

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

15 June 2021

SUBJECT: ROAD SAFETY

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. This report outlines West Yorkshire Police's current position in relation to the policing of Road Safety.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Mayor uses this report to scrutinise the West Yorkshire Police activity in respect of Road Safety.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

3. Road safety is clearly a significant issue for people and is frequently raised as a concern by members of the public across West Yorkshire, with approximately 40% of respondents naming it as a key priority in the Police and Crime Plan consultation. It covers a range of issues from inconsiderate parking to dangerous driving resulting in death and serious injury, including life changing injuries. This is an area that requires more than just the police, and we will continue to work with all partners including local highways authorities, the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), Highways England, and charities such as Brake to improve safety on our roads and support victims. Road Safety continues to be a priority within the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21

KEY INFORMATION

The Office has:

4. Worked through the West Yorkshire Safer Roads Executive to promote the Vision Zero approach. This involves a commitment to work to make sure that death or serious injury on our roads is regarded as completely unacceptable. It is a move away from a casualty reduction approach. Leeds City Council and Kirklees Council have adopted the Vision Zero approach, however it has not yet been formally adopted by the other local authorities or at the West Yorkshire level.
5. Commissioned services to support victims are available to all victims of road traffic collisions where a crime may have been committed, including those who do not report to the police. This includes the core referral and local support

service and the restorative justice service. www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/how-we-work/supporting-victims

6. The road safety charity Brake provides a specialist national service to victims of road traffic collisions resulting in death or serious injury. We have continued to provide funding to road safety charity BRAKE via the Police Property Act Fund. Brake receives central government funding through the Dept for Transport, this transferred last year from the MoJ to the DfT, a welcome move which benefits victims and resulted in an increased grant. The DfT grant is not subject to the previous MoJ requirement that a crime has taken place. There is however a continued need to strengthen support services, to provide support comparable to the Homicide Service, and it is hoped that the DfT will accept responsibility for taking this forward. The DfT has provided an uplift in its grant for 2021/22. Further developments are dependant on the DfT Roads Policing Review, which has a working group on victims.
7. Provided support and authorised investment in West Yorkshire and regional ANPR capabilities to help detect, deter and disrupt criminality at a local, regional and national level, including tackling travelling criminals, organised crime groups and terrorists. The Office receives regular updates on the progress and expansion of ANPR and speaks about its impact on a regular basis. The Office has spoken at national conferences on ANPR.
8. Overall, the Safer Communities fund has funded 35 projects with over £155,321 granted to groups addressing road safety. The Safer Communities fund had a specific grant round in which groups could only apply if they addressed one of 4 priorities, road safety being one of those priorities.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

9. The Mayor has representation on the West Yorkshire Safer Roads Executive which is a partnership of all 5 districts working together to tackle road safety. It is attended by David Smith the Policing and Crime Dept's Policy Lead on Road Safety.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

10. There are significant equality, diversity, and inclusion aspects to the road safety agenda. Some communities, including those impacted by multiple deprivation, are much more affected by the issues than others. Younger people are deterred from taking out insurance by the high costs involved.

ATTACHMENT

- [Chief Constables Report – Road Safety](#)

