



West
Yorkshire
Policing
& Crime

Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Policing and Crime

Annual Report 2022/23





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Headline achievements



Work with the **Local Criminal Justice Board** brings a victim focus to agencies along with improving engagement between partners, victims and support services.



The launch of the **Independent Stalking Advocacy Service** alongside the police unit transforms the service to victims of this heinous crime.



The Safety of Women and Girls has continued to be at the centre of the Police and Crime Plan with the publication of the Safety of Women and Girls Strategy along with other initiatives.

The Mayor's Pledge for over 750 more officers and staff by March 2024 is **above target** with **392 more officers** and **148 more police staff** in this year alone.



A domestic servitude video, created in partnership, won the **Best Animation at the Royal Television Society** Yorkshire Programme Awards in October 2022.



The CARA Project, (Cautioning and Relationship Abuse) a criminal justice response to victims of domestic abuse - it enhances risk management and holds standard risk offenders to account for their actions, continues to be rolled out **reducing re-offending by over 35%**

The work of Vision Zero, the road safety aim to eradicate fatalities and serious injuries on our roads by 2040,

is being driven by new members of the team and the baseline assessment completed.



Our **equality impact assessment toolkit** has been well received and has helped providers with their responsibilities without causing undue work.



Safer Streets 4 began its enforcement activity

with action across all areas to combat misuse of motorcycles and tackle anti-social behaviour.

The **Commissioning Strategy 2022-24** was launched in Autumn 2022 and **has been well received** and speaks to the amazing provision for community-based services.

The VRU (Violence Reduction Unit)

was given a **guarantee of funding for three years** to continue its vital work and now also works to **embed the Serious Violence Duty** in the five local authority areas.



Our engagement with the public continues to be a priority and the discussions with the **Youth Advisory Group** continues to inform our work and priorities.

Work on **care for children in police custody**

has taken a step forward with agreements on overnight accommodation for children which is not a police cell.

The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

goes from strength to strength and is impacting our communities with much needed support and services.





Mayor of West Yorkshire Tracy Brabin

As Mayor I hold lots of responsibilities across our region, for culture, transport, the economy, and for policing and crime, supported by my wonderful Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, **Alison Lowe**.

You all will be aware that the **safety** of women and girls is a topic that is extremely close to our hearts, professionally, and personally as women with lived experience of violence. As the country's only female-metro mayor, I want to keep each and every one of our region's **1.2 million women and girls safe**.



Building a safe, just, and inclusive West Yorkshire

This aim remains at the heart of the work we all do. It is one of my key pledges when I was elected and is embedded throughout my Police and Crime Plan. Continuing this work, in November we launched our innovative **Safety of Women and Girls Strategy**, our plan to bring together long-term, sustainable change for our region.

This year has also seen the connection across with my other responsibilities with the launch of the **Bus Safety Tool** which helps us to understand where people do not feel safe on the bus network, and this will link into an enhanced safer travel team. **Our safer parks work** continues to grow and is now being taken up across the country.

Another intervention I am particularly passionate about is the launch of the first county-wide service to support victims of domestic abuse related stalking. The launch of the **West Yorkshire Independent Stalking Advocate Service** will see a step change for victims of this heinous crime.

We have also seen great strides forward elsewhere by appointing staff to work with our partners on the **Vision Zero** project and, through our work with the **Local Criminal Justice Board**, to ensure that victims of crime are kept at the forefront of work going forward.

My **Safer Communities Fund** goes from strength to strength, and I was proud to award over **£1million to 173 grass roots projects** which will support all areas of our wonderful region. The testimonies of the impact of these monies is evidence of the difference this fund is making, and I look forward to continuing this in the future.

We have worked hard to bring as much money into the area as possible and this is reflected in the work of the commissioning team with the new strategy that pledges to commission safe, just and inclusive community-based schemes.

One of the funding streams is **'Safer Streets'** which we have been able to use to help keep people safe in the night-time economy and also support victims of anti-social behaviour – especially from those who have terrorised neighbourhoods with their use of motorcycles and quad bikes.

I would also like to highlight here the work of the Violence Reduction Unit. The Violence Reduction Unit has since been renamed the **Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)** in July 2023 which better reflects the partnership work of the unit. More of the detail of their work can be found on [the Combined Authority website](#). This year has also seen the introduction of the Serious Violence Duty for all of our partners and the VRP have been key to driving this forward for the benefit of all in West Yorkshire.

As ever, we want to inspire partners in public, health, community, and academic sectors, all of whom have a role to play in building a safe, just, and inclusive West Yorkshire, and I hope you can see from this annual report that we are leading the way for them.

Tracy Brabin, **Mayor of West Yorkshire**



Priority 1

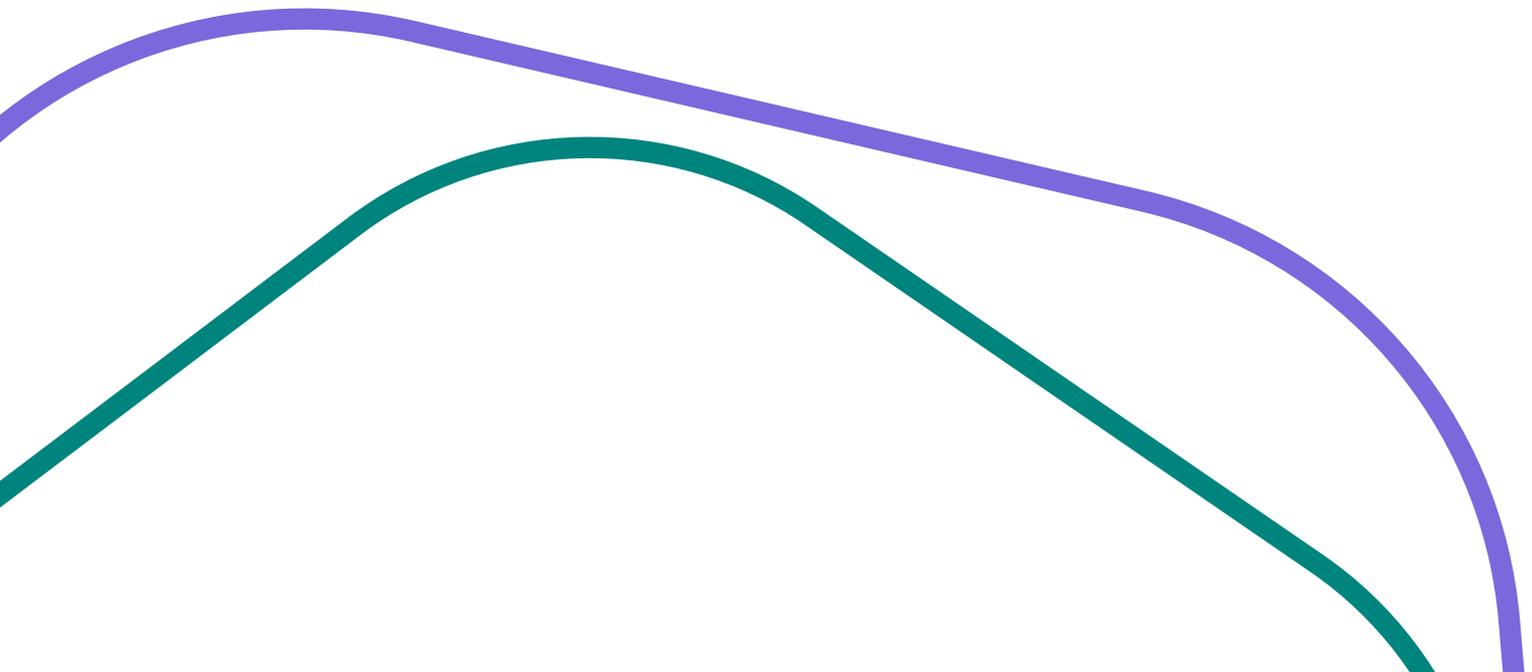
Supporting victims and witnesses and improving criminal justice outcomes

