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

The PCC said that the very detailed report had shown the breadth of work taking place by WYP and partners. He went on to ask questions, firstly he said that it was pleasing to hear that WYP had maintained business as usual during the pandemic although some practices would have had to adapt and change. He was particularly interested in taking a long-term view of Covid 19 and how changes in practice had helped to shape future working. C/Supt Joanna Morgan said that the Safeguarding Central Governance Unit (SCGU) had worked to identify gaps and lessons learned, framed on key areas identified by HMIFRS and the recent Covid inspection. During the pandemic, WYP had seen a significant increase in workload and to further support the department the force had seconded an Inspector into SCGU to work alongside the gold room to focus on the impact of Covid. She said that all health care staff would be reminded of their responsibilities to report concerns about vulnerable people when they were in their care. She also said that it was key that good practice was shared across the district in real time, using strategic meetings to share lessons learned in a more formal setting. In addition, they had focussed on how they could capture best practice which included sharing documents securely which would normally only be shared in person. They had begun to use telephone statements, which had allowed them to work in a more efficient way.

The PCC spoke about the controversy of families being unable to visit their loved ones in care homes, he asked whether WYP were aware of instances of abuse and neglect, which might have taken place in some of the care homes. It was explained to the PCC that the Local Authority Care Quality Commission had a key role to play in identifying and responding to concerns such as this. The PCC then asked whether WYP expected an upsurge in reports once access to family members had been increased. C/Supt Morgan said WYP were guided by their force crime registrar and overlaid by data from partnership meetings. They had made sure all their partners were aware but she believed it was too early at this time to tell. She expected a potential backlog from March – October due to the possibility of relatives seeing their loved ones again. In pre-Covid times, sometimes family members were shocked on the health of their loved one due to not seeing them for a long period of time.

Any referrals and reports would be dealt with by specially trained adult safeguarding colleagues but would encourage anyone who had concerns to report to WYP. They did recognise that work needed to be done to enhance adult protection throughout West Yorkshire to ensure they were providing the best service to victims.

The PCC commented on the multiagency safeguarding arrangements mentioned which he added were really good. He said it was constant hard work to have a consistent approach, to deliver good safeguarding outcomes. With regard to safeguarding week the strong brand which had been created with partners had worked really well. He said he was supportive of joint partnership campaigns. He looked forward to hearing more about how the work developed and offered his support for further initiatives.

6. Serious and Violent Crime

The PCC had specific responsibility from the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) on serious violence as the portfolio lead. He discussed the response to serious violent crime in West Yorkshire and mentioned a number of funding arrangements through the Partnership Executive Group (PEG) for organisations like the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and Safer Communities Fund (SCF) that were ongoing and targeted at groups dealing with serious and violent crime. He said since 2018, SCF had awarded 29 groups to target serious and violent crime. All those mentioned had made a real difference at the local level. The PCC discussed the establishment of the VRU and was pleased about the progress that had been made.

The PCC handed over to ACC Foster to introduce the subject matter of Serious and Violent Crime. DCC Foster described the work of WYP delivering against the PCC's Police and Crime Plan which serious and violent crime was included as a priority. He explained that WYP reacted to serious violent crime and investigated it and that they had significant investment in this area due to Operation Jemlock; which was the proactive arm to tackle serious violent crime and in particular, knife crime. WYP had developed their understanding of disproportionality he handed over to C/Supt. Kate Riley, Director of Corporate Services, to present the report.

C/Supt. Riley discussed WYP deployment, she said not exclusively but specific to Operation Jemlock, which was the force's proactive response to reducing knife and bladed crime and associated violence, deployment was very much intelligence led, using data ranging from serious violence to attempted murders. The intelligence directed that Jemlock be deployed in areas that were beneficial to reduce violence. Over the last 18 months, they had seen a particular focus on Great Horton and Little Horton in Bradford, Burmatofts and Richmond Hill as well as Gipton and Harehills in Leeds. In WY 27.8% victims and 29.2% of offenders were from a Black and minority Ethnic communities.

She explained that Operation Jemlock showed a high rate of disproportionality on stop searches but this data needed to be taken in context and needed to include population of those wards. She talked about the Stop and Search scrutiny panels in place in West Yorkshire and that officers routinely used body worn video to support transparency. She said there was participation at every district scrutiny panel and that this was open to community members to review this work should they wish to. The Operation Jemlock team leaders reviewed body worn video clips and recommend any actions, the force then addressed learning opportunities. The teams of officers were the first to take part in the unconscious bias training, which had been rolled out across the force.

