

## Community Outcomes Meeting (COM)

Date: Tuesday, 7 December 2021

### Present

Alison Lowe – Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC)  
Damien Miller – T/ACC, WYP  
Pat Twiggs – ACC, WYP  
Lee Berry – Det Supt, WYP

John Robins – Chief Constable (CC) West Yorkshire Police (WYP)  
Catherine Hankinson – ACC, WYP  
Alisa Newman – Ch Supt, WYP

### Also present

Matthew Davison – Ch Supt, WYP  
Paige Cowling – Engagement Officer, Policing and Crime

Allison Kemp - WYP  
Sharon Waugh – Engagement Manager, Policing and Crime

### 1. Welcome, introductions and apologies.

Apologies were received from the Mayor for West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin and Deputy Chief Constable, Russ Foster.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) introduced the meeting, welcomed those in attendance and provided an overview of the meeting.

### 2. Notes of the previous meeting on 14 September 2021 and Matters arising.

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record and there were no matters arising.

### 3. Deputy Mayor for Policing and crime and Chief Constables Announcements:

#### DPMC announcements:

**a) HMICFRS PEEL Assessment Report, with West Yorkshire Police receiving Outstanding rating in four areas** – The DMPC welcomed the report and said she and the Mayor were delighted at the progress West Yorkshire Police had made. She congratulated officers and staff on their hard work and efforts to keep people safe and tackle criminality.

**b) #Tell Tracy – about policing and crime** - Public consultation on the West Yorkshire police and crime plan had officially closed and both the DMPC and the Mayor had been out and about across West Yorkshire since the beginning of September talking to people about their priorities, she thanked everyone for completing the online survey, meeting face to face and for getting in touch via email and social media.

**c) The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund** - opened for applications on 15 November and was set to close on 17 December with £180,000 in grants available for voluntary, community groups, charities, and partners to apply for. The Mayor had said she was looking to provide support to innovative projects which addressed at least one of the cross-cutting themes within the draft Police and Crime Plan. Those themes were Keeping women and girls safe, Diversity, equality, and inclusion and Early intervention and prevention. Funding would be awarded before the end of March 22.

**Chief Constable Announcements:**

- a) **HMICFRS PEEL Assessment Report** the Chief Constable (CC) thanked the DMPC for her comments and his officers and staff for their work over the last few years.
- b) **Crime Recording** – referencing the Office of National Statistics the CC said WYP had continued in the right direction and were also graded outstanding in terms of Crime Data Integrity (CDI). He also said the latest figures showed decreases in burglary, robbery, and violence.
- c) **Victims' Satisfaction** – latest figures indicated 76% of victims graded the support from WYP as good/excellent, 97% said they were treated with respect and dignity and 90-95% said they were listened to, treated fairly, and received a sympathetic response. All the data was supporting that victims were well treated/supported by West Yorkshire Police.
- d) **VAWG** – the CC said that the National VAWG strategy and local WY VAWG strategy which aligned to the mayor's pledge and commitment to put women and girls' safety at the heart of the plan would launch that afternoon.

**4. Counter Terrorism - Prevent - to access the full report, click [here](#).**

Chief Supt. Pat Twiggs stated he would update on the Prevent business plan, Prevent activity and Project Servator. He went on talk about the prevent business plan, prevent activity across West Yorkshire. He also spoke about the National Prevent Thematic Board attended by ACC Khan. The report also highlighted successful partnership working and arrests around Project Servator which also covered Leeds Bradford airport. He also spoke about CTAG (Communities Together Against Terrorism) a diverse scrutiny group. Finally issues such as poor Mental Health and ill health being a significant factor in radicalisations.

The DMPC said Police Led Partnerships (PLPs) had been implemented across West Yorkshire and 'WYP Prevent Champions' were involved all policing Districts identifying and enlisting the support of willing volunteers to become Prevent SPOCs at both delivery and management level to develop a communication and training network. Following the terrorist incident in Liverpool, the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) took the decision to raise the UK National Threat Level from SUBSTANTIAL, meaning an attack is likely, to SEVERE, meaning an attack is highly likely. She asked for an explanation of what it means for the communities across West Yorkshire and how they can help. She also asked for an update on how Counter Terrorism Northeast were working with wider partners and our communities to keep people safe.