Our objective

Deliver services that meet the victim's needs, we will also work with partners including the Local Criminal Justice Board to advance the response to victims and improve criminal justice outcomes for all.

Anticipated outcomes

Victims are made aware of their rights and are supported by a range of well used, high quality services and perpetrators are supported to reduce reoffending. Working alongside partners this will improve prosecution rates for all with a victim centred approach.





An independent scrutiny panel ensures that victims have had full support from specialist victim's services

Our work with criminal justice partners to ensure the continuation of the drive to deliver high quality services for victims and witnesses continues with the support of dedicated policy management resource.

An independent scrutiny panel for serious sexual offences

Launched by West Yorkshire Police in partnership with the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). The membership are partners from the statutory, voluntary and charity sectors and independent members. They provide an oversight of a number of anonymised police investigations, presented at random to the panel to ensure that policing has taken every possible investigative step to achieve a positive outcome, that victims have had full support from specialist victim's services, and specific requirements in relation to the recovery of electronic evidence are met by policing.

Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Funding

In August, the Mayor successfully secured a total of **£550,225.25** to be granted to local councils, West Yorkshire Police and charitable organisations working to reduce domestic abuse through focused perpetrators work.

The money supported seven projects in the region, including the funding of an additional domestic abuse perpetrator worker in Leeds, 32 GPS location tags for offenders, and a perpetrator intervention programme for fathers in Kirklees.

Domestic Abuse Perpetrator programmes protect victims and survivors by engaging those who commit domestic abuse and working with them to reduce the chance of reoffending. First time domestic abuse offenders who agree to be admitted onto the program are given conditional cautions. Early results are positive and a fuller evaluation will take place soon.

Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)

The LCJB executive met on the 23rd of March 2023 to decide on strategic priorities drawn from both the Police and Crime Plan and issues that require tackling within the criminal justice mechanism, to improve the engagement and experience of both the victims of, and witnesses to crime.

Going forward the executive will have a number of subordinate groups;

- Victims and Witnesses Group
- Efficiency and Effectiveness Group
- Reducing Reoffending Board
- In addition, four task and finish groups will work on LCJB governance, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Performance, and Transforming Summary Justice

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime was voted to chair the board going forward with the vice-chair as the CPS lead.

The role of Independent Custody Visitors



Independent Custody Visitors (ICV)

During this year:

- 20 remarkable and dedicated ICV volunteers offered face to face visits to people held in custody suites, across our region
- These visits were offered at all times of the day and night including at weekends and over 365 days of the year
- In 2022/23 there were 279 visits (up from 267) to 1333 detainees (1098) which equates to 5 visits every week

20 remarkable and dedicated ICV volunteers offered face-to-face visits to people held in custody suites

If you would like more information on becoming an Independent Custody Visitor in West Yorkshire please email: policingandcrime@westyorks-ca.gov.uk

Find more information on the role of the national [Independent Custody Visiting Association \(ICVA\) online](#)



Priority 2

Keeping people safe and building resilience

Our objectives

- Work in partnership to protect the most vulnerable in our society including understanding exploitation
- Raise awareness of hate crime and modern-day slavery
- Prioritise the safety of women and girls

Anticipated outcomes

Victims are made aware of their rights and are supported by a range of well used, high quality services and perpetrators are supported to reduce reoffending.

Working alongside partners this will improve prosecution rates for all with a victim centred approach.



Domestic servitude is one of the most difficult to identify means of modern slavery exploitation

Domestic servitude video wins regional TV award

Domestic servitude is one of the most difficult to identify means of modern slavery exploitation, typically involving victims working in a private family home where they can be subjected to ill-treatment and long working hours. The animation emphasised the important steps of recognising a victim of this abuse, and how to report your concerns. Because domestic servitude abuses occur ‘behind closed doors’, cases are especially hard to identify and record. The animation follows the journey of a young woman moving from her home country to the UK and won Best Animation at the Royal Television Society Yorkshire Programme Awards in October. Find the animation on YouTube: [Domestic Servitude Animation](#)

Positive Futures youth intervention

The four Positive Futures youth intervention projects that are run in three districts across West Yorkshire (Leeds, Calderdale and two in Bradford) were independently evaluated in Summer 2022. The evaluation highlighted the positive difference that the projects made to lives of young people in those districts. The Mayor has therefore decided to distribute the annual Community Safety Fund in FY23/24 across all districts, ring-fenced to provide a bespoke youth intervention offer for those children and young people at risk of entrenched ASB or criminal behaviour.

Safety of men and boys scoping work

The Mayor commissioned LimeCulture to support the scoping of the safety of men and boys for West Yorkshire. Working closely with partners and service providers LimeCulture has consulted with local key stakeholders to inform the development plans and strategic direction for West Yorkshire in relation to the safety of men and boys.

This included:

- Undertaking up to date research to provide national and local context
- Providing initial key themes of focus and key recommendations to progress development of a strategy for West Yorkshire

The final report was submitted and reviewed by the Mayor in Spring 2023 and was published and shared in early Summer.

West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership

Celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2024 and is chaired by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC). The forum continues to attract a growing list of representatives from local and national anti-slavery and trafficking charities, housing services, private sector organisations, and academia, with the objectives of building partnership projects in response to modern slavery and human trafficking, and promoting initiatives which raise public awareness of the signs of these hidden forms of exploitation.

