

Community Outcomes Meeting (COM)

Date: Tuesday 17 September 2024

Present

Alison John
Lowe – Robins, CC,
Deputy WYP
Mayor Damien
for Miller –
Policing ACC,
and WYP
Crime Rob
(DMPC) McCoubrey,
Julie T/ACC
Reid – ACO
Head of Katherine
Policing Johnson
and DSI Marie
Crime, Bulmer
WYCA

Also present

Sharon David Iveson,
Waugh, Digital
Consultation Communications
and Officer, Policing
Engagement and Crime
Manager, Rebecca
Policing and Marano, Press
Crime Officer, Policing
Rachel and Crime
Hannan,
Consultation
and
Engagement
Officer,
Policing and
Crime

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies.

The Deputy Mayor introduced the meeting, welcomed those in attendance and provided an overview of the agenda.

2. Notes of the previous meeting on 18 June 2024 and Matters arising.

The notes of the previous meeting were accepted as a correct record.

3. DMPC and Chief Constable Announcements

- a) **Serious Disorder - Harehills.** The Mayor was adding an item to the agenda for the next meeting on 26 November 2024, to discuss any lessons learnt following the serious disorder on 18 July 2024. The meeting including the discussion would be live streamed.
- b) **Consultation - Police and Crime Plan.** Consultation on the Police and Crime Plan 2024 –28 was open. Once completed the plan would set out policing priorities and the direction of West Yorkshire Police over the next four years so it was vital they hear from everybody, from members of the public to partners, stakeholders, organisations and businesses. At the same time, they were seeking your views to inform the development of a new Serious Violence strategy for West Yorkshire. They wanted to hear from individuals and communities affected by serious violent crime, especially including those who felt underrepresented or unheard.

For more information on how to get involved, including links to online surveys, in person consultation and the call for evidence on Serious Violence, please visit the website [www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk /policing-and-crime](http://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime).

- c) **MSCF Awards.** The most recent round of the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund had awarded 68 projects, 20 addressing Clear Hold Build, totalling over £581k. This round was the first time that applications were welcomed for projects to deliver on Clear, Hold, Build priorities in three Home Office pilot areas in West Yorkshire. They looked forward to seeing all the exciting, funded projects come to life. The next grant round opened 11 November 2024.

4. Digital Policing – Exception Paper - Access the full report [HERE](#)

The DMPC asked what the main challenges and risks of the future of Technology in Policing were in West Yorkshire.

ACO Hankinson said the paper demonstrated where WYP faced challenge compared to the national strategy. Firstly, there was a challenge around security of the system data. WYP underwent an annual independent security assessment which provided an action plan. Another challenge was data, how they used it and the integration of systems. Recruitment and retention of skills was another challenge, in that WYP lose skills to the private sector. Finally, the developing challenge of IT supply management for a shrinking sector regarding the large monopoly over IT systems, Microsoft's licence cost for example came at an expense. Risks for the future included the security of the systems. WYP were subject to assessment next year and were aiming to achieve level 3 (out of 5). They also had a change in platform to the cloud environment on the horizon, which was set to be a cultural challenge within the force as well as a technical one.

DMPC asked, regarding improving the victim experience could more be said about current and future investment will better support victims.

ACO Hankinson said WYP had a huge focus on investing to make contact easier for the public and had shaved the response time off 999 and 101 calls. They had made investments into telephone statements which were working well for officers and witnesses, and they had set up Teams Rapid Video Response. There was also the growing area of Remote Response Teams. The Crime Update Function was having approx. one thousand uses per month which reduced demand in other areas. Finally, the Customer Relationship Management Submission was a function which swept the entire system for information on the victim which helped to build a better picture to support them.

DMPC said the report talked about investment and exploitation of software robotics to reduce the administrative burden which has resulted in becoming one of the leading forces in deploying and exploiting robotics and asked for elaboration.

ACO Hankinson said a small team had been set up as a pilot in November 2021. This was an external organization supporting programming jobs which did not require 'judgement' type roles, e.g., administrative tasks. WYP were one of the leading forces so were sharing learning and expertise across forces.

CC Robins said it came into effect for victims as it was making their information flow quicker and more responsive, it checked for duplication and was working on Hate Crime and Modern-Day Slavery crimes. DMPC added it had increased public satisfaction by 7%.

DMPC said diverse communities may have been concerned about advancements in technology in policing and asked what reassurances could be offered to them about WYP's approach to the National strategy.

ACO Hankinson said they used an external ethics committee to run developments past, and they observed developments in other forces. DMPC said there was lots of expertise in that committee. CC Robins added in terms of digital policing it was an area to make vast gains for both police and victims, but there was no capital funding available. When WYP talked about investing the risk was that it was pulling resources away from front line policing. Nationally there needed to be oversight as they are expensive pieces of work and when applying for funding from the Home Office there was barely anything apart from funding for personnel. DMPC said coincidentally, the Labour Group APCC met that morning, and capital was raised as a priority for that meeting, understanding productivity reviews were putting pressure on, not always considering ethics.

Action: DMPC will continue to raise issue of Capital Funding.

5. Violence Against Women & Girls - to access the full report [HERE](#).

ACC Miller introduced the item by highlighting the continued success of the Cut It Out campaign, Mayors Women's Safety Unit and Pol-Ed. He noted that the Safer Travel Team had seen a 10% reduction of incidents on busses.

DMPC asked, regarding the report, about the nature and number of the bitesize audits that would take place over the next 6 months.

ACC Miller said they continued to audit crimes for high standards and against victim's needs, all in line with the Mayors Women's Safety Unit. The priorities were rape, serious sex offences, stalking, honour-based abuse (HBA) and forced marriage. They would be looking at those crime types individually to ensure investigations were the best they could be, taking learning from them. In addition, to further professionalise approach to audits, they would speak to key partners, for example the Honour Based Abuse (HBA) steering group to ask how best to deal with that crime type. They also wanted to extend this approach further to other groups. To professionalise their approach further they planned to address how they deal with non-contact sexual offenses such as flashing. Their first audit would be on rape and sex assault, beginning next month. The findings would come back via the Protecting Vulnerable Persons Board chaired by ACC Miller in October, and this would provide an early indication of how they were adopting Operation Soteria principles.

DMPC asked what the key changes in the professionalisation and to non-contact sexual offences had been and what educational package standards of response would be provided to officers regarding non-contact offences (NCO).

ACC Miller said they looked at NCO and how they came through the organisation. The starting point was Storm. NCOs could be reported differently, so they created Storm coding, so they were identifiable as soon as the victim made contact. They were able to individually flag each offence, bringing to the attention of commanders. A reporting function was also created for NCO's which identified patterns, which provided a focus to incorporate to daily brief to the CC. There was also new national guidance they had taken recommendations and adopted new principles from. ACC Miller said they would deliver a revised West Yorkshire Policy, launching next month. There would be an internal campaign and a new training package. They would be launching an external campaign to the public, to boost reporting. WYP planned to use the Mayors Reclaim the Night event to do this.

DMPC highlighted a well done on the number of stalking protection orders. She asked what the outcomes were so far since piloting the Stalking Screening Tool.

ACC Miller said the Stalking Screening Tool had been a challenge. The 6-month pilot was in Wakefield and Kirklees, and they were awaiting a national formal evaluation from it. There had been a national issue with funding which was causing barriers. An additional issue was with the IT system, they overcame this in the interim but ultimately it needed building in to NICHE. They didn't want to lose the momentum of the Stalking Screening Tool, so they took the best elements of the tool, using expertise in house and created their own. They had been piloting this in Kirklees and would complete an evaluation themselves once the pilot has finished and share

results. They had also been doing Dash risk assessment – to ensure all areas are covered. The work was ongoing, and if there was no movement nationally, they would launch their own tool whilst waiting for the national product to come online.

DMPC asked were there plans to conduct staff surveys to monitor changes and improvements after reporting higher than national average burnout and challenge around maintaining a work life balance?

ACC Miller said the burnout was in relation to safeguarding (SG) teams, specifically the Domestic Abuse (DA) team. The review looked at increased officers in the safeguarding department with a view of developing a new shift pattern. They were changing the 3-team pattern to a 4-team pattern. This was expensive but it would provide identified investigation days to detectives, so they were able to clear their workload. It was implemented in March across West Yorkshire, and they were about to start post-implementation review next month. They wanted to get officers in the department handling 20 cases or below which was deemed manageable. They also focused on officer and staff wellbeing and the academic research behind it. They were implementing staff surveys which would support feedback on the new shift pattern as well as general wellbeing. Their key aim was maintaining 100% staffing across SG departments which was monitored through local accountability meetings. They had maintained 100% staffing. They had ensured there was a reporting mechanism if officers' investigation days were getting cancelled. ACC Miller was conscious of ensuring the SG unit improved at a rate like other units too.

DMPC said at the last COM, discussions of the reductions in domestic incidents were highlighted and it was asked what the percentage decrease of domestic incidents were, and DMPC asked for more detail. WYP advised due to Home Office changes, they were unable to know until they could compare May to May, as there had been a change in crime recording. Had this change been reviewed, and what was the reasoning?

ACC Miller said there had been a 16.3% reduction. Further holistic analysis suggested a 7.8% in DA after some deviation in crime recording. The highest reduction was Leeds at 10.7% and the lowest was Wakefield at 4.7%. They were seeing the biggest reductions in malicious communications – this could have been due to changes in crime recording. They anticipated 4% reduction projected. DMPC said that was why it was important to keep funding CARA. CC Robins said DA teams were under the most pressure which had an impact on repeat offending. It was a balancing act of shifting resources around to deal with harmful and dangerous offenders.