CS Twiggs explained the whole society Counter Terrorism citizens approach and stated we all should remain vigilant and that more than 20% of reports turn out to be relevant to CT activity. More than a fifth of reports had come from the public and had prevented 31 attacks since 2017 which had in turn lead to development of the Action Counters Terrorism campaign which featured what to look out for, how to react and report concerns. He further explained over 2.8m packages had been delivered nationally to the public, third sector and partners and he spoke specifically about the training available which included online awareness for the public.

The CC added that the JTAC decision to raise to severe did mean that an attack was highly likely at a national level, but there was no specific intelligence. The message to West Yorkshire communities was to remain cautious and careful but to be reassured in the work officers were doing in WY and nationally.

The DMPC also asked about the radicalisation of young people across West Yorkshire and commented that she had recently seen some brilliant work from the NPT at a school supporting vulnerable people.

CS Twiggs said evidence suggested that young people were vulnerable, and that the Counter Terrorism unit did hold intelligence about online sites and were aware of the changing face of propaganda. Digital technology was a platform used to share fear, anxiety, hate and conspiracy theories which was widespread although there was no evidence to suggest young people in West Yorkshire were atypical. He was pleased that referrals had not dropped more than 1.2% because of COVID but believed it was a dangerous space where young people could self-radicalise. 29% of referrals were aged 15-20 which was also a concern. There was also much more that those who owned online platforms could and should do. He spoke about the new online safety bill which would make it illegal to post harmful content to both adults and children. He also referred to the "I report it app" where anyone could report worrying or disturbing content to the CTU quickly and easily. In terms of further reassurance, he stated that from the boards attended where the CTU's performance was one of the best in country.

## 5. Safeguarding - to access the full report, click [here](#).

ACC Miller gave an update report on key current areas for West Yorkshire Police in terms of Safeguarding which included the current position in relation to post-lockdown understanding of CSEA, Child Abuse and Neglect, commentary on the position with regards to the 2021 Strategic Plan for Protecting Vulnerable People which included the two Tactical Plans for CSEA, Abuse and Neglect and Domestic Abuse and missing persons.

The DMPC congratulated WYP on successfully prosecuting more historic child abuse cases which had resulted in sentencing offenders to over 700 years. She was mindful of the toll on staff and asked what plans were in place to ensure staff well-being was being addressed.

WYP had invested in a health and well-being lead, one of the main issues had been the demand in unit so there had been an uplift in 65 officers and 15 sergeants. There was also an employee well-being strategy in place and additional support for the monitoring of high-risk officers. There was also greater awareness for all staff with webinar, visits, and training. In terms of evaluation and monitoring the CC added that West Yorkshire Police were also part of national well-being survey.

The DMPC, welcomed the response and added she was really concerned with the need to minimise the long-term mental health impact which included PTSD. She also asked to see the results of the national survey when the analysis had been undertaken.

The DMPC referred the recent killing of a young child in Solihull, and the subsequent convictions for murder/manslaughter. She noted that child neglect offences had increased by 168% (576 offences) and asked if there was an explanation for the large increase.

The increase was a result of COVID and young people not having had access to trusted adults, WYP knew the increase would occur and had continued to work to support the most vulnerable and prepare for the immediate post lock down rise in referrals. West Yorkshire communities were and continued to be one of the hardest hit areas especially when child poverty was factored in. Tackling neglect was part of tactical planning and the unit was aware of its lifelong impact, the unit was fully committed to partnership working which was key to safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable.

**ACTION:**

Results of the National Wellbeing survey to be shared with DMPC when they are available.

**6. Serious Violence Crime - to access the full report, click [here](#).**

In a report of the CC the DMPC was updated on WYP activity to tackle Serious Violent Crime, Knife Crime, County Lines, Firearms Offences, and Serious Organised Crime (SOC) as it relates to violence. The paper also featured the work of the Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).

The DMPC also flagged that the Mayor had taken a decision to underwrite the costs of the 25 Independent Sexual Violence Advisers and Independent Domestic Violence Advocates pending the Home Office allocation to the VRU.

With regards to the Operation Jemlock figures the DPMC asked for the rolling figures for the last 12 months. ACC Miller confirmed the latest figures below:

Month	Knife enabled crime WY wide
Oct	3.9 % decrease
Sept	6.4 % decrease
August	7.5 % decrease
July	7.9 % decrease
June	6.0 % decrease

District	Knife Enabled crime
Bradford	3.9%
Calderdale	22.3%
Kirklees	8.7%
Leeds	Increase ??
Wakefield	5.1% increase

The DMPC thanked colleagues for the Jemlock figures, she went on to say she had been engaging alongside the Mayor on the Police and Crime Plan and that knife crime was a concern particularly in Kirklees and Leeds, she asked about the district figures for the last 12 months.