Recent meetings have included input from:

- Gangmasters
- Labour Abuse Authority
- The Children’s Society, looking at financial exploitation
- Palm Cove Society, whose presentation featured insight into the practice of abuse which exploits victim’s faith or belief systems

The principal modes of exploitation in West Yorkshire remain sexual exploitation and labour abuses (e.g. cannabis farms, car washes, and an emerging pattern of exploitation seen through domestic servitude and in employment in the care system).



Cross cutting theme

The Safety of Women and Girls

In order to write the Safety of Women and Girls Strategy, there were a number of co-design events which took place to shape the priorities and principles, the first event took place in May 2022.

Around **75 attendees** from across West Yorkshire, including Community Safety and Third Sector partners, came together to shape how the strategy will set out the priorities and principles to tackle these issues locally, regionally, and beyond.



We must do this together to overcome generations of injustice and harm and drive this important change

The Safety of Women and Girls

Second co-design event

This event took place shortly after in Wakefield with **60 attendees** from charities, community safety organisations, local authorities, and the police joining the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Alison Lowe OBE.

This was to help shape the region's response and co-produce the strategy with partners.

Attendees were asked to contribute what they felt should be the key strategic delivery actions that they wanted to see delivered across West Yorkshire (with their support).

The Safety of Women and Girls Strategy will add to ongoing work that the Mayor is doing to ensure the safety of women and girls remains high on the agenda regionally and nationally.

The launch

The Mayor unveiled the plan describing how it is designed to bring about societal change and end generations of injustice. The strategy reveals the shocking experiences and challenges facing women and girls, including a recent survey which found that 97% believe 'being a woman' affects their personal safety, and it outlines a plan to tackle this. This will be resolved through four key areas of work to bring about change:

- Education and Prevention: through events to raise awareness of the issue in schools, colleges, and universities across the region
- Behaviour Change: including delivering a behaviour change programme to empower men to be allies
- Safe Spaces: working to improve safety in the public, private and digital space

- Supporting the Sector: securing funding for vital services in the region through working together with partners, including the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector and private businesses

The strategy, with the voices of women and girls at its heart, will be delivered in partnership with West Yorkshire Police, local councils, community organisations, businesses, and the public. A further £1 million of funding has been made available by the Mayor.

At the time of the launch the Mayor stated:

"We owe it to every little girl growing up in our brilliant and diverse region to provide them with a future where they are **safe from harm. Male violence against women and girls is a scourge that must be addressed, and as someone who has experienced this first-hand, I have made that my top priority.**

This plan, which has been **co-designed** with women, male allies, and organisations across the region, sets out how **together**, we can make West Yorkshire **a safe, just and inclusive place for women and girls**.

Our time is now – we must do this together to overcome generations of injustice and harm and drive this important change."

Alison Lowe OBE, said:

"As a survivor of sexual and domestic abuse, I feel a strong personal responsibility towards making West Yorkshire safer for women and girls. When it happened to me many years ago, I did not believe that I had a voice. But I am here now as the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime in West Yorkshire to tell you that **you will be heard, you will be **believed**, and you will be **supported**."**



An important opportunity to pool professional expertise and experience across a range of partners and stakeholders

West Yorkshire Independent Stalking Advocate Service

In December 2022, during the 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Abuse, organisations from across West Yorkshire rallied together to improve the support available for victims of stalking.

A victim's charity, Victim Support, showcased its new service at the event that included 70 participants from 18 agency partners. This charity is funded to support the victims of stalking, and it outlined how organisations can utilise the service to improve their journeys through the criminal justice system if they choose to report to the police.

The service is fully funded which is a commitment to £450,000 over three years and is delivered by Victim Support and the Independent Stalking Advocacy Caseworkers (ISACs).

The ISACs role includes:

- Supporting victims of domestic stalking aged 16 and over who have been subjected to fixated, obsessive, unwanted and repeated behaviour from an ex-partner or family member. This can be recent or have happened in the past
- Helping victims of stalking cope with their situation, take control and move forward and develop coping strategies
- Risk assessing and helping with safety planning
- Offering support with accessing other appropriate services and navigating the Criminal Justice Service

Safer parks

In line with the strategic theme of 'Safe Spaces' the Combined Authority facilitated a workshop in October 2022 with the University of Leeds and partners. The workshop included Alison Lowe OBE, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and Lee Berry, Detective Superintendent, VAWG Strategic Lead, West Yorkshire Police, alongside parks managers, police officers, design out crime officers, built and natural environment practitioners, women's groups and campaigners.

This workshop was an important and timely opportunity to discuss the findings of new research and to help shape recommendations to support women and girls' safety and feelings of safety in parks and green spaces across West Yorkshire.

The workshop also offered space to pool professional expertise and experience across a range of partners and stakeholders to jointly examine the research findings and co-produce the recommendations.

The ideas and ways forward generated during the workshop discussions will feed into the development of regional guidance, and the recommendations that form part of the final report of the research, which launched later in the year.

A photograph of a modern transit station. In the foreground, a tram is stopped on tracks. People are walking on the platform. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daytime. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

...raise awareness of gender-bias in design and how to best integrate safety into design.

Policy knowledge share session with mass transit companies

In April 2022 the Combined Authority hosted a knowledge share session with Mass-Transit Colleagues and Consultants to raise awareness of gender-bias in design and how to best integrate safety into design.

During the session, partners provided updates on how safety in design is crucial to ensure sustainable solutions for safety across the infrastructure industry. We want to cultivate our relationships with businesses as a route to influence employers to understand what they can do to support women's safety and support industries to be more gender inclusive.



Priority 3

Safer places and thriving communities

Our objectives

- Work to reduce serious violence particularly amongst young people
- Tackle the causes of ASB through a targeted approach
- Eliminate traffic fatalities through the new Vision Zero Board and increase safe transport for all
- Ensure communities are safe by targeting organised criminals

Anticipated outcomes

- Lessening of Serious Violence especially in young people through the Violence Reduction Unit taking a public health approach to this arena
- Focus on Neighbourhood Policing to drive out organised criminals from areas
- Through the Vision Zero Board provide scrutiny and oversight of safer roads
- Reduction in ASB calls to the police and communities feeling safer



In conjunction with partners, we were able to bid for **over £1.2 million** under the **Safer Streets 4** banner

Vision Zero

The Policy Manager and Policy Assistant joined the team in February 2023.

Initial work established the governance structures surrounding **Vision Zero** and the Safe Roads Partnership. This work ensured the right scrutiny and oversight of the Safe Roads Executive was present by the Vision Zero Board with the correct levels of partner representation and reporting mechanisms.

The two new members of the team engaged with partners to ensure positive relationships enabling stronger collaboration with partners involved. This engagement involved setting the foundations for further work and encouraging partners to adopt **Vision Zero** principles further within their own organisations.

The team has created a baseline assessment of partner capacity which has been signed off at executive level. This initial work has provided the platform to build from and focuses on a Safe System approach to Road Safety.

Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) reducing serious violence

In April 2022, the Government confirmed that Violence Reduction Units across England and Wales will have a guarantee of funding for the next three years, allowing our own VRP to further develop the vital work which has been carried out over the past three years.

Having a stable funding position in the near-term will help to support West Yorkshire partners as they meet the requirements of the Government's Serious Violence Duty, which calls for police,

local government, justice and health bodies, to collaborate to develop holistic strategies to protect people from harm.

The Serious Violence Duty commenced in January 2023 and is a statutory duty for all named partners to work together to reduce serious violence in their area. Find out more about the [Serious Violence Duty](#) on the government website. The VRP is working with all five districts to ensure they meet the requirements of the duty. Find out more about the [VRP on the Combined Authority website](#)

Safer Streets 4 work

In conjunction with partners, we were able to bid for over **£1.2 million** under the **Safer Streets 4** banner which supported two key projects which will both increase the safety for women and girls and tackle anti-social behaviour.

A number of projects to support the safety of women and girls across the night-time economy in West Yorkshire received £717,953.61.

These included:

- 'Safe space hubs'
- More street marshals to assist those in need of help
- The extension of 'Ask for Angela' initiative, which enables those who feel vulnerable or unsafe to seek assistance in bars, clubs and businesses

Safer Streets 4 anti-social behaviour

A further **£518,137.60** went towards tackling anti-social behaviour and misuse of motorised quad bikes and motorcycles in West Yorkshire's residential areas, as well as parks and open spaces.

This included:

- Enforcement activity focused on the misuse of vehicles
- A youth outreach and diversion programme working with charities in specific area

Safer Streets 4 work across the region

Bradford Operation Scribestoke

19 operations targeting anti-social motorbike nuisance in Eccleshill, Keighley West, Royds, Tong and Windhill and Wrose Ward areas.

Calderdale Operation Heelfield

October to December 2022 17 days of action took place in identified Ward areas using Safer Street Funding.

This resulted in:

- 29 arrests
- 40 vehicle seizures
- 115 Traffic Offence Reports
- 74 intelligence reports
- 6 Section 59 Warnings
- 1 drugs possession

Kirklees Operation Teakshot

- Overtime used throughout 2023 particularly during the school holidays and warmer months when demand is higher
- Two days of action in October 2022 targeting nuisance motorcycles and quads in Birstall, Batley, Liversedge and Dewsbury East and Dewsbury West
- This resulted in a bike seizure and a male arrested. Several calls for service involving off road bikes were also attended

Leeds Operation Ashfield

Police Off Road Bikers and Roads Policing Officers conducted 11 operations targeting anti-social use of bikes and theft of motorcycle. This resulted in:

- 16 vehicles seized
- 7 arrests
- 13 motorists reported for Summons
- 5 Stop Searches (2 positive for drugs)
- 52 live time incidents attended
- The funding has also paid for six reserve riders to be trained and provided with the relevant protective clothing and equipment

Wakefield

Since September 2022 the District has used the funding to conduct six days of action in relation to Off Road Bikes. This has included:

- Delivering awareness and crime prevention inputs at Whitwood and Wakefield College
- Patrols around Kinsley and Eastmoor
- A stolen bike was recovered in South Elmsall
- A high value electric scooter seized at Eastmoor. Footage provided by a member of the community resulted in an offender being identified and issued with a £100 fine and 3 points on their licence for driving offences

Your Views – Public consultation on community safety

Listening to communities' perspective on community safety is an essential part of the work of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and our long-standing 'Your Views' survey remains an important link to public opinion. The survey collects data on residents' views about neighbourhood issues of concern, experience of crime, and satisfaction with the work of the police and community safety partners.

The survey for 2022 took place in June and attracted **2,757 responses** from across our districts. This wave of research attracted a greater proportion of residents living in areas most affected by crime. Overall, 68.5% of residents said they felt safe in their neighbourhood; other headline results included:

- 32.7% felt burglary was an issue in their local area, compared to 57.8% in 2021's survey
- There were also notable falls in the proportion of respondents identifying issues with litter or vandalism (61.4%), drugs (54.6%), and dangerous driving (76.0%); although issues with ASB (60.7%) and hate crime (9.0%) remained at a similar level to the previous year
- **19.7%** of respondents were concerned for the **safety of women and girls** in their local area – this was new data collected for the first time
- When we asked respondents to single out the main community safety issue which concerned them, the top responses were **dangerous driving** (the main issue for 29.8% of respondents), the **lack of visible police presence** (14.9%), and **ASB** (11.7%)

Overall, **68.5%** of residents said they felt safe in their neighbourhood





Priority 4

Responding to multiple and complex needs

Our objectives

- Protect vulnerable young people to ensure they are not drawn into a life of criminality
- Embed a trauma informed approach across all services
- Ensure that services are available for all vulnerable people and criminal justice works for all
- Work to reduce the effects of drugs and alcohol in our communities

Anticipated outcomes

- Delivering innovative approaches to help those who are vulnerable in our communities, due to addiction or mental health challenges
- Greater engagement with lesser heard communities
- Ensuring services for all, especially young people are trauma informed and provide access to services and opportunities



Protect vulnerable young people to ensure they are not drawn into a life of criminality

Police and Crime Evidence Beds

Section 38(6) Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Act 1984 places a legal duty on the police to transfer children who have been refused bail to local authority accommodation rather than keeping them in the police station overnight. There is a legal duty placed on Local Authorities to facilitate this. Arrangements between policing and the Local Authority Children's Services across the region were in need of significant improvement.

We facilitated new arrangements through a West Yorkshire Protocol and information sharing agreement. This binds all local authorities through a shared responsibility framework to provide foster care to criminally charged children and young people for a short term 8 to 72 hours maximum, prior to a court appearance. This has resulted in a step change in performance and recognition for the region in a recent HMIP inspection.

West Yorkshire Criminal Justice and Mental Health Forum

The forum was reinstated in March 2022 and has representation from:

- Place based and strategic NHS Integrated Care Board
- The three NHS Mental Health Trusts
- Local Authorities
- West Yorkshire Police at District Senior Leadership level

The forum will be primarily engaged with providing the West Yorkshire strategic partnership for Right Care, Right Person, the police and partnership demand and resourcing model, agreed nationally in February 2023.

West Yorkshire Combating Drugs Partnership Strategic Board

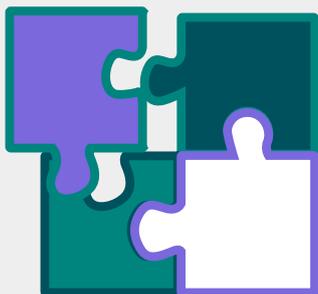
The WY Strategic Board's objective is to address those issues which call for a co-ordinated response from key partners working in the criminal justice and substance misuse space. The Board held its first meeting in February 2023, bringing together partners from the police, prisons and probation service, and district public health services, to help co-ordinate West Yorkshire's response to the Government's 'From Harm to Hope' 10-year drugs strategy.