6. Serious Organised Crime (SOC) – access to the full report [HERE](#).

DSI Marie Bulmer provided an overview stating 102 mapped SOC threats across West Yorkshire which ranged in Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), acquisitive crime, human trafficking, fraud, drugs, and firearms. In terms of funding opportunities, in 2023/24 WYP seized 10 million pounds in assets obtained from criminals which they

reinvested back into West Yorkshire through frontline policing and the Mayors Safer Communities Fund. In terms of Clear Hold Build (CHB) WYP had identified a location in Halifax which would be launched in October. CHB demonstrated the positive impact Working in collaboration with partners could have in an area, changing lives in communities. DSI Bulmer said SOC was everyone's business and needed a whole system approach, across sectors and communities, and good data capturing.

DMPC said regarding firearms, the report described how over the past three years, West Yorkshire had recorded a pattern of roughly 20 firearms discharges per year with a reduction in each district for 2023-24, apart from Leeds, why this was and if DSI Bulmer could offer some reassurance people across Leeds.

DSI Bulmer said Leeds had been the single largest contributor and over the last three years had recorded between 8 and 10 discharges per year. Other districts had experienced flare ups, although these had been temporary issues. In terms of what was driving the activity, it was hard to pull out concrete trends from the relatively infrequent and disparate events. Behind the current situation, firearms remained inextricably linked with SOC, gangs, and drugs. The firearm incidents may not have been directly linked, but they were indirectly, with various motives. There was a shift from shotgun use to handguns and converted blank firers.

WYP met every 6 weeks in SOC management meetings and further meetings with Regional Organised Crime Unit. WYP were conducting covert and overt activity. As further reassurance WYP had a dedicated firearm prevent team investigating every reported discharge, and identified how they could develop intelligence.

They also had intelligence threat desks in each district to ensure maximisation of recovery of firearms and minimisation of threat. DCI Bulmer said the blank firearm issue had been an emerging national issue and was not unique to Leeds or West Yorkshire. Currently WYP were doing better than South Yorkshire with the discharge rate and recovery of weapons. WYP also have significantly fewer discharges than Greater Manchester and West Midlands. Nationally, there had been a decrease in firearm activity and WYP have been ahead of that trend. WYP has stabilised in discharge since 2021.

DMPC asked for an update on your progress on the recommendations from the peer review of the response to organised immigration crime, and any early feedback from the HMICFRS inspection of April this year.

DCI Bulmer said they had conducted a peer review in relation to this, and an action plan was produced. The majority was ensuring awareness on all levels, which had been implemented across the force and DCI Bulmer was satisfied it had been implemented well. In terms of the HMICFRS inspection, WYP were happy with the feedback. The inspectors liked the training and operational activity. The report was expected to be published this month. DCI Bulmer said the only caveat was the report was a thematic threat report, so it was not just West Yorkshire based, but overall was very positive when debriefing with the inspectors.

DMPC said the report described some positive results against serious violence and ASB, supported by the Home Office's 'Hotspot Response Fund'. She asked for further details on; the 20% fall in ASB in hotspot areas over the last year; The

'behaviour change' campaign linked to the hotspot areas; and the type of early intervention and engagement work taking place in these areas.

DCI Bulmer said it was an area to celebrate. It was too early to understand the holistic impact and results would prevail at the end of the year. Serious Violent Crime and ASB hotspots showed it was interlinked. In quarter one, an additional 20 officers working under these objectives, and 14000 hours were dedicated to hotspot places. 234 hotspots were now actively managed. Because they were able to track the hours spent there, they were able to evidence the impact it had made. In the first quarter there was also a 20% reduction than previous years.

There was a 22% reduction in nuisance incidents, 11% reduction in ASB crimes. The patrols have seen significant improvement in the control areas. This is as well as new ASB campaigns going live, running for 6 months under randomised control trial to focus on four key areas, building trust and confidence, increasing reporting, moving offenders away from offending and increased patrols.

DMPC said the report mentioned the work through Operation Jemlock to intercept illegally imported weapons purchased online, with 90 positive outcomes in the last year. What type of weapons were being imported this way, and what action was taking place nationally to disrupt the online sale of weapons.

DCI Bulmer said there was a wide range imported online, coming from various countries and websites. Many of them were legal to sell on in private, but illegal to possess in public. Changes in legislation mean its now also illegal to own in private.

The remaining loophole of zombie style combat knives which would be closed that month. The force has a dedicated work stream called Jemlock which works with inland border command in border force, which takes proactive action in West Yorkshire. The last operation saw mapping of online retailers and there was one identified in West Yorkshire, who are now no longer trading. Nationally, significant work being carried out by the national police chief council for knife crime, who have been instrumental. Weapons imported overseas is difficult to map, but they are trying to track to build the intelligence picture.

Action: DMPC said when the office received the HMICFRS report she would meet with the inspector just to pull out any learning for West Yorkshire.

7. Drugs and Alcohol – access to the full report [HERE](#).

DCI Bulmer introduced the paper by saying since January this year there had been 4000+ reported drug and alcohol offenses throughout all 5 districts. The Combatting Drugs Partnerships Meeting was looking at breaking supply chains and looking at recovery systems, which are making significant progress.

DMPC asked on page 2 of the report it mentioned there was an expectation that new 'trigger offences' for drug testing on arrest were expected before the call of the general election. Which offences were expected to be included, and what impact would there be for the police and partners if this policy is returned to in the new parliament.

DCI Bulmer said the Home Office didn't specify new information which would be included but it would be realistic to envisage it would have been around DA and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). Should the parliament take these, there would be a net increase of work for police and partners albeit it would reduce the need of authority which is needed now. The pilot from previous funding did see a relationship with alcohol and cocaine the system in DA arrests.

DMPC said the drug supply offences looked to be a much higher rate than recent years. Based on the first six months of 2024, the number of these offences looked likely to be the highest since 2019 by the close of the year. Could you provide background to this increase.

DCI Bulmer said optional activity is a direct contributor to the increases. It demonstrates the productivity of the team that are targeting the SOC criminals. Including that was also drugs offences, which has seen a real drive in West Yorkshire of the police activity, which had led to those positive outcomes.

DMPC said on page 8, partners had reported back on the successful response to June's contaminated Spice incident in Bradford; could you say more about your reflections and learning points on the collaboration to reduce harm. DCI Bulmer said the threat of opioids was an evolving landscape. Through the Combatting Drugs Partnership, a plan had been put in place to prepare for and respond to issues. The incident in Bradford triggered the implementation of their Local Resilience Plan, that was the first time a plan had been actioned. As a result, it brought together all key partners where harm reduction, outreach work and testing were actioned as well as identifying and arresting suppliers. The findings noted the speed and efficiency of the plan response, especially with it happening over a weekend.

Messaging and action were prompt, they also adjusted deal with of complexity of dealing with hazardous substances. On reflection, it was much better having plan in place, and everyone could formulate and respond quickly.

DMPC asked on page 8, the pilot programme for officers carrying Naloxone had commenced – could you give any early feedback on officers' use of the treatment in cases of overdose.

DCI Bulmer was pleased it was now in place, it went live on 5 August in Leeds and Wakefield. A full report will take place in December. It was early to make observations, however DCI Burton, Director of Intelligence, had been consulting with colleagues on any areas of concern. DCI Bulmer wanted to thank WYCA and partners for providing support and assistance of training. The evaluation is expected to be concluded in January 2025. Nothing of note has been reported back at this time.

DMPC said on page 8 it was a concern to hear about the potential for vapes being used to deliver synthetic cannabis or even opiates – particularly when considering the reports that the vapes are being found at schools and colleges. Could you give us an update on the local and national intelligence on the prevalence of this issue.

DCI Bulmer said they had been getting lots of information from partners and schools in relation to vapes being an issue. However, the volume didn't seem to match the

concern, so they were pushing for further reporting so they could gain better knowledge. They were looking at finding vendors which were reported to have sold to children to take proactive action. They were also using testing strips to find illicit substances in vapes which was an innovative approach. They were also running awareness and education sessions in schools. DCI Bulmer said hopefully the more intel around suppliers they could get, the more targeted enforcement action they could take. Generally, this issue was an emerging threat nationally, and the scope was still unclear therefore there was a drive nationally to continue to build the picture.

Actions:

DPMC said she would continue to speak to the Home Secretary for additional funding to meet the additional need created from trigger offences.

DMPC to continue to raise vapes in Combatting Drugs Partnership.

8. Road Safety - access to the full report [HERE](#).

ACC Rob McCoubrey introduced the paper. There have been some slight reductions in overall casualties and deaths, although still nowhere near our ambitions. We continue to focus on fatal 5 and other good innovative practice.

DMPC said the data on E-Bikes, standing scooters and electric motorcycles showed a significant upward trend - what were WYP doing to tackle this issue specifically - This was a particular additional issue on pavements too. ACC McCoubrey said it was a significant issue for all forces in big cities across country, including us.

Work had been undertaken, including raising awareness in officers, providing further guidance on how to deal with this issue, upskilling packages, looking at legislation, the road traffic act, and powers under no insurance and licence offences. They had also been utilising their off-road bike teams to help. They had been using targeted operations in Leeds and Bradford, and a focus on using Neighbourhood Policing Teams, which has seen an increase in seizures. This was also all supported in terms of Vision Zero and the activity across that partnership. WYP were also working with their corporate communications team to raise awareness. DMPC said she recently visited off road team they were very passionate and dedicated. She reported they weren't always able to pursue offenders, due to quality of bikes and tyres. DMPC said improved bikes would really enhance this policing, recognising funding was an issue, spending money in different ways may improve outcomes.

DMPC said page 6 referred to the development of a Power BI Dashboard to support analysis and deployment - what is the timeframe for this Dashboard?

ACC McCoubrey said the timeframe was three months from now for it to go live. That would draw in department of transport data too.

DMPC said One Life Lost was now a module on Pol-Ed - what other road safety modules were present and what was the take up on the modules at schools.

