

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

29 July 2025

SUBJECT: Effectiveness and Efficiency Criminal Justice System

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of supporting effective and efficient criminal justice.
2. This cover paper highlights the importance of the report topic in respect of the Police and Crime plan and also includes the delivery of the Mayor and her office. Together the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) report and the cover paper provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of work underway in respect of supporting the Criminal Justice System.

RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the WYP report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Criminal Justice.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 24-28

4. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire'. The Voice of West Yorkshire represents the views of over 6,500 respondents and includes the views of children and young people. It is part of a series of documents which includes a summary needs assessment. You can review the documents here: [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#)
5. The Local Criminal Justice Board was highlighted as the way in which the Mayor can work with criminal justice partners to drive improvements in the criminal justice system that benefit victims of crime. You can find out more about the board and its work here (insert link).
6. In the Police and Crime plan the Mayor has committed she will:
 - work with WYP and criminal justice partners to ensure that all victims benefit from their rights under the Victim's Code
 - Use her convening powers to bring together Combatting Drugs Partnerships across West Yorkshire to ensure consistency of response
 - Lead the Local Criminal Justice Board to make necessary improvements to the services offered to victims of crime, within delivery parameters set out by central government
 - Make sure that justice is accessible for the most vulnerable victims and the most marginalised communities in West Yorkshire.

7. There are also key police and community performance measures in relation to Criminal Justice in the Police and Crime Plan.
8. We received substantial feedback detailed in the [Voice of West Yorkshire](#) on the Criminal Justice System.

A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priorities impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:

[eqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

- The VCSE sector is vital to supporting victims and survivors of the worst crimes to obtain justice.
- Services such as Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) and Independent Sexual Violence Advocates, the Independent Stalking Advocacy Caseworkers and the Rape Crisis Centres are vital to supporting Victims and Survivors to work with the police in order that they remain engaged with lengthy investigations.
- The partnership has worked with West Yorkshire Police to give a victims voice to policy that has increased the use of special measures for vulnerable victims.
- Appropriate Adult provision is vital to making the criminal justice process fair and equitable for vulnerable adults and children. Following the loss of funding for Vulnerable Adults from Local Authorities, the Mayor now funds that service in the VCSE sector.

Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)

The VRP take a public health approach to violence, focusing on deterrents and protective factors. It considers which interventions will be universal (aimed at the general population) and which will be targeted at those more at risk. In addition, we recognise though that our approach will also hold to account those who perpetrate serious violence. Our approach therefore includes the role that enforcement and criminal justice can make to this whole system approach.

The VRP are interconnected with the enforcement work against knife crime and serious violence under Op. Jemlock which aligns with WYP's response to SOC through their Programme Precision project.

With the Integrated Care Board, the VRP co-leads the West Yorkshire Adversity, Trauma and Resilience programme, with a specific workstream focused on criminal justice. Recent activity within this workstream has included:

- Ongoing work with West Yorkshire Police, Prisons and Probation to be trauma informed organisations
- CJ Conference held in 2024

- CJ Pathways resource development

Staff within the VRP have and are currently working locally with police and partners in Clear Hold Build areas across West Yorkshire.

Serious Violence Legal Duty (SVD):

The VRP continue to coordinate the West Yorkshire partnership response, providing intelligence, capacity and capability to duty holders, and with oversight still provided through the West Yorkshire Serious Violence Reduction Executive Strategic Steering Group.

This duty exists to ensure councils, and local services work together to share information and identify activities to prevent and reduce serious violence.

In addition, the VRP host a partnership data dashboard which collates a variety of data from partners to allow an informed and detailed understanding of where, when, how and who is involved in serious violence. This data is used annually to produce the West Yorkshire Strategic Needs Assessment, which in combination with the VRP's Influential Factors report provides insights to why serious violence occurs in West Yorkshire. These documents then inform the Violence Reduction Response Strategy.

More detail about the work of the Violence Reduction Partnership can be found here:

[West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership Strategic Needs Assessment/Response Strategy/Influential Factors VRP Annual Report 2023-24](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

There is substantial evidence which suggests bias throughout the criminal justice system which includes disparities at various stages eg arrests and sentencing and includes those who are black and minority ethnic, men including young males and women.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

Sharon Waugh – sharon.waugh@westyorks-ca.gov.uk

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constable's report](#)

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

29 July 2025

SUBJECT: Supporting Victims and Witnesses.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of supporting Victims and Witnesses.
2. This cover paper highlights the importance of the report topic in respect of the Police and Crime plan and also includes the delivery of the Mayor and her office. Together the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) report and the cover paper provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of work underway in support of Victims and Witnesses.

RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the WYP report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Victims and Witnesses.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 24-28

4. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire'. The Voice of West Yorkshire represents the views of over 6,500 respondents and includes the views of children and young people. It is part of a series of documents which includes a summary needs assessment. You can review the documents here: [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#)
5. 95.7% of respondents described Supporting Victims and Witnesses an important priority to them and 92% of partners agreed. Support for victims of all crimes received the most responses, followed by child criminal exploitation and driving improvements in the criminal justice system. This priority had the most balanced results with other areas of focus also receiving support. The Local Criminal Justice Board was highlighted as the way in which the Mayor can work with criminal justice partners to drive improvements in the criminal justice system that benefit victims of crime.
6. The Mayor has committed she will:
 - work with WYP and criminal justice partners to ensure that all victims benefit from their rights under the Victim's Code
 - Use her convening powers to bring together Combatting Drugs Partnerships across West Yorkshire to ensure consistency of response
 - Lead the Local Criminal Justice Board to make necessary improvements to the services offered to victims of crime, within delivery parameters set out by central government

- Make sure that justice is accessible for the most vulnerable victims and the most marginalised communities in West Yorkshire.

A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priorities impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:

[eqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

KEY INFORMATION

Notable activity by the Policing & Crime Team on this topic includes:

7. The Women's Safety Unit a first of its kind dedicated unit which has been set up by the Mayor to tackle violence against women and girls in the region. The team are a pioneering partnership and comprised of members from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, the Violence Reduction