The Board's ambition is to shape the work taking place under the strategy's three workstreams:

- To break supply chains
- Reduce demand
- Enhance treatment pathway

This work is also closely aligned to the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan's '**Responding to Multiple and Complex Needs**' priority.

A key example of the Board's work is to promote the use of the anti-overdose treatment 'Naloxone' in West Yorkshire. It is hoped in the year ahead that this forum will also develop work on a West Yorkshire approach to Nitrous Oxide use, and sign-posting support for those receiving alcohol and drug-treatment orders at local courts.



Cross cutting work

The Consultation and Engagement Team

The Consultation and Engagement Team has continued to work closely with **young people** in West Yorkshire through its Youth Advisory Group, maintaining **great relationships** and also making new connections with inspirational and passionate young people across the region.



...galvanise Partners to not only act on young people's priorities, but to do it through a **youth lens**

Consultation and Engagement Team

The Youth Advisory Group

The Youth Advisory Group has met throughout the year to discuss the Police and Crime Plan, the Police Budget and to consult on language to help develop trauma informed approaches; many of these consultations have helped to inform practice, strategy, and delivery on a wider scale. In addition to this, the team have introduced young people to Partners across West Yorkshire and supported them into decision making arenas, where they have been able to provide valuable insight on policing and crime matters, such as the safety of women and girls. We have also facilitated experience days for young people to learn more about the Police, namely the visit to Police headquarters in Wakefield to visit the firearms department, CCTV and emergency 999 and 101 call centre.

The group has undergone development this year and is currently being adapted and recruited to continue to fulfil its important function. With this in mind, there will be the **first ever Policing and Crime Youth Conference** taking place in 2024 which will aim to consolidate the youth voice on Policing and Crime from all across West Yorkshire and galvanise Partners to not only act on young people's priorities, but to do it through a youth lens.

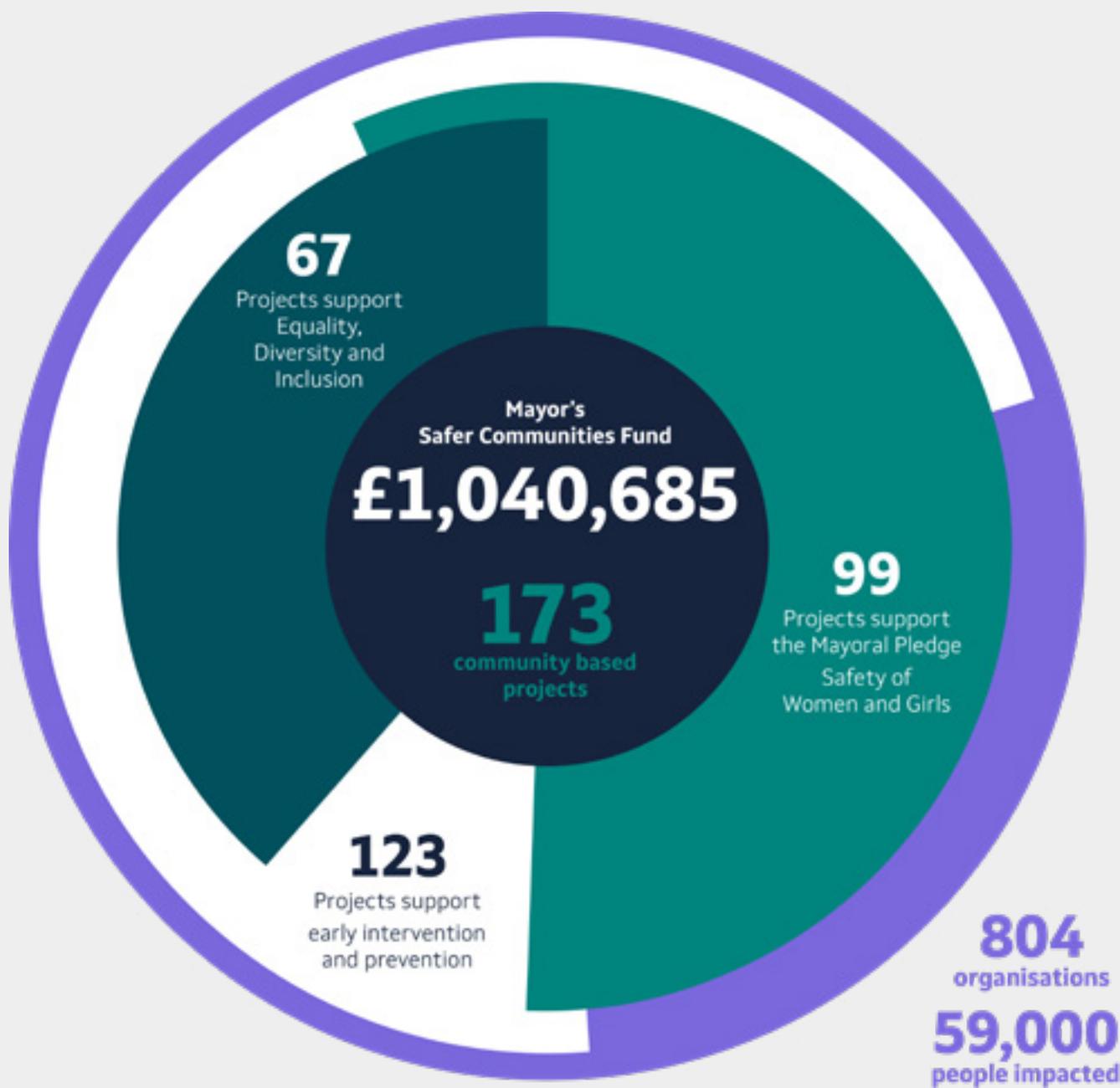
Place based consultation and engagement

Every year the Consultation and Engagement Team undertakes a face-to-face survey at large scale public events. The aim of the 2022 survey was to focus on Safer Places and Thriving Communities to provide some key information to

inform the Mayor's strategy as outlined in the 2021/24 West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan. Between May and September 2022 the team attended events which included Bradford, Calderdale and Leeds Pride, Beeston Festival, Armed Forces Day and a series of district-based partnership events. The survey creates an opportunity for engagement and consultation, enabling the team to also share information and capture complaints and concerns which are shared with the Mayor's Casework Team.

Face-to-face surveys and the type of events attended often favour younger respondents – shifting away from the office's usual demographic that we see in our public consultations and expanding the diversity of those engaged with. **49%** of our respondents to the summer survey were **under the age of 40**, with a further **16% under the age of 24**.