ACC McCoubrey said the road safety module was very popular and had good take up across Pol-Ed. The module was completed in two halves, the first was up to 16 years, and the second was additional work after that for young drivers. There were 14 lessons under road safety with excellent uptake with approx. 20 thousand children having received the learning. There was the large assembly type learning for the drink and drug driving for 16 years and over, and from 2024 they want to expand the offer to police ops staff around One Life Lost which will be available for schools to bid in for.

CC Robins clarified Pol-Ed was always designed for teachers to be ran by teachers. It showed the power of being designed this way, by not taking up officer time, being led by trained and trusted adults, in an Ofsted approved way. There were 14 lessons and an assembly, and reiterated the figures that since 2023 alone, 20 thousand people had received positive intervention without a police officer involved. CC Robins wanted to send thanks to teachers and highlighted the importance of the future behaviour change which was going to be seen across West Yorkshire through these numbers.

DMPC said the update on Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) was positive, but there was no mention of Vision Zero – she asked how was ANPR being used to support Vision Zero.

ACC McCoubrey said it was an oversight that Vision Zero wasn't mentioned in the report as it is fundamentally a part of ANPR, which sits at the heart of Vision Zero. It was a proactive tool. The hot lists used in West Yorkshire had resulted in practice being picked up around the country, especially around unsafe vehicles.

Research also conducted work around this data regarding the Fatal Five, as well as further research work around dangerous speeds.

DMPC asked if ANPR had the technology to identify ghost plates as there was good work going on identify them and act.

ACC McCoubrey said ANPR technology was quite robust, and they were continuing to invest in the technology to continue tracking those crimes. They were constantly reviewing the tech and techniques to stay advanced, as West Yorkshire Police are at the forefront nationally.

DMPC said in the Bradford update it stated that proposals for a Vision Zero Board were taken to the Community Safety Partnerships in March; what was the current position on this. The name shown as leading had since left Bradford Council.

ACC McCoubrey said the paper submitted to Bradford council suggested combining the pre-existing Op Steerside Board and the new Road Safety Board to undertake the ambitions of the Vision Zero Board, which will sit as a subgroup to the CSP. There were governance issues to work through in Bradford due to elected officials etc, but they were hopeful this could be overcome.

Actions:

ACC McCoubrey to look into off road bike investment with ACO Johnson.

DMPC will continue to monitor the progress of the formation of the board in Bradford.

9. Use Of Force (UOF) – access to the full report [HERE](#).

DMPC said we knew interactions involving UOF were filmed and shared quickly across social media platforms, and that this could impact trust and confidence in West Yorkshire, irrespective of where the incident had taken place. Could you offer further reassurance about UOF across West Yorkshire. ACC McCoubrey said viral sharing of incidents on the internet was something they always had to consider. They had robust ways of monitoring social media, especially picking things up happening within west Yorkshire. There was a process for this which worked well, including reviewing UOF; considering what initial comms to put out to the public; reviewing body worn footage; and taking quick and robust action if there appeared to be an inappropriate UOF.

Scrutiny brought by the Independent Advisory Group's (IAG's) was key to this function too. DMPC shared a recent experience of attending an IAG for UOF on a child, and whilst the detail deemed a positive overall interaction, a UOF form was not completed by the officer, and this left the IAG disappointed. CC Robins said that is exactly what the IAGs were for. He added about one-third of stop and search involved handcuffing and that did not mean they were all inappropriate, only on occasion. They believed that figure was consistent with other forces who also measured it, and there were other forces who did not know their own statistics. They were also looking at a piece of work to refresh officers on use of handcuffing. They were also looking to improve the use of forms when UOF was used.

DMPC asked if they could say more about how UOF may differ (or appear to differ) when officers are carrying firearms.

ACC McCoubrey said firearms officers were very highly trained and had good skills given the nature of the role. There was risk involved with those officers, regarding their weapons, and because of this they did have different tactics. There was different dynamics involved due to the kit they must retain and protect. DMPC said the public may not always appreciate the risk involved with firearms officers – if there was a gun involved, they had to ensure the person doesn't reach for it. In addition to that, different measures may be taken when there was intelligence that a member of the public had a weapon. CC Robins said in terms of UOF across West Yorkshire, firearms officers had limited access to their hands and arms, as they were trained to have them placed on their weapons, so this mitigated a lot of UOF.

When comparing individuals own UOF, there was far less disproportionality with firearms officers, meaning UOF used against people of colour was less than that of a non-firearm officer. They were so highly trained against mitigating the threat, their threat minimisation process was wholly focused on psychical threat, which mitigated unconscious bias. DMPC said there is some learning there for training; to focus on the risk not the bias. DMPC said she would take that learning back to the OPCC.

DMPC said on page 4 of the report it stated that you have enhanced scrutiny of the police use of force and increased transparency so the public could be reassured and confident in your work, could you say more about this and about any changes to policy and training resulting from relevant feedback.

ACC McCoubrey said increased understanding of UOF was led by senior leadership who had placed real focus on it. There was a gold group running and they were looking at internal governance. In terms of training, they had doubled what officers receive.

The training was called PPST (Personal and Public Safety Training) which was scenario based academic learning on both safety towards the public and officers. He added the policy around taser use had come from specialist practitioner and SLT level too. This included the removal of officers permits if they were unhappy with their usage, In addition to several other ongoing improvements. DMPC asked if you were withdrawing permits, were you reflecting that back into the training? ACC McCoubrey said yes, the taser steering group was where they fed this information. DMPC said the training should focus on attitudinal training as well.

DMPC said pages 4 & 5 talked about compliance with use of force reporting, and she welcomed all the work on this to date. Please explain how you were moving your internal accountability from encourage and explain to educate and enforce and what this meant in practical terms.

ACC McCoubrey said as mentioned already there were different layers of reviews, scrutiny, and training. He said along with the force wide acknowledgement of using force appropriately and not going beyond and using them inappropriately, he was also trying to engage supervisors regularly to implement in their 1 to 1s. In terms of process, if there were complaints made that would feature in Professional Standards Health Checks which would result in professional feedback.

In terms of dip sampling, student officers would get feedback on their body worn cameras on their UOF. It is multilayered but it is clear now in the force that people will have to justify their UOF and that is resulting in officers being on development plans.

DMPC said in respect of the Use of Force in Custody (June to June reporting year – tactics used - could you explain the overall increase from 4565 to 5207 and what percentage were children, the increase in handcuffing from 2094 to 4578 and what percentage of children and finally the Prone/Face down hold and what percentage were children.

ACC McCoubrey said there was a positive in seeing increased numbers in terms of more custody records, as that demonstrated more arrests therefore delivering

criminal justice outcomes for victims. When looking at the figures, they were Comparable year on year at 9.2% of cases through custody in 2022/23. It was 9.9% in subsequent years. There were just more people through the system. In terms of UOF on juveniles, it was 7.08% in 2023/24. The custody rate of juveniles was 7.4%, so a marginally lower figure. That also translated to handcuffs at a 7.16% use on juveniles, and a 7.14% use of other restraint of juveniles in custody. It was lower than UOF on adults.

CC Robins said there were 5207 juveniles arrested, and 369 had UOF, for either their own safety or the safety of others, which was 7%. This was compared to 9% of the whole population.

DMPC asked how reliable the handcuff data was, as she was aware it could be doubly recorded.

ACC McCoubrey said they were likely over-recording use of handcuffs now, and they had been pushing it for the right reasons but there was now work to do on the reporting form so they could remove it. DMPC said she was informed it was already removed in the PEEL feedback. DMPC said she looked forward to seeing a big reduction in the data in a years' time. DMPC said the Prone restraint had almost doubled, so that was another area to be aware of, as deaths can follow from this restraint.

DMPC said pages 7 & 8 talked more about Use of Force Reviews, which included the numbers of reviews required, the outcomes and the average time taken to complete. Whilst she welcomed there were no reviews based on areas of significant concern or serious injuries – how sure were you that the information was accurate and how can we be fully reassured that this had not happened, rather than an issue with officers not recording/people coming forward with a complaint.

ACC McCoubrey said they wanted to be able to review every single one but that was impossible due to the volume. They were fortunate in 2024 the body worn camera made for high level of objective data which meant high levels of compliance, and good objective data was important to assess UOF. There was a well-documented process of people coming into custody and if there were any injuries they would be recorded.

The review process had seen none have resulted in serious concern or serious injury. 33% of these did result in learning and further action taken because of the review. CC Robins said officers caught not recording were disciplined accordingly, and because of this they were in a wholly better place. DMPC said she saw the data compliance was very high, and it was great for the public they feel they can rely on the footage.

10. Future Agenda Items

- Hate Crime
- Safeguarding - Adult
- Neighbourhood policing & ASB
- Stop & Search
- Exception Paper – Dangerous Dogs
- Harehills Disorder.

11.Any Other Business

There were none

12. Next Meeting

Tuesday, 26 November 2024 14:30-16:30



Chief Officer Team Briefing Report Community Outcomes Meeting

Title: Harehills Disorder
COT Sponsor: Chief Constable John Robins
Report Author: Assistant Chief Constable Patrick Twiggs
Date: 15th October 2024

INTRODUCTION

This report is an extraordinary report to the Community Outcomes Meeting, requested by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, relating to the violent disorder seen in Harehills, Leeds on the evening of Thursday 18th July 2024.

The aim of this report is to update the Mayor, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and members of the public on the circumstances leading up to the disorder, the disorder itself and the police response and the on-going investigation. The scope of some aspects of the report is deliberately limited so as not to impact on the on-going criminal investigation and to avoid sub-judice in relation to several pending prosecutions through the criminal courts.

BACKGROUND

On Thursday 18th July 2024, West Yorkshire Police received a 999 call from Leeds City Council social workers who were acting on an order from the Family Court to remove four children from an address on Luxor Street in the Harehills suburb of Leeds. The social workers reported that they were encountering difficulties at the address, including a hostile crowd gathering outside. The police had no prior knowledge of the court order or the removal of the children from the address.