She understood that communities were feeling strongly about inequality, racism and disproportionality in West Yorkshire. Partnership groups had been set up to address this with seven key areas of work. She explained that the socio-economic drivers needed to be understood, including other factors such as adverse childhood experiences. She discussed a number of ongoing projects, volunteering projects and work Operation Jemlock was doing with young people to understand risk factors. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The PCC asked for an update on the latest figures for knife crime across West Yorkshire which included arrest data. C/Supt. Riley described a 19-month comparison, pre and post lockdown, and stated that there had been a 12.2% reduction in knife crime, which represented 509 fewer victims. She said that WYP ranked highly for the success of Operation Jemlock nationally. She also stated there had been an increase of 144 arrests over a 12-month period.

The PCC also asked about the organised crime information on page 1 and 2 of the report, in particular that Black and Minority Ethnic groups were overrepresented in relation to knife crime for victims and offenders. He asked C/Supt. Riley if she was able to break down the data further into age, sex and ethnicity.

The data was as follows:

Victims		Offenders	
Sex		Sex	
Male	68%	Male	89%
Female	32%	Female	11%
Ethnicity		Ethnicity	
White	72%	White	71%
Asian	19%	Asian	15.5%
Black	4.4%	Black	7.3%
Mixed	3.6%	Mixed	4.7%
Other	1%	Other	1.5%
Age		Age	
0 – 15	4.8%	0 – 15	5.4%
16 – 29	45.5%	16 – 29	56.5%
30 +	49.7%	30 +	38%

The PCC then asked in relation to page 1 of the report detailing the stop and search information at ward level, if WYP say more about how they offer reassurance to communities on the intelligence led approach.

C/Supt Riley described that whilst on initial look it appeared there was more disproportionality than the force average it needed to be taken into context. She provided an example relating to Gipton and Harehills ward, where they had seen an increase from 0.6% to 1%. She said that despite the increase in police activity, the ratio of disproportionality had only risen marginally. She said that there was equal chance to be stopped and searched if you were a white person or if you were a Black or a Minority Ethnic person in that particular ward. She reassured communities that WYP took disproportionality extremely seriously and described work underway, which included a disproportionality board and analysing research.

The PCC said these were conversations that needed to continue with communities.

He then asked about reviewing stop searches via body worn video, and asked C/Supt. Riley to explain further what happened when there were learning opportunities. She explained the Sgts on Operation Jemlock viewed a proportion of stop searches every month and when there were learning opportunities e.g. how the officer has come across or the reason for the stop, it was shared with the officer. Both positive and negative learning points were discussed. If the matter was serious, it was dealt with through performance measures. She explained the point of reviewing was to understand how the officers were coming across and to ensure officers had the confidence to use this power appropriately and legitimately. She talked again about scrutiny panels which were open and transparent; community members who had an interest in this area were welcome to join them. She finished by saying over 800 officers had worked on Operation Jemlock and that they had taken away some key learning.

7. Victim Response – Exception Report

The PCC presented his overview paper which included the People Harmed by Crime Strategy, which had been launched by the OPCC in partnership with the Deputy Chief Constable and the national Victim's Commissioner. He mentioned Victim Support and Restorative Justice who were commissioned in West Yorkshire to support communities. The PCC spoke about the new SARC and stated he had secured funds to provide more ISVA's (Independent Sexual Violence Adviser) and to ensure more vulnerable victims of crime.

The PCC handed over to WYP to present the report. DCC Foster mentioned the PCC's reference to the People Harmed By Crime Strategy and said it was supported by the Victims and Witness Strategy 2019 – 2021. He said this report would touch on how WYP responded to victims, their journey and victim satisfaction, to name a few. DCC Foster introduced C/Supt. Riley to present the paper.

She said WYP measured every element of the victim's journey starting from initial contact (999/101), including how quickly and efficiently they were dealt with, to subsequent actions when officers arrived on scene. She stated how important it was to keep victims engaged through the investigation process and that it involved effective updates regardless of the length of time of the investigation, or even what the outcome was. This included victimless prosecutions. She described some of the partnership working which took place, including with Witness Care. This service provided transport and special needs being catered for at court such as interpreters.

The Victim Satisfaction survey covered most crime types but excluded homicide, sexual offences and fraud. She explained the telephone survey asked about a number of aspects of the victim's journey. Each district received their data and took the necessary action which included service recovery. She described other measures which included internal audit. She informed the PCC of some recent data from the victim satisfaction survey which was an increase of 1.8% over 12 months and the highest for 3 years. She assured communities that plans to improve services to victims were in place.