- In total 427 individuals completed the survey and key findings from the analysis showed that the majority of those we spoke to felt safe or very safe in their local area and felt that people in their communities got on well
- When it came to confidence in policing, the views were mostly positive. However, over half of those who stated they had been a victim provided more negative responses around the confidence in policing questions
- Police visibility remained one of the biggest areas that communities (including younger people) stated would have the biggest positive impact and unsurprisingly the elderly and young people in our communities were thought to be the most vulnerable



Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

The fund uses Proceeds of Crime Money seized by West Yorkshire Police and puts it back in to communities to improve community safety and combat the harms of crime.

The fund is open to voluntary, community, not for profit and statutory groups and promotes partnership working across the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector in West Yorkshire. All prospective projects must align to the priorities, areas of focus and cross-cutting themes within the Police and Crime Plan 21/24.

Over the period of April 22-March 23, the fund allocated **£1,040,385.59** to **173 projects**. The funded projects are delivered by our partners including community, charitable and faith based partners as well as statutory organisations.

We record detailed information about each of the individual projects which includes their outcomes and the protected characteristics of their target audience. For example, a radio based awareness campaign on Hate Crime may have a large and varied target audience compared with a bespoke project to work with a small group of children within a specific age range on a topic such as Domestic Abuse.

We review the data provided carefully to ensure we do not overinflate our figures which shows that the projects funded across Grant Rounds 1, 2 and 3 in total will impact a **minimum 59,000 people** including children, women and girls, men and boys, victims of crime, those who may be criminally exploited, have multiple and complex needs or members of communities across West Yorkshire.

Mayor's Safer Communities projects

Projects across the districts addressed many Policing, crime and community safety issues in the Police and Crime Plan, ranging from road safety to child sexual exploitation and abuse and serious violence.

Case study 1: Empath Action CIC

Empath Action CIC used the fund to deliver the play '97%' about sexual harassment. The play gave audiences the chance to see the devastating impact on young women, and the ways in which friends, peers, and the legal system need to help victims. They created resources to signpost women to services where they could get help, and after their two performances of the play they held an open floor talk to discuss the reasons behind creating the play and what they believe needs to change, including how men can support other men in being the solution.

As a result of the play, Empath Action CIC reported that the play gave many women a chance to speak about their experiences as survivors of abuse. They also noted the unanticipated support the project provided to the **Ask For Angela campaign**. It provided an understanding for many businesses as to why the campaign was vital. There had also been interest for the play to form parts of Police training as well as positive feedback from local councillors in supporting work within female safety. They were invited to be involved in the 16 Days of Action and wrote and debuted four short plays (titled Boys Won't be Boys) focusing on the role men can take in helping to tackle misogyny and abuse of women.

Case study 2: Family Fit

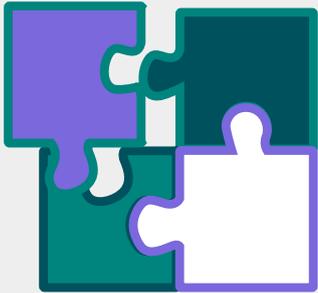
Family Fit used the fund to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of individuals, children, young people, adults and families across the Wakefield district. Their project delivered fitness courses of Women and Girls Boxercise Strength, Fitness and Confidence sessions to females aged 12+ in Eastmoor Wakefield East Ward. They aimed to break the cycle of 'accepted' levels of verbal, mental and physical abuse by equipping women and girls with skills.

As a result of the sessions participants disclosed concerns for themselves and others around Domestic Abuse (DA). Family Fit were able to signpost them to Wakefield DA services and the participants also experienced increased confidence to do so as a result of their sessions

Feedback from their sessions included "it cheered me up", and it gave them "a reason to leave the house", helped them to "make new friends" and get fitter "by having fun". The project engaged with 22 women and girls on a regular basis over 48 weeks, between them there was a combined total of 864 attendances. They found that the women who attended felt more connected with their local community as a result of the sessions, many having made new friends and support networks. One woman had grown in confidence so much that she had since been trained by Wakefield Council as a volunteer Walk Leader and started regular Health Walks from the venue as soon as the sessions ceased, evidencing the sustainable nature of the work.



...the play gave many women a chance to speak about their experiences as survivors of abuse



Cross cutting work

The Commissioning Team

We published our first Policing and Crime Commissioning Strategy 2022/24 – commissioning safe, just and inclusive community-based services and activities for West Yorkshire.

“One of my responsibilities as the Mayor is to commission quality, inclusive services that meet the needs of our diverse communities. This commissioning strategy sets out my intentions in this regard and, I hope, makes clear my commitment to a strong, sustainable West Yorkshire Third Sector, value for money and the highest quality service for the people of our region.

I have been amazed by the **outstanding provision** we commission here in West Yorkshire, and I want to **thank all our providers for their passion and commitment** to the citizens of our region, without which the outcomes we achieve together would not be possible. I am confident that this strategy will harness the best of what is currently being delivered in West Yorkshire whilst also encouraging innovation and greater co-production than ever before.

I wish to thank all our partners who work alongside us every day to deliver our policing and crime ambitions and I am certain this commissioning strategy takes my vision of a safe, just and inclusive West Yorkshire one step closer to fruition.”

In the summer and autumn of 2022, we hosted a number of meetings and events where partners, current providers, and other interested groups came together to co-design the new commissioning strategy.

We held five events in community-based venues, one in each district, a West Yorkshire wide online meeting, an internal staff event and an online survey. Over 100 people from 60 different organisations have had their say on the co-design of our strategy.

Themes of the key findings:

- Fair and equal commissioning
- Better engagement with partners and attracting funding into West Yorkshire
- Future opportunities to co-commission
- Understanding needs and priorities



Find out more about the **Commissioning Strategy** on the Combined Authority website or scan the QR code





The commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is central to our commissioning approach and processes

The Commissioning Team

Equality Impact Assessments Toolkit

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion is at the heart of the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan for a safe, just and inclusive West Yorkshire. Celebrating the diversity of West Yorkshire and ensuring that the principles of equality and inclusion underpin all the work we do and ensure the services and support we commission protects those who are most vulnerable. The commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion is central to our commissioning approach and processes. All our funded services and activity require an Equality Impact Assessment and performance monitoring of actions and progress is monitored as part of our contracting and granting arrangements.