The activity of the police and social services in carrying out the order of the court led to large crowds forming outside the residential address which later became hostile and engaged in acts of criminal damage and disorder. The criminal damage was firstly directed to police vehicles but then evolved into setting fires in the street and also to a public bus. The disorder continued throughout the evening and a multi-agency response was put into action. This involved police, the local authority, the fire

service, the ambulance service, elected officials, and other key influential individuals from the local community.

There were no serious injuries to the police, other responding agencies, or the public. This is despite the police being struck by missiles aimed at them by the crowd. By around midnight much of the crowd had dispersed and the disorder had abated. A significant policing and community engagement operation took place in the following days to ensure that disorder did not return to the streets of Harehills. This community engagement operation was largely successful and there was no repeat of the scenes seen on the Thursday evening.

A large-scale investigation was launched immediately in response to the disorder which has so far seen five people charged with offences such as arson and violent disorder. Four of those have been sentenced already, some remain under investigation, some we are actively seeking and others we seek to identify. The investigation continues and is likely to do so for several months yet.

POLICING RESPONSE

Officers arrived at the address within seven minutes of the initial call and in support of the social workers began facilitating the removal of the children in line with the judges' directions and the court order that had been imposed.

As officers were at the residential address a crowd began to form outside, growing in both number and in hostility. After around an hour of negotiating a safe removal in line with the court order, the need to remove the children became more pressing due to the ever-changing crowd dynamics.

Whilst attempts to safely remove the children were going on inside the address it was necessary to draw in more police officers to try and manage the burgeoning crowd outside and create a safe area where the children could be removed by social services. The attempts to sensitively remove the children went on for just under an hour. After attempts to calmly remove the children, one was arrested for a breach of the peace and removed in handcuffs. A second child was removed. Once away from the location and calmed, the handcuffs were removed, and the child de-arrested. The final 2 children were helped from the property a few minutes later. Police officers (unprotected patrol officers) cleared a significant crowd from the road to enable the police vehicles to leave the area with the children and social workers safely. Those officers were the same officers that would ordinarily answer calls for assistance from other members of the public.

Immediately following the removal of the children, the crowd dynamics changed, and hostility turned into violence with missiles being thrown at police officers. The officers who had initially responded started to withdraw and began to leave in their vehicles in the hope that the crowd would dissipate. As the officers were leaving the area a section of the crowd began to attack a police vehicle that had been parked on Harehills Lane. Another section of the crowd began to throw missiles at some of the police vehicles whilst they were leaving the area causing damage. Whilst those officers are equipped to deal with the day-to-day threats that modern policing can throw at them, they are not readily equipped to

have masonry and other missiles thrown at them as they are undertaking their duties, which requires extra protective equipment and training. The officers were attacked whilst trying to protect four children and the social workers acting on an order from the courts.

An initial tactical withdrawal saw officers rendezvous at a nearby location approximately half a mile away. The crowd continued to cause damage to police vehicles that remained at the scene, and one was turned on its side as was widely shared on social media at the time.

At around 7pm a large crowd made its way down Harehills Lane towards the location officers had withdrawn to. More patrol police officers began to arrive and form a cordon. The presence of the large crowd meant that a significant number of officers needed to be drawn from across Leeds and other areas of West Yorkshire, instead of being in their communities answering calls for help.

At 8:15pm whilst taking missiles, officers were directed to withdraw. As the officers withdrew the crowd followed before stopping near to the Compton Centre. The crowds prevented some vehicles passing through the junction and stopped a bus travelling into the junction from Foundry Approach during which the windscreen is smashed. Shortly after this a van arrived at the junction and deposited some cardboard and rubbish which the crowd set alight and begin to add more debris onto.

Just before 9:30pm public order police officers, drawn together from across the force, were tasked to clear the junction and allow the fire service to tackle the fire but were quickly and continually pelted with bricks and other missiles. The officers were heavily outnumbered and withdrew.

Within a few minutes some of the crowd try to push the bus, which had earlier been stopped, up to the fire in the middle of the junction but instead some of the crowd set the bus alight where it had been parked. By 10:45pm some of the crowd began to disperse. At approximately 1:00am, public order officers redeployed to the location to disperse any remaining pockets of disorder and accompany the fire service to extinguish any residual fires.

PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE

During the evening of the disorder the police called a Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) which brought together senior leaders from policing, the local authority, the fire and rescue service, the ambulance service and others. This enabled a joint response at a strategic level that would then translate into joint tactical and operational working. The fire service co-located with police in the police control room on the evening of the disorder to ensure police and fire commanders could have a shared understanding of any risk and what proportionate and safe responses could be.

Immediately in response to the tension and disorder, neighbourhood policing resources were deployed. This included the local neighbourhood policing inspector who was liaising directly with key individuals and elected members on the ground in Harehills.

The neighbourhood policing inspector was able to report directly to the Silver Public Order Public Safety commander in the police control room. The police were continually receiving information from key individuals and elected members which was fed into the control room and helped inform decision

making. This included suggestions that the police were quickly becoming the target of the disorder and that intervention by key individuals and elected members may help to reduce tension and disorder. Key individuals from the community and elected representatives deployed into the large crowds and were seen to challenge those who were engaged in disorder and those on the fringes who were at risk of being drawn in. These partners worked throughout the night alongside officers to try to quell the disorder.

Police had an engagement officer located with the family concerned from early in Thursday evening and for the following days to ensure a continual flow of accurate information in an effort to reduce tensions amongst the community.

Neighbourhood policing officers attended a range of community meetings to provide reassurance and accurate updates regarding the disorder and the investigation.

The Chief Inspector neighbourhood policing lead at Leeds District produced a comprehensive engagement strategy for the area which continued the work of the Clear, Hold and Build initiative in partnership with statutory and third sector agencies. This included seconding Roma officers from other parts of West Yorkshire Police into the engagement efforts in the days after the disorder.

The 'CommUnity Harehills' project - a wide-reaching initiative based on the Home Office's 'Clear, Hold, Build' tactic was launched in the area in March 2023. Extensive work has been underway since then with officers from Leeds East Neighbourhood Policing Team working closely with partner agencies including Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Trading Standards, Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team, HM Revenue & Customs, Serious Environmental Crime team, Licensing, HM Revenue & Customs, Immigration and DVLA. Results of this work included:

- 59% reduction in violent crime
- 46% reduction in offences involving weapons
- 257 arrests
- 387 people stop searched
- 59 warrants executed
- £8.2 million worth of cannabis seized and taken off the streets
- Convictions for multiple offences including possession of drugs with intent to supply, cannabis production resulting in 39 years in prison
- 12 licence reviews with 8 licences being revoked from premises
- Multiple days of actions undertaken – one of which seized £450,000 worth of illicit cigarettes.
- Eight successful closure orders

The Clear, Hold, Build, approach is a longer-term strategy that engages and empowers the local community so that the issues that affect their daily lives the most set the priorities for partnership action.

Through a combination of targeted enforcement and community work, the initiative sees police and partner agencies clear an area of organised criminal activity, hold that location to prevent another group from filling the void, and build resilience so the area is less susceptible to criminal groups. Links with CATCH (Community Action to Create Hope) mean that the police can work intensively with young people in the area to build healthy relationships with the police and where possible divert them from engaging in instances of disorder or criminality.

On 19th July 2024 Leeds City Council announced they would undertake an urgent review of their child protection case.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

The criminal investigation into those who engaged in the disorder began in earnest on the night and continues to this day. An accredited senior investigating officer was appointed immediately under the direction of a strategic investigator. The investigation was adopted by the forces Homicide and Major Enquiry Team supported by detectives from across the force and other specialist departments. There was early liaison with the Crown Prosecution Service and a strategy formed for dealing with the differing levels of offending seen that night. It is anticipated that there will be in excess of 100 individual suspects to identify and bring to justice.

The sheer volume of digital media and visual footage from mobile phones, social media, CCTV and police helicopter and drone footage has been challenging to review but it has allowed officers to make use of facial recognition technology to identify many of the offenders involved.

The latest arrest and outcome statistics are shown below:

Total arrests	43
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Arrests by age:

No of adults arrested (age range 18 to 58)	25
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No of children arrested (age range 11 to 17)	18
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Arrests by ethnicity:

Romanian	26
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British	13
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Czech	1
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Iraqi	1
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Irish	1
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Pakistani	1
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Outcomes:

Charged:	8
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Released on bail pending further enquiries	21
Released on bail for a decision from the CPS	9
Released under investigation pending further enquiries	1
No further action	4

Where interpreters have been required for those arrested these requests have been serviced through existing contracts with no identified issues. For those detained who required an appropriate adult, this has been met either by using parents of the children arrested or by making use existing appropriate adult providers, independent of the police.

So far four men have been jailed in relation to the disorder.

Iustin Dobre was jailed for six years for arson and violent disorder after he was seen setting light to the bus which had been stopped on Foundry Approach. Mark Mitchell and Milan Zamostny received six years imprisonment and five years four months imprisonment respectively for the same offences. Celan Palaghia was jailed for three years for arson and violent disorder after he was seen setting fire to debris in the road outside the Compton Centre.

We expect more offenders to be charged as the investigation continues for many more months.

COMMUNICATION

The viral nature of videos taken at the scene appearing on social media led to significant press and public interest at very early stages whilst the incident was still ongoing. Not only did this create additional demand for the police press office function but also emergency call handlers as calls came into West Yorkshire Police from across the country reporting what they had seen online. During the peak period of the disorder there were 414 additional 999 calls and 189 additional 101 calls compared to the week previous.

There were also challenges brought about by misinformation. Press statements were issued to provide up to date accurate information at the peak of the disorder and in the hours and days afterwards. In addition to the traditional circulations, press statements were also provided to Romanian broadcasters to reach the widest possible audience and also through key community contacts and through regular briefings with key strategic partners.