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

C/Supt Riley and the PCC discussed their experience of a recent restorative justice session, which they both found very powerful and impactful. The PCC then went on to ask a number of questions about WYP's Victim Response paper. Firstly, the PCC said he was aware of the victims journey review and that domestic abuse and rape were the focus. These crime types had been subject to media scrutiny due to the outcome rates. The PCC asked C/Supt. Riley if she could say more about any improvements resulting from the review and any timescales of the work being complete.

The PCC was advised that WYP had focused on the importance of the officers' investigative mindset and their professional curiosity whilst putting the victim at the heart of everything they did.

She said that investigations were continually being reviewed and ongoing recommendations being embedded. The next crime type WYP would focus on was serious acquisitive crime and this was expected to be completed in 2021.

The PCC then asked about Victim Support, the commissioned service from the OPCC, and whether any further areas for improvement had been identified through this process. C/Supt Riley said that from speaking to the wider team, she felt that having a specific crime offer for victims of hate crimes and incidents would be beneficial. She discussed disproportionality again and the impacts of this on victims of hate crime. She said WYP were aware particular groups had specific requirements that needed to be met. The PCC agreed and thanked C/Supt. Riley for her report.

8. Road Safety

The PCC introduced road safety as the final topic of discussion and explained that from public surveys and public consultation, which was conducted, road safety was always a high priority for West Yorkshire. He said the Office was looking to pursue this with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) as we moved through devolution. He mentioned his conversations with partners about the Vision Zero campaign and the support of Brake; the West Yorkshire based charity who worked to support bereaved families of road traffic incidents. The PCC explained he led on Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) for the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and that he had invested heavily in this area of work in West Yorkshire.

DCC Foster highlighted some themes, which would be discussed in the report including delivering Vision Zero, dash cam and community reporting and ANPR. He mentioned the reduction in collisions but was aware of the impact of Covid and the reduction in travel. He discussed the issue of ultra-speeders, which operated in lockdown and the increase in drug related driving. He introduced Supt. Ed Chesters who would present the report.

He spoke firstly about collision figures and said comparatively to 2019 it was less but he was also aware of the impact of the pandemic and the quieter roads, from the beginning of the lockdown period to December 2020 there had been 1906 casualties, which was down from 2809 the previous year. He informed the Commissioner there had been 32 fatalities, which was down by 20 from 2019. Supt. Chesters then spoke about Vision Zero and said that Leeds had made significant ground in adopting the approach and that there was a need to replicate it across the County. He went on to discuss improvements in data and the work around intelligence products.

He spoke about the dash cam, which launched on 1 July 2020 and had seen 100 successful prosecutions so far. Supt. Chesters was aware of the need to continue the positive marketing around this. ANPR was also discussed and he provided some headline figures for the Commissioner, including that in 2020 there were 990 arrests, 23 missing people located and 1500 vehicle recoveries contributed by ANPR. He discussed partnership work, which included road safety inputs in schools with an early intervention theme. Supt. Chester added the figures were impacted by reduced traffic during lockdown but that ultra-speeders were an unwelcome phenomenon.

Supt. Chesters touched on the latest figures for the Drink/Drug Drive campaign WYP ran every December; there had been 166 arrests at that point. He also mentioned that drug driving seemed to be outnumbered by drink driving. The PCC recognised the good work, which was ongoing.

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

The PCC asked Supt. Chesters to comment further on the digital submission of dash cam footage and how the public would be able to assist further. Supt. Chesters said that awareness raising would be positive and that he thought WYP were doing a good job so far but they were looking into other functions including multilingual marketing information and tapping into local communication channels to spread the message further. He said they were aiming to improve the submission rate and were hoping to focus on Bradford.

The PCC was aware of the delays to the national ANPR system but asked in the meantime, what more could be done to utilise this technology given the investment made. Supt. Chesters said that WYP did not want to lose the technology capabilities that were currently in place and that they had lobbied to keep them.

He explained that they were reducing licenses to mitigate the costs and creating packages which target risk factors. He was confident that any investment provided a good return. The PCC said that with the move to the WYCA structure in 2021 there was potential for resources to be available for Vision Zero and enforcement capabilities. The PCC had no doubt that the public saw road safety as a key issue and that he needed to reflect these views as PCC.

9. Future Agenda Items

The planned agenda items were as follows:

- a) Complaints
- b) Stop and Search
- c) Anti-Social Behaviour
- d) Use of Force
- e) Neighbourhood Policing

10. Any other business

There were none.

11. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on 16 March 2021 at 14:00.