Our first specific **Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) Toolkit for providers** has been designed to provide information that supports the completion of the EqIA for the services commissioned and funded by West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

The toolkit has been developed to help:

- Providers consider the actual or potential effects of activities, services and decisions on people and communities and analyse and make more considered decisions about changes to service delivery, policy, and practice
- Providers identify how specific communities of interest may be affected by decisions and to consider any potential discriminatory impact on people with protected characteristics

- To improve or promote equality, diversity, and inclusion by encouraging providers to identify ways to remove barriers and improve participation for people with a protected characteristic(s)

The **EqIA Providers Toolkit** will support our commissioning to:

- Take an evidenced based approach – using facts, data, information, and feedback to inform our thinking and decisions
- Explore ways to improve the services we commission
- Remove or reduce negative impacts by flagging up issues
- Consider options, outcomes and risks alongside costs and value for money
- Increase transparency of our commissioning and funding

[Find out more about EqIA Providers Toolkit](#) on the Combined Authority website.



The team have **supported 494 victims** of abuse during the first year of operations

The Commissioning Team

Service focus on hospital-based IDVA

The Mayor funded Mid Yorkshire Health Trust (MYHT) through the Ministry of Justice Grant for Local Commissioning of Victims' Support Services for West Yorkshire. The funding secured a hospital-based Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA).

This role is based in the MYHT Domestic Abuse service that is available to the patients and staff of any department, team, clinical area, community, or hospital site at MYHT, where people are experiencing, or affected by Domestic Abuse. The team have supported 494 victims of abuse during the first year of operations, with a total of 1806 contacts made by the team to patients and staff.

A portion of the funding was utilised to provide dignity clothing and toiletry packs for victims attending MYHT, who are unsafe to return home, require emergency accommodation, refuge placement or immediate hospital admission.

The hospital-based IDVA role and MYHT Domestic Abuse Team meet the recommendations within this statutory guidance for a co-located specialist service within the hospital setting. The performance indicators demonstrated the fundamental need for the service to provide a targeted and immediate response to both staff and patients, as victims of domestic abuse.

Police and Crime Plan

Performance monitoring

Progress in the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan's outcomes is evaluated in our quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports, which are published on the website. Information about West Yorkshire Police's performance is collected at the associated Performance Scrutiny Meetings, which provides the Mayor and/or the DMPC with the opportunity to examine aspects of West Yorkshire Police's delivery in greater depth with the Chief Constable.

Currently assessment of the delivery of the Plan's outcomes is through 33 indicators which record the performance of the police, our partners, and the Combined Authority.

Key Highlights include:

- Working with West Yorkshire Police to produce locally accountable performance measures for crimes which fall into the Violence Against Women and Girls category. In April 2022 the National Police Chiefs Council produced their first report on VAWG ([VAWG outcomes and performance framework](#)) so we looked to produce a document that could be used by partners to understand VAWG in a West Yorkshire context.
- The latest performance report for the Police and Crime Panel shows how the long-term upward trend in Domestic Incidents was stabilising, the positive outcomes for Rape were on a steep upwards trajectory as was the positive outcomes for other sexual offences
- West Yorkshire Police agreed to add Stalking to the list of crimes that were part of their Victim Satisfaction Survey, and first results show a high satisfaction rating
- Knife Crime is on a reducing trend with a 4.1% reduction in the 12 months to March 2023 compared to a 4.7% average increase over the same time for all forces in England and Wales
- Neighbourhood Crime (Domestic Burglary, Personal Robbery, Theft from Person and Car Crime) is a priority for the government and West Yorkshire Police had a target to keep this crime below the baseline of 12 months to June 2019. When looking at the 12 months to March 2023, this was 23% below the baseline which corresponds to over 10,000 fewer victims
- The Deputy Mayor has worked with the force to look at published data and identify areas under the Equality Duty for extra emphasis. The profile for those coming into the force under the recruitment process now shows a 18.3% proportion of ethnic minority officers compared to the 8.3% that were currently in force. This was a key Equality, Diversity and Inclusion measure from the cross-cutting theme in the Police and Crime Plan
- West Yorkshire also had a high number of female recruits and in March 2023 data showed for all officers, 39.1% were female against an England and Wales figure of 34.7%



Knife Crime is on a reducing trend with 4.1% reduction in the 12 months to March 2023

West Yorkshire had a high number of female recruits



Working with West Yorkshire Police to produce locally accountable performance measures for crimes which fall into the Violence Against Women and Girls category

Neighbourhood Crime was 23% below the baseline which corresponds to 10,000 fewer victims



Measure category key

Police Measures (Po)

Partnership Measures (Pa)

WYCA Measures (CA)

Police and Crime Plan

Performance monitoring

Priority 1: Supporting victims and witnesses and improving criminal justice outcomes

Category	Metric	Baseline 2018/19	2021/22	2022/23	Change
Po	Increase victim satisfaction with the police	74.9%	72.6%	71.8%	-0.8%
Po	Increase satisfaction with the police among victims of domestic abuse	86.0%	85.1%	83.5%	-1.6%
Po	Maintain high level of calls answered in target	90.1%	85.6%	87.9%	1.5%
Po	Improve outcomes for victims of rape	144 (4.2%)	296 (8.1%)	280 (7.7%)	-16 (-0.4%)
Po	Improve outcomes for victims of Serious Sexual Offences	453 (6.6%)	603 (7.8%)	664 (8.2%)	+61 (0.4%)
Po	Improve outcomes for Domestic Abuse	5115 (9.6%)	4,132 (6.8%)	4,513 (7.0%)	381 (0.2%)
Po	Increase proportion of crimes with a victim initial needs assessment	Not available	97.0%	98.9%	1.9%
Pa	Decrease ineffective trial rate (Magistrates Court)	14.8%	25.4%	20.3%	-5.1%
Pa	Increase volume of early guilty pleas: Crown	37.7%	37.8%	37.3%	-0.5%
Pa	Increase volume of early guilty pleas: Magistrates	63.5%	70.2%	68.8%	-1.4%
Pa	Decrease average time taken for cases to be brought to resolution (number of days): Qtr 1	43.6	75.3	68.4	-6.9
Pa	Decrease average time taken for cases to be brought to resolution (number of days): Qtr 2	38.1	75.3	57.1	-18.2
Pa	Decrease average time taken for cases to be brought to resolution (number of days): Qtr 3	45.8	82.0	49.9	-32.1
Pa	Decrease average time taken for cases to be brought to resolution (number of days): Qtr 4	72.0	72.0	Not available	Not available

Priority 2: Keeping people safe and building resilience

Category	Metric	Baseline 2018/19	2021/22	2022/23	Change
Po	Monitor the number of young persons flagged as at risk of criminal exploitation	Not available	628	653	+25
CA	Monitor indicators from Cyber Dashboard (Action Fraud)	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Po	Reduce number of repeat victims of Domestic Abuse	48.1%	33365 (47.7%)	35953 (48.8%)	+2,588
Po	Reduce number of repeat victims of Hate Crime	Not available	2,724	2,991	+267
Po	Increase use of Domestic Violence Protection Order	236	441	554	+113
Po	Increase use of Domestic Violence Protection Notice	155	456	555	+99
Po	Increase use of Stalking Prevention Orders	Not available	1	4	+3