CHALLENGES

Public order resourcing

Whilst most public order policing operations are planned in advance allowing for the deployment of dedicated resources, this same luxury is not possible in instances of spontaneous disorder. It is during these spontaneous incidents that public order trained officers are required to be withdrawn

from their normal patrol and investigative duties across the force and mobilised to form into groups, collect equipment, don protective clothing and travel to the seat of disorder.

The national disorder which took place across the country this summer highlighted the challenges in mobilising a large number of police officers to spontaneous disorder. On the 2nd of September 2024 the Home Secretary made a statement to Parliament that she had asked His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services to work with the National Police Chiefs Council, the College of Policing and the National Lead for Public Order to review lessons from this summer's events particularly around strong coordination and intelligence systems to support public order policing. The following weeks saw police officers in West Yorkshire being mandated to work 12 hours shifts, having their rest days cancelled and plans changed to be able to resource a significant public order policing footprint for Harehills to ensure we did not see a repeat of the disorder.

Misinformation

Whilst proactive press releases were issued both during the height of the disorder and in the days afterwards there were challenges experienced with misinformation. The volume of public interest and desire for information needed to be delicately balanced with the need for criminal investigations and criminal justice processes to take place unhindered and sensitivity in relation to the family court proceedings of which the police weren't party to.

LEARNING

As with any major incident or event, the police are de-briefing those key individuals who were involved in the response to identify any learning in terms of what worked well and what could be done differently. The de-briefing process is still taking place, starting with the officers deployed on the evening and the operational, tactical and strategic commanders. The full de-brief will take some months to fully compile and analyse the results of, and it is worth noting that those officers who facilitate the de-briefs were fully engaged on supporting the recent national disorder and so this has meant timescales have needed to be adjusted accordingly. The police are not in a position to share learning at this stage, and it would be inappropriate to do so whilst the formal structured de-briefing process takes place.

West Yorkshire Police's public order capability was tested once again as we were asked to provide significant resources to the national mutual aid requirements for the disorder seen across other parts of the country this summer. Whilst there was one instance of affray during a demonstration in Leeds city centre, West Yorkshire did not see the violent disorder that had taken hold elsewhere in the country. This operation saw officers from West Yorkshire deployed to Merseyside, Cleveland and South Yorkshire in various capacities. West Yorkshire Police were also proactive in our approach to tackling incitement offences and secured the first national charge (and subsequent conviction) for publishing written material intended to stir up racial hatred.



COM Briefing Paper

Title: Dangerous Dogs

Report Author: Chief Inspector James Farrar

COT Sponsor: ACC Rob McCoubrey

Date: 4th October 2024

Summary

This purpose of this report is to provide a briefing in regard to Dangerous Dog incidents across West Yorkshire and details the current position along with emerging issues and anticipated challenges throughout 2024 and beyond.

It will cover:

- Dangerous Dog Data
- WYP processes / responsibilities
- Kennelling

ACC Rob McCoubrey is the Chief Officer Team lead for Dangerous Dogs, with Chief Inspector James Farrar being the head of the unit.

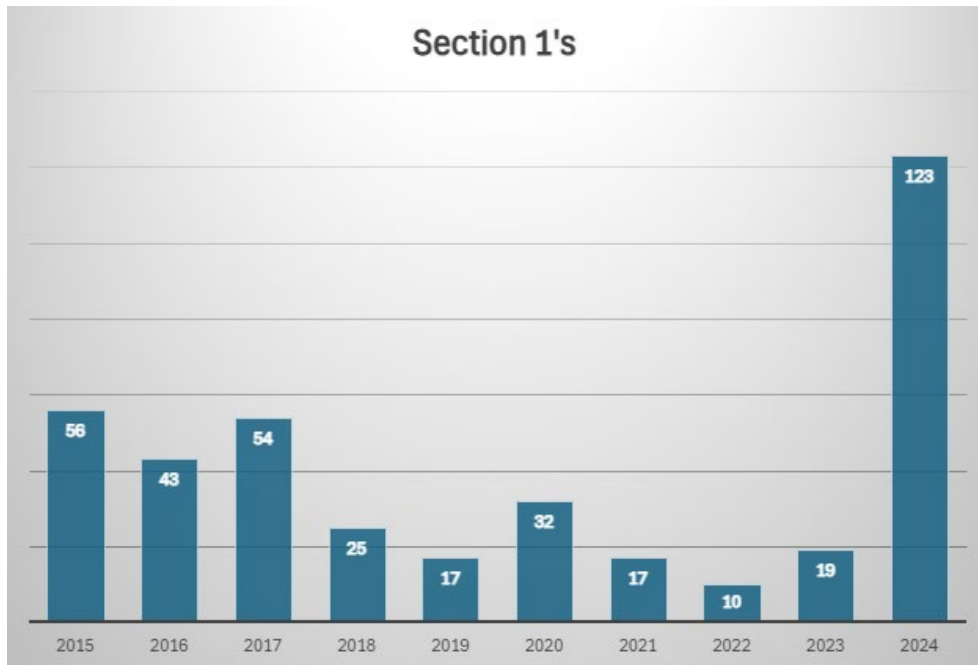
The West Yorkshire Police Dangerous Dogs policy has been revised due to the recent introduction of the XL Bully type dog onto the banned list, which now includes: -

- Pit Bull Terrier
- Dogo Argentino
- Japanese Tosa
- Fila Brasileiro
- XL Bully

Dangerous Dog Data

Section 1 Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 prohibits the ownership of certain types of dogs, unless they are exempted on the Index of Exempt Dogs and is intended to have a preventative effect. Prosecutions can be brought before a Court based on just the physical characteristics of the dog.

Fig. 1 - Section 1 offences



Section 3 Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 creates a criminal offence of allowing any dog (i.e. of any breed or type) to be dangerously out of control in a public place or a place to where it is not allowed. A dog can be regarded as being dangerously out of control on any occasion where it causes fear or apprehension to a person that it may injure them. Furthermore, if that dog does injure a person then the offence is aggravated. Legal action may be taken against the owner and/or the person in charge of the dog at the time. This section should only be used in the most serious incidents investigated by enforcers, and generally it would be the police that would instigate proceedings under this section, however local authorities are able to act under this legislation also.