She also asked about Jemlock activity in response to Threats to kill, S.18 wounding / endangering life and Assault with injury.

ACC Miller said that Jemlock had received an extra 260k which had enabled increased deployments and widened their visibility/footprint.

He stated that most “threats to kill” would be handled by patrol staff as part of their routine response to emergency calls. However, section 18 assaults were targeted by Jemlock who had seen an upsurge linked to the night time economy. He gave an assurance that Jemlock would intervene/respond whether a weapon was used or not to all serious assaults which included violence. The CC added in respect of threat to kill because of CDI online threats to kill were also recorded.

The DMPC asked if WYP collected the online threats to kill separately. The CC explained that they tried to but that it was complex.

## **7. Road Safety - to access the full report, click [here](#).**

The report provided an update on emerging issues and challenges which included Vision Zero, Operation Snap (digital footage submission scheme), ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) and partnership working during COVID.

Regarding the killed or seriously injured figures the DMPC asked if they were higher or lower than would be expected given the significant reductions in traffic volume during the early days of lock down and she further asked about the trends of offences impacting vulnerable road users especially children, young people, pedestrians, and cyclists.

ACC Hankinson explained it was difficult to say and that the National Police Chiefs Council’s academics were looking into it. She added that on one hand the volume of traffic was less, but that speeding had increased as there was less traffic on the roads, and she commented that speeding was one of the “fatal four”.

The DMPC wanted to thank Ed Chesters for his support of the Vision Zero board to create a safer West Yorkshire. The CC welcomed the Vision Zero approach which had full local authority support, he said for road safety to be improved the holistic approach which would include education and design was fundamental.

The DMPC also commented on Operation Steerside which she had recently seen in action. She added it was a great example of partnership working and congratulated all those involved which included Bradford South NPT. The CC commented that it was a great initiative, and an example of what could be achieved when officers could work proactively, he said he would like the resources to work proactively across all areas of policing.

## **8. Violence Against Women and girls – to access the full report, click [here](#).**

DS Lee Berry provided an update on how West Yorkshire Police were responding to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). He said good progress had been made since the last update in June 2021, with the appointment of a force lead who was coordinating the force’s response and approach to all aspects of VAWG and related matters through a countywide strategic plan. West Yorkshire Police were also helping to shape the national approach and response to VAWG through proactively seconding the force lead to a national VAWG taskforce. The report highlighted the national context which was followed by more local information.

The DMPC asked how WYP were engaging to rebuild trust at a local level.



DS Berry, spoke in detail about the West Yorkshire based work which included Safer Streets, Pol-Ed and dedicated officers based in the two largest districts, Bradford, and Leeds. He also spoke about the work of the Violence Against Women and Girls Neighbourhood Strategy and delivery group.

The CC added that there was a need for transparency and openness, no other sector was subject to the same amount of scrutiny, and he spoke about the challenge to increase trust and confidence following the events of 2021 and their impact across policing. The DPMC spoke about the public messaging and critical work she had seen the NPT delivering with Leeds based students.

She also welcomed the ongoing work and investment through Safer Streets and the upcoming VAWG strategy.

She said she was delighted with the recording flag for Misogyny (Hate Crime), but added she was also realistic about the time taken to deliver training programmes across the Force. She asked for more detail about how the training was being delivered and further asked if we could be confident that those who come forward to report Misogynistic hate crime would receive the right response.

Training had commenced in November last year and a rolling programme was in place in addition to the ongoing unconscious bias training. In terms of recording, it was being added as a flag existing crime type.

The CC added that staff within the contact centre, safeguarding officers and staff would also receive the specialist training.

The DPMC said she was mindful of some of the victims coming forward regarding drink spiking but given the investigations that had now taken place she asked how much of an issue was it across West Yorkshire.

DS Berry explained that West Yorkshire Police were known for their CDI (crime data integrity) which had highlighted 398 reports which were mostly linked to drink and driven by the night-time economy. WYP continued with a thorough response in each case and a multi-agency approach. They had been looking for hotspots which had flagged the student community as an area to focus on. This had included proactive action over Christmas to increase confidence and reporting.

When investigated there had been one sighting of a needle and 2/3 others in drinks, nevertheless each case required a full response.

## **9. Future Agenda Items**

To be agreed in line with the new Police and Crime plan

**10. Any Other Business** - There were none.

**11. Next Meeting** - 15 March 2022 at 1400