Police and Crime Plan

Performance monitoring

Measure category key
Police Measures (Po)
Partnership Measures (Pa)
WYCA Measures (CA)
VRP Measures (VRP)

Priority 3: Safer places and thriving communities

Category	Metric	Baseline 2018/19	2021/22	2022/23	Change
Pa	Reduce number of Homicides	33	27	29	+2
Pa	Reduce hospital admissions for assault with a sharp instrument	260	240	210	-30
Pa	Reduce Knife Crime	2,599	2,395	2,293	-102
Po	Reduce number of ASB incidents	45,289	35,377	28,030	-8,347
Po	Keep Neighbourhood Crime below baseline	46,162	29,253	33,921	+4,668
CA	Monitor cyber attacks on businesses via WYCA survey	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Po	Increase proportion of workforce from ethnic minorities	5.7%	6.5%	7.2%	+0.7%
Po	Increase proportion of female officers	35.5%	37.1%	39.1%	+2.0%
Pa	Reduce those Killed or Seriously Injured on West Yorkshire roads: fatal	49	46	49	+3
Pa	Reduce those Killed or Seriously Injured on West Yorkshire roads: serious	692	1010	1001	-6
Po	Recruit 750 police officers and staff by April 2024: Officers	5,352	5,667	6,074	+407
Po	Recruit 750 police officers and staff by April 2024: Staff/PCSOs	4,599	4,212	4,350	+138

Priority 4: Responding to multiple and complex needs

Category	Metric	Baseline 2018/19	2021/22	2022/23	Change
VRP	Monitor VRU early intervention programme attendees	Not Available	13,838	18,948	5,110
Po	Reduce number of repeat missing children below baseline level	1,458	985	946	-39
Po	Reduce number of repeat missing adults below baseline level	933	407	354	-51
Pa	Reduce re-offending rate for drug-related crime (over 12 months)	25.7% to June 2019	21.6% to Mar 2020	21.8% to Mar 2021	0.2%
Pa	Reduce the number of first-time entrants to Criminal Justice System: Adults	Not available	3,871	3653	-218
Pa	Reduce the number of first-time entrants to Criminal Justice System: Juveniles	Not available	518	489	-20
Po	Increase number of offenders referred to drug treatment services via Liaison and Diversion Services	Not available	457	480	+23

Mayor's Pledge

Police service funding

The precept proposal resulted in a budget of £531.611 million with the largest share (55%) originating from the Government's core grant for police services.

Following a public consultation held in January 2022, 1700 responses resulted in the majority supporting the Mayor's proposals for an uplift in the level of the policing element of local Council Tax (the precept) for 2022/23. The survey was (for the first time) accompanied by focus group engagement which further enhanced the results. 23% of West Yorkshire Police's funding is derived from local residents' Council Tax contributions and even with the uplift it will remain the **4th lowest Police precept in England and Wales.**

The savings made through the West Yorkshire Police Strategic Delivery and Consultation Group (a group that hold oversight of business cases and proposals on behalf of the Command Team) will allow:

- Non partner-funded PCSO numbers to be maintained at over 500 as a key commitment to the Neighbourhood Policing footprint
- Ongoing recruitment of an additional 345 police officers
- 84 police staff into various specialist roles in helping to meet the overall shared vision of 'Safe, Just, Inclusive'

In November 2022, the Mayor confirmed a further three years in office for the county's Chief Constable. John Robins QPM has over 32 years local service in West Yorkshire and will now undertake the role until 2027. He is currently contracted until 2024, but to provide certainty and stability, he was asked to commit to an additional three years.

West Yorkshire Police has performed exceptionally under his leadership, having been graded as both 'outstanding' and 'good' by HMICFRS in November 2021.

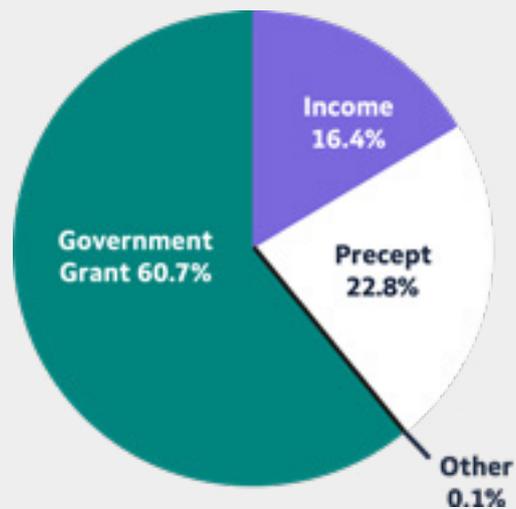
West Yorkshire Police Chief Constable, John Robins QPM:

"I am honoured that the Mayor has extended my appointment as the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police. I remain resolute in my determination to keep improving policing across West Yorkshire.

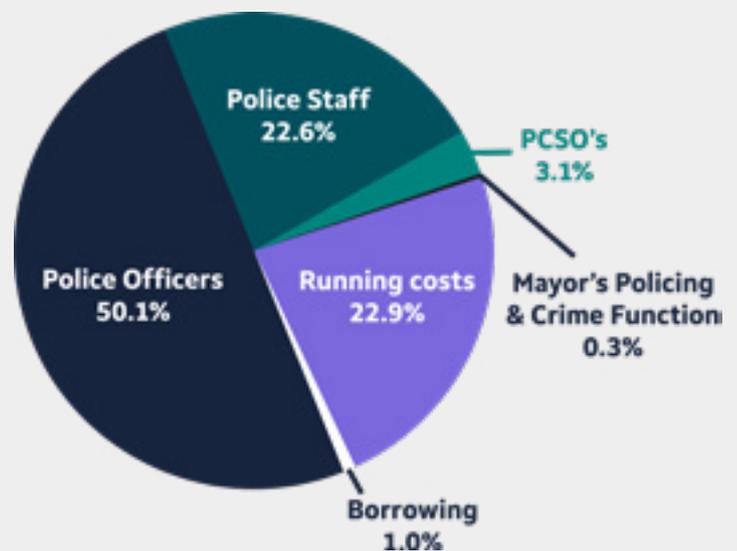
I am also committed to supporting the professional and dedicated police officers, staff and volunteers who make up West Yorkshire Police."

West Yorkshire continues to have the 4th lowest Precept in England and Wales

2022/23
where the money
came from



2022/23
where the money
was spent



Budget	21/22 £m	22/23 £m
Gross Expenditure	616.167	649.293
Council Tax requirement	138.222	147.863

A full record of the budget and accounts for 2022/23 is available online.



West
Yorkshire
Policing
& Crime

Tracy
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Mayor of
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