Fig. 2 - Section 3 offences

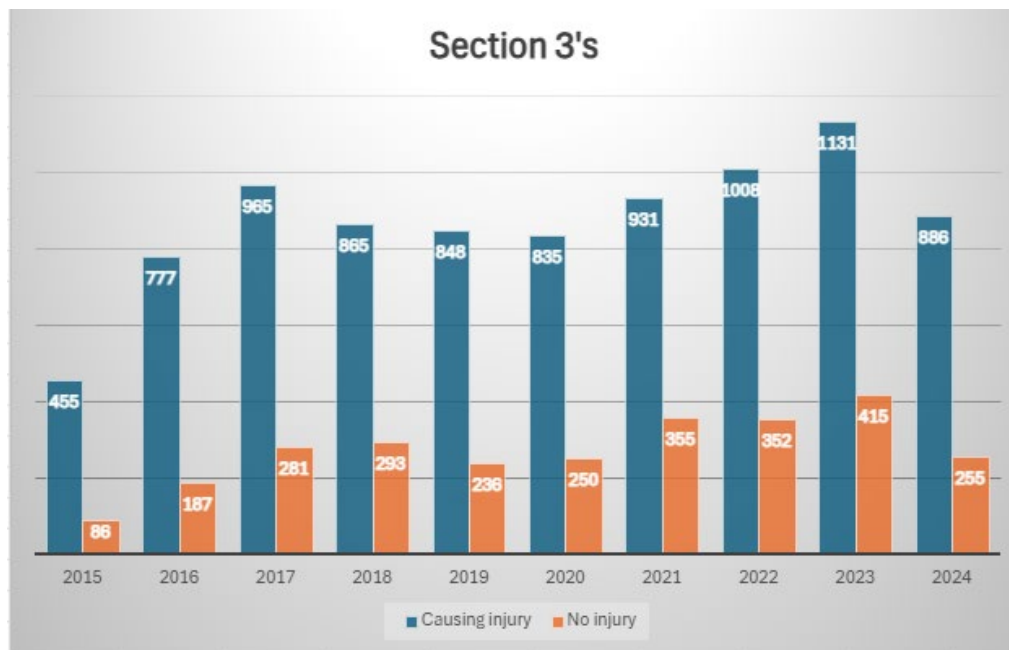


Fig. 3 – Dogs seized by West Yorkshire Police

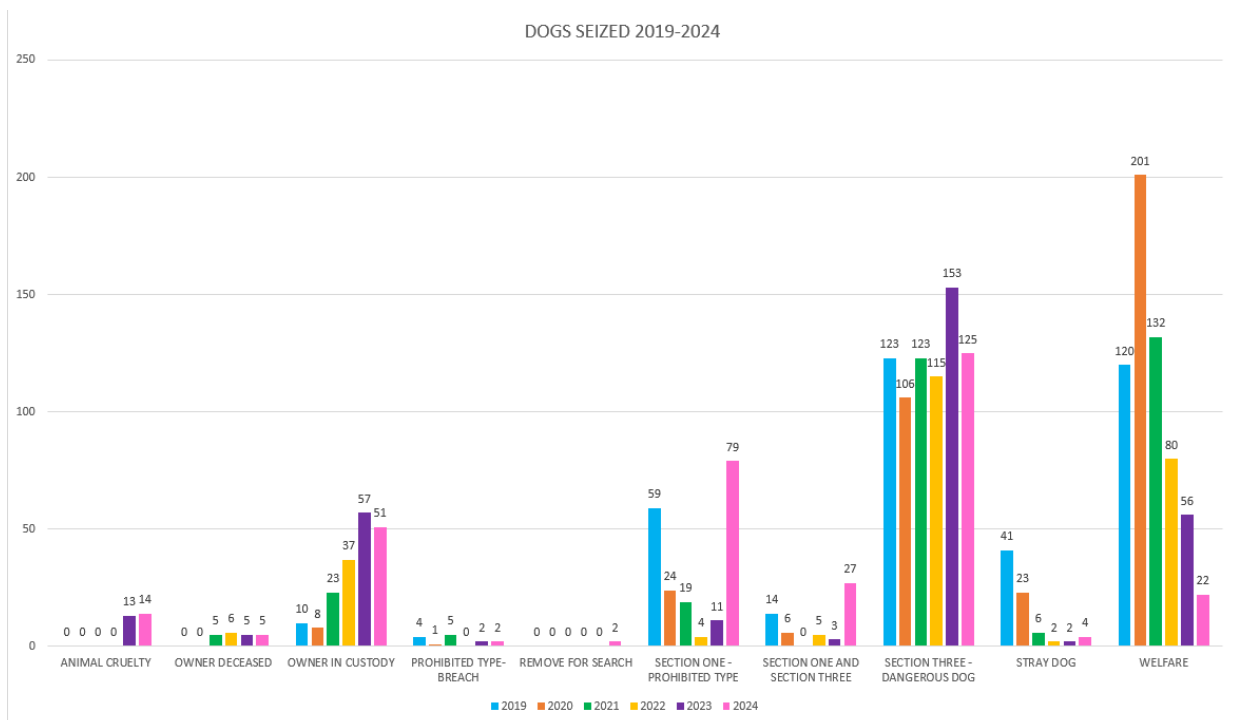
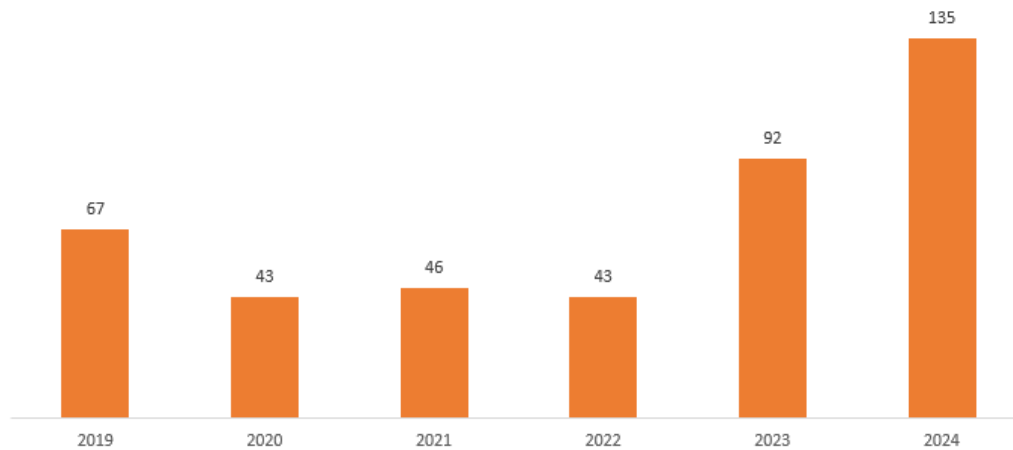


Fig. 4 – Dogs humanely euthanised by West Yorkshire Police

NUMBER OF DOGS PTS (2019-2024)

**Fig. 5 - Registered National Section 1 Dog Population – September 2024**

Police Force	XL Bully	Pit Bull Terrier	Japanese Tosa	Dogo Argentino	Grand Total
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	1278	156			1434
Bedfordshire Police	777	30			807
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	804	15	1		820
Cheshire Constabulary	1403	37			1440
City of London Police	1				1
Cleveland Police	605	75			680
Cumbria Constabulary	403	12			415
Derbyshire Constabulary	1462	21			1483
Devon and Cornwall Police	1242	107		1	1350
Dorset Police	494	17			511
Durham Constabulary	577	7			584
Dyfed-Powys Police	353	13			366
Essex Police	2215	44			2259
Gloucestershire Constabulary	483	17			500

		OFFICIAL			
Greater Manchester Police	3373	161		1	3535
Gwent Police	787	13	1	1	802
Hampshire Constabulary	1618	17			1635
Hertfordshire Constabulary	1017	67			1084
Humberside Police	1002	84			1086
Kent Police	2010	26		1	2037
Lancashire Constabulary	1904	132			2036
Leicestershire Police	1160	40	1		1201
Lincolnshire Police	639	9			648
Merseyside Police	3073	165		2	3240
Metropolitan Police Service	5854	700	1	2	6557
Norfolk Constabulary	713	4			717
North Wales Police	809	6			815
North Yorkshire Police	365	11			376
Northamptonshire Police	921	14			935
Northumbria Police	1368	18			1386
Nottinghamshire Police	1451	37			1488
South Wales Police	1057	104			1161
South Yorkshire Police	2269	70			2339
Staffordshire Police	1423	19			1442
Suffolk Constabulary	461	10			471
Surrey Police	753	15			768
Sussex Police	1287	11			1298
Thames Valley Police	1625	43		10	1678
Warwickshire Police	787	33			820
West Mercia Police	1137	60			1197
West Midlands Police	4226	144		1	4371
West Yorkshire Police	1919	144		1	2064

Wiltshire Police	499	OFFICIAL 27			526
Grand Total	57604	2735	4	20	60363

West Yorkshire Police - Processes / Responsibilities

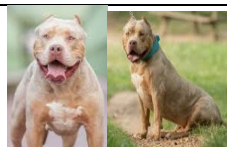
The police hold the responsibility for attending and dealing with incidents whereby a dog has been, or is currently, dangerously out of control. They are also responsible for attending and dealing with prohibited type dogs reported.

The offences that cover these are covered within the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991:-

- Section 1 – possess / have custody of a fighting dog (one of the 5 banned types)
- Section 3 – Owner / person in charge of dog dangerously out of control
 - o Causing injury/death/injury to assistance dog, or
 - o Causing no injury (this includes when nobody has been injured but they have feared apprehension)

Section 1 offences

As above, it is an offence to own/possess one of the 5 prohibited types:-

Pit Bull Terrier	Japanese Tosa	Fila Brasileiro	Dogo Argentino	XL Bully
				
				

The police are responsible for attending, seizing and then examining these dogs to prove they are in fact a banned type. A Dog Legislation Officer (DLO) is responsible for attending kennels and examining these as they are trained to assess them. If confirmed as one of the 5 types, then WYP would investigate the offence and there are 2 options available:-

- The owner is taken to civil court under section 4(b) (Dangerous Dogs Act 1991)
- The owner is taken to criminal court under section 1 (Dangerous Dogs Act 1991)

Regardless of which option is taken, the courts have the same options whereby they can either issue a destruction order or a contingent destruction order (as described above). If a CDO is issued the owner has to comply with all the conditions and they have to register it with DEFRA (chart 5 above shows the amount of dogs registered Nationally).

On the 1st February 2024, XL Bully type dogs were added to the list of banned types. This created a significant rise in demand and has had a significant impact on policing demand nationally, in particular with the kennelling capacity. Since this date WYP have been made aware of a large amount of suspected XL Bully's which are not exempt. Since then 94 have been seized. 53 have been humanely euthanised due to either being disclaimed by the owner or a court destruction order. There is still high demand and WYP continue to work through the outstanding dogs in order to process these. Each individual report is risk assessed in order to prioritise all reports.

Prior to 2024, WYP had 1 full time Dog Legislation Officer and a Police Sergeant who was also a DLO. WYP have since recruited and trained 3 more DLO's who work within the local Districts and 3 more officer's are to be trained as DLOs in November 2024. This will provide increased capacity to process outstanding demand.

Section 3 offences

These offences can take place both in public and private. As such, the police often get reports whereby the persons own dog has injured them or a family member and this is covered by the legislation. More commonly the reports involve a dog attacking someone having got loose from their house/garden or attacking someone when out for a walk. The injury can range from a small scratch caused by the dogs claw or a very serious injury caused by the dog biting, up to a fatal injury. Nationally there have been a number of fatalities resulting from XL Bully attacks over recent years.

Upon attendance at an incident, the police responsibility is to care for the victim and then complete a criminal investigation. Part of the criminal investigation may include the need to seize the dog involved to allow for a behavioural assessment. The requirement to seize is dealt with on a case by case basis and officers should consider the need to safeguard the public and whether it is necessary for evidential reasons. If the dog is seized by officers, it is then collected by the kennel team and it is kept at the secure kennels (see below). The dog is then kept for the duration of the police investigation, up to the conclusion of any court proceedings.

At the point of seizure the owners are given the option to disclaim the dog. If in agreement, the owner signs a disclaimer form handing over ownership of the dog to West Yorkshire Police. Unless there were exceptional circumstances this would then mean that the dog would be humanely euthanised as it is not possible to rehome a dog if it has a known history of causing injury.

If the owner does not disclaim the dog, it will be kept at the kennels. If the police prosecute the owner and the owner is found guilty / pleads guilty, the court then has the option to either issue a destruction order for the dog or a contingent destruction order (CDO). A CDO means the dog is returned to the owner, but they have to comply with certain conditions e.g. ensure the dog is always muzzled/on a lead when in public and kept in a secure garden.

The police also have the option to issue out of court disposals e.g. conditional caution or community resolutions, for lower-level incidents. These can be completed either when a dog hasn't been seized or if a dog has been seized they can be completed and the dog would be returned.

OFFICIAL

Police officers receive training on attending these incidents and how to investigate them. Some also receive basic training on how to best control dogs in these situations. However, all incidents like this require dynamic risk assessments on how best to control a dog in these situations.

The figures above highlight the increasing demand for these incidents, this is largely attributed to the increasing number of dogs in the UK over the last few years and the lack of responsible ownership. West Yorkshire Police attend the “Responsible Dog Ownership Working Group” which is led by DEFRA. This group hold regular national meetings and the stakeholders include representatives from DEFRA, Dogs Trust, local authorities, police and Animal Welfare groups. The group is aiming to tackle the issue of dangerous dog incidents by targeting things such as better education for dog owners / children and better strategies to address offending.

Other strategies

WYP regularly hold meetings with local authorities/dog wardens and the RSPCA in order to discuss better working strategies between these partnerships.

Dog wardens hold the responsibility for dealing with low level dog incidents e.g. dogs getting loose from addresses or low-level dog v dog attacks. However, once a Section 3 offence has taken place e.g. injury to a person or a person in fear of injury then the responsibility to investigate sits with police.

Dog wardens hold the responsibility for recovering and kennelling any stray/abandoned dog.

RSPCA are a key organisation in dealing with animal welfare / cruelty. The police also have powers to deal with these.

Kennelling

The police have an obligation to be able to seize and kennel dogs. The majority of these will be seized due to one of the above offences but we may also have to recover dogs for welfare reasons e.g. when we attend at sudden deaths and a dog is present and there is no next of kin / friend / family to take the dog or when we arrest someone, and they have a dog that we cannot leave unattended for a long period. All of these places additional demand on the already limited kennel space WYP have.

WYP have a kennelling facility which can currently house 89 dogs. It is the responsibility of WYP to ensure those dogs are looked after and the five animal welfare needs are maintained.

In May 2023 we had around 30 dogs in the kennels, however following the legislative changes and the XL Bully being added to the list of prohibited dog types in February 2024 our kennels are now operating at full capacity. A snapshot and breakdown of current demand is:

Animal Cruelty/welfare investigations – 9

Owner in custody – 2

Section 1 dogs – 42

Section 3 dogs – 26

Section 1 and Section 3 dogs – 5

Dogs Leaving Kennels

Dogs seized due to section 1 or 3 offences will remain at kennels until a court determines whether they can be returned or humanely euthanised, or if the owner themselves disclaims the dog. This is the same for animal welfare/cruelty investigations.

When dogs are recovered due to the owner being taken into custody and there is nobody else to look after the dog, the owner is served a 7-day notice which informs they must find alternative care for the dog, otherwise ownership would be passed to WYP and we would complete an assessment to see if the dog was suitable for rehoming.

Where a dog has been recovered due to the owner being deceased, all efforts are made to pass the responsibility of the dog to the next of kin. If nobody is available/willing to take the dog then, again, WYP would complete an assessment to determine suitability for rehoming.

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

26 November 2024

SUBJECT: Hate Crime

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of Hate Crime.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Hate Crime.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 21-24

3. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire'. Face to face and online consultation and engagement ran from 1 September 2021- 30 November 2021; The Voice of West Yorkshire is one of two key documents which supports the Police and Crime Plan 2021 -24. The document includes the notes of key events and can be found here: [police-and-crime-plan-voice-of-west-yorkshire-public-consultation.pdf \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/support-for-victims).
4. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion is a key cross cutting theme which runs throughout the Police and Crime Plan. West Yorkshire is a vibrant and diverse region. It is home to many different communities within the towns, cities, and villages of our districts. Together we all share the same ambition to live in thriving, safe neighbourhoods. At the centre of the police and crime plan is the celebration of this diversity and the vision of a strong, cohesive, and welcoming West Yorkshire which is fair, just, and inclusive.
5. Hate Crime is defined as any incident, which is perceived to be motivated by prejudice based on the victim's disability, race, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation. No one should have to live in the fear, anxiety and consequences of hate crime.

KEY INFORMATION

6. Mayoral/DMPC Activity to date includes:
 - The Mayor commissions services to support victims which are available to all victims of hate crime, including those who do not report to the police. This includes the core referral and local support service and the restorative justice service. Further information is available on the "supporting victims" page on the website <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/support-for-victims>

- The Mayor supports the extension of the definition of hate crime to include misogyny and is pushing and working nationally for this to be changed. This is part of her wider work in supporting the [Safety of women and Girls](#).
- The Mayor has appointed Fatima Khan-Shah as West Yorkshire's first ever Inclusivity Champion, as part of the Mayor's pledge to achieve greater equality across the region, she works closely with regional leaders and the communities they serve, providing expert advice on inclusion and addressing regional disparities including social, economic and health.

Both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime continue to:

- Meet with the Chief Constable on a regular basis to discuss the current impact of the Israel - Gaza conflict and its impact in West Yorkshire especially in terms of both Hate Crime and Community Cohesion. In addition to this they use their respective roles to offer reassurance to communities. They have continued to speak about the work WYP are undertaking and took part in promoting Hate Crime awareness (as part of Hate Crime Awareness Week and shared messages internally and externally to increase reporting across West Yorkshire).
- Receive regular updates on current police operational activity and the Policing and Crime Team are part of the West Yorkshire wide Local Resilience forum.
- Attend WYP Scrutiny Panel sessions when invited.
- The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund (Grant round 7 is now open) continues to support projects which encourage reporting, promote education and awareness and tackle the causes of Hate Crime. To date just under £401,025.89 has been shared between 47 community-based projects with a focus on Hate Crime.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

7. The Mayor and DMPC work with specific groups and organisations to better understand the impact of Hate Crime on individuals and communities. A huge amount of effort has gone into creating a network of hate crime reporting centres to make reporting easier.
8. The Mayor and DMPC work with the five district Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) covering West Yorkshire. CSPs understand their areas and what interventions may be successful in tackling Hate Crime and improving community cohesion.
9. At a district level, Community Safety Partnership leads via our Community Safety Forum have reassured the DMPC that they are engaged and kept informed by WYP at a district level in terms of community tensions and Hate Crime incidents.
10. The DMPC supported the Violence Reduction Partnership's (VRP) multi-faith event - [Placing faith in our partnership to combat serious violence - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION
The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand the impact of Hate Crime, signpost support and increase awareness and reporting.
ATTACHMENT
<u>Report of the Chief Constable – Hate Crime</u>
POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

- Updates on both of these areas (ASB and the Mayors pledge) are included in the quarterly report to the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.
- The Mayor/ Deputy Mayor visit all Neighbourhood Policing Teams across West Yorkshire, speaking to staff, communities and members of the public.
- The Mayor and DMPC feed into consultation which supports the reduction of ASB through Public Space Protection orders.

Anti-Social Behaviour - Immediate Justice Pilot delivery update

- West Yorkshire is one of ten Immediate Justice pilot sites. The Mayor has been awarded up to £2m grant funding until 31 March 2025.
- In West Yorkshire, our Immediate Justice approach provides a range of tailored services for adults and children to benefit victims.
- This includes completing unpaid work, repairing damage caused by their actions, and the option of restorative justice, where the victim can communicate with the person responsible for the crime.
- For Children aged 12 to 17 years, Restorative Justice working within Youth Justice Services in each local authority support and deliver reparative activities. The positive activities including health and wellbeing, educational sessions, involvement in community groups and activities that will develop a child's sense of empathy for victims and the need to repair harm.
- For Adults, once an investigation by the police into a crime involving ASB is concluded, one of the following may be considered
 - Community Resolution - A method of restorative justice that is an alternative way of dealing with less serious crimes and incidents, allowing officers to use their professional judgement when dealing with offenders. A Community Resolution does not constitute a criminal record.
 - Conditional Caution - Allows the police officer or a relevant prosecutor such as the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to decide to give a caution with one or more conditions attached. A Conditional Caution does constitute a criminal record.
 - Outcome 22 - A Home Office administration code that the police use to indicate that no further action has been taken in response to an offence, but some form of diversionary or educational activity has taken place.

If appropriate, the offender will enter the Immediate Justice scheme, and will either undertake supervised unpaid work, an ASB Awareness Course, or both.

- In Immediate Justice, the police will refer the offender for supervised unpaid work delivered by the Probation Service. If they receive a Community Resolution or an Outcome 22, they will undertake one 7-hour day of supervised unpaid work. If they receive a Conditional Caution, they will undertake two 7-hour days of supervised unpaid work.

- Between 1 April 2023 and 30 September 2024, a total of 572 children and 460 Adults were referred to Immediate Justice.
- A mid-point evaluation of the pilot has been undertaken by Workforce Development Trust and all reports and findings can be found on the website: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/anti-social-behaviour-asb-immediate-justice/>

7. Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

The Mayors Safer Communities Fund (currently open – [Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#)) continues to deliver projects to tackle crime and ASB. Grant Rounds 1-6 have awarded 357 projects who have shared £3,040,983.20.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Both statutory and non-statutory partners work at a local level to support Neighbourhood Policing, this may also include PCSO partnership funding arrangements.

Strong partnership arrangements exist in relation to Neighbourhood Policing and ASB, as evidenced by the effective implementation of the recent ASB Immediate Justice pilot project. The Mayor/DMPC are able to receive updates on Neighbourhood Policing and ASB by multiple routes, including attendance at Community Safety Partnership meetings by members of the Policing and Crime Team, and via visits to Neighbourhood Policing Teams across West Yorkshire.

The Immediate Justice Pilot was delivered in partnership with statutory and non-statutory partners. Project planning and reporting around the pilot was convened through the West Yorkshire ASB Steering Group. Following the successful pilot, the ASB Steering Group has broadened its focus to wider ASB issues and offers the opportunity to collaborate, share learning and better understand what might work locally and across West Yorkshire. The group had its first meeting in September 2024 and will continue to meet quarterly.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

There are significant Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion aspects to the Neighbourhood Policing and ASB agenda. Some communities, including those impacted by multiple deprivation, may be much more affected than others.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constable's report – Neighbourhood Policing and ASB](#)

7. As part of the national portfolio on the APCC Race Disparity Working Group the DMPC has considered the recommendations of the IOPC national stop and search learning report as part of the ongoing work to tackle race disparity and improve communities' confidence in policing and the criminal justice system.
8. The DMPC also works closely with the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and other organisations on the Race Action Plan.
9. The Mayor, DMPC and their office are supporting a series of District based events to support Community Updates on the Race Action Plan since the launch in 2023.
10. Policing and Crime colleagues attend the WYP TDG (Tactical Delivery Group) Inequalities meeting (where the work to support implementation of the Police Race Action Plan takes place), WYP Independent Advisory Group and Independent Scrutiny and Advisory Group (ISaAG) which looks at Inequalities. The DMPC has also met recently with the Independent Chair of ISaAG for an update on their work.
11. The Mayor and DMPC sought reassurance from WYP after Child Q a 15-year-old black schoolgirl was strip-searched while at school and asked that routine monitoring data be updated to better reflect child related stop and search, they continue to review closely the Stop and Search of Children.
12. The Mayor/DMPC welcomed the Children's Commissioner report and recommendations into Exposure of Intimate Body Parts (EIP) searches, formerly known as strip searches.
13. The Mayor/DMPC have established an Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel. The panel meets quarterly. On a themed basis, the panel will review the detention and treatment of detained persons. For example, the use of force and the searching of people in the custody environment, where such a search may include Exposure of Intimate Body Parts (EIP searching), appropriate adult and legal rights provision, the welfare of those with mental ill-health or neurodiverse conditions.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

The Mayor and DMPC work with specific groups and organisations to better understand the impact of Stop and Search on individuals and communities.

Work of key partners and leaders, such as the Children's Commissioner, is closely monitored so that learning and best practice can be taken into account when reviewing related activity.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand the explanation for disproportionality in relation to Stop and Search.

ATTACHMENT
<u>Chief Constable's report – Stop and Search</u>
POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

26 November 2024

SUBJECT: Safeguarding - Adult

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of Adult Safeguarding.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Adult Safeguarding.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 21-24

3. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire' report. Face to face and online consultation and engagement ran from 1 September 2021- 30 November 2021; The Voice of West Yorkshire is one of two key documents which supports the Police and Crime Plan 2021 -24. The document includes the notes of key events and can be found here: [police-and-crime-plan-voice-of-west-yorkshire-public-consultation.pdf \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-policing-and-crime-plan-voice-of-west-yorkshire-public-consultation.pdf).
4. Safeguarding and protecting those who are most vulnerable is a key theme running throughout the Police and Crime Plan and is especially relevant to **Priority 2: Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience**. Under this strategic priority the Police and Crime plan states that the focus is on keeping people safe from (and preventing) harmful behaviour, exploitation, and abuse. Feedback from residents in the 'Voice of West Yorkshire' report highlighted people's strong concerns about the safety of children, whilst issues such as domestic abuse, the safety of women and girls, criminal exploitation, and missing persons are all topics the Mayor's Policing and Crime Team address in our work with the police and partners.
5. A person is vulnerable if their situation or circumstances means they are unable to take care of, or protect themselves or others, from harm or exploitation or other adverse impacts on their quality of life. Vulnerability can be linked to many factors, such as mental health, substance misuse, disability, or age. This means that individuals must be supported in a way which recognises their specific personal circumstances.
6. The Mayor/DMPC now reviews Safeguarding through COM through two separate reports; one with a child focus and the other with an adult focus.

7. In respect of the safety of women and girls, the Keeping People Safe priority also highlights that the Mayor will work in partnership to reduce crimes that disproportionately affect women and girls, and understand the extent of child sexual offences and domestic abuse. We will do this by ensuring that more victims are accessing support services, and that we are working with partners across organisational boundaries to help support vulnerable people.

KEY INFORMATION

8. Mayoral/DMPC Activity to date includes:

- Publishing the Reducing Vulnerability strategy: earlier this year, the Policing and Crime team published this strategy covering child and adult safeguarding themes. The final document can be found at: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12266/reducing-vulnerability-strategy-1.pdf>
- Through West Yorkshire Police and the WYCA Policing & Crime Team, the Mayor supports a range of activity to help safeguard adults within our communities, for example:
 - Supporting victims of domestic abuse through our funded IDVA programme and through support for the CARA programme for the rehabilitation of low to medium risk domestic abuse offenders.
 - Bringing partners together through the LCJB Mental Health Forum, to develop and sustain responses for people with mental health needs who are in contact with the criminal justice system.
 - The range of activities supported through the Safety of Women and Girls agenda, including the Women's Safety Unit and WYP's Stalking Coordination Unit.
- This year, the DMPC has supported a number of initiatives with links to adult safeguarding, including:
 - Lending support to the Safe and Found Online project, which provides an online resource for the carers of those at risk of going missing, to post information which can help emergency services to quickly locate a person should they go missing.
 - Speaking at a Modern Slavery awareness-raising event arranged by Leeds-based faith group, Wellsprings Together.
 - Launching a cross-regional conference at Huddersfield University on the adult safeguarding issue of 'cuckooing'. Cuckooing is linked to the modern slavery theme, and commonly involves drugs gangs befriending, and then occupying the property of a vulnerable person. In addition, this year the Mayor has helped to fund a public awareness video on cuckooing via the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund.
 - Drugs and substance misusers can be some of the most vulnerable members of our communities. The DMPC has led on developing a pilot programme for WYP officers to carry the overdose-reversal medicine, Naloxone.

Re-commissioning of the Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

The Mayor of West Yorkshire, the Yorkshire and the Humber (YaTH) Police & Crime Commissioners, and NHS England (NHSE) and NHS Improvement (the Commissioners), jointly commission a SARC service across the Yorkshire and Humber region. The contract costs are split 50/50 between YaTH Policing and Crime and NHSE Commissioners under the collaboration agreement.

The purpose of the SARC services is to co-ordinate and simplify the pathway for all victims of rape and sexual assault or abuse to access wider healthcare, social care and criminal justice processes, to improve individual health and well-being, as well as criminal justice outcomes.

The re-commissioning and procurement of the Adult SARC has now been completed. The successful bidder is Mountain Healthcare, the current provider, and the new contract started 1st April 2023. The contract awarded is for a maximum duration of 7 years (4 years plus a 3-year optional extension).

West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership (WYASP)

- The West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership (WYASP) meets quarterly and is chaired by the Deputy Mayor. Since its creation in 2014, WYASP has successfully brought together law enforcement, local government, public services, and the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector for the delivery of a co-ordinated response to modern slavery, as well as the continued improvement of services for the safeguarding of victims.
- Modern slavery often includes the exploitation of adults through criminal, labour, or sexual exploitation, and is often linked to organised crime. However, most people entering the Home Office's National Referral Mechanism are British nationals, commonly exploited through the drugs trade. These matters are regularly reviewed by the partnership as we seek to build a collaborative approach across West Yorkshire between the police and key partners.
- The WY Adversity, Trauma and Resilience (ATR) Strategy Board is chaired by the Deputy Mayor. This board has the ambition to 'Work together with people with lived experience and colleagues across all sectors and organisations to ensure WY is a trauma informed and responsive system by 2030 and develop a whole system approach to tackling multiple disadvantage'.

Underpinning the vision West Yorkshire ATR want to:

- Prevent adversity and trauma across the life course.
- Engage in efforts build on assets and strengthen protective factors for our population
- Reduce harm for our population who experience adversity and trauma
- Reduce inequalities that contribute to adversity and trauma and inequalities caused by adversity and trauma.
- Ensure an understanding of adversity and traumatic events and the impact they have on an individual, their life chances and opportunities.

9. Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

Details of projects funded can be found here ([Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/mayors-safer-communities-fund))

The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund Grant rounds 1 to 6 have awarded 357 projects a share of £3,040,983.20, many of these project's cover:

Abuse and Exploitation, Domestic Abuse, Fraud & Cyber Crime, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, So Called "Honour" Based Abuse, Stalking and Harassment, and Rape and Sexual Offences.

Overall, we anticipate that the projects will impact/have impacted 128,967 people.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Safeguarding adults requires collaborative working between a number of key partners. Many of these organisations will collaborate with West Yorkshire Police through multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

As detailed above, a range of mechanisms are utilised by the Mayor/DMPC to support effective partnership working in relation to adult safeguarding, including the WYASP, the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Board, the LCJB Mental Health Forum, the WY ATR Strategy Board, and wider engagement and interventions supported by the Violence Reduction Partnership.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and is most effective in partnership. It is known that minority groups and marginalised individuals can face specific safeguarding challenges and be at increased risk to abuse and exploitation.

It is important that all safeguarding policies, strategies, delivery, and discussion is inclusive and ensures all services and support is accessible for all. Recognising and embracing diversity and being inclusive are the core foundations and key principles of safeguarding. This includes the people delivering the services as well as those receiving them.

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constable's report – Adult Safeguarding](#)

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

Agenda Item No 10**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING****26 November 2024****SUBJECT: DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

	COM 1	COM 2	COM 3	COM 4
DATE	28 JAN 25	29 APRIL 25	29 JULY 25	28 OCT 25
TIME				
PRIORITY	Keeping People Safe	Safer Places and Thriving Communities	Supporting Victims and Witnesses	Keeping People Safe
	Safeguarding-Child Hate Crime(to include Community Cohesion) Violence Against Women and Girls Use of Force Stop and Search	Neighbourhood Crime Neighbourhood Policing & ASB Business Crime Rural Crime Serious Organised Crime Road Safety	Drugs and Alcohol Safeguarding - Adult Strategic Policing Requirement Supporting Victims and Witnesses	Safeguarding-Child Hate Crime(to include Community Cohesion) VAWG Use of Force Stop and Search
EXCEPTION PAPER	YES	NO	YES	YES
EXCEPTION THEME	TBA		TBA	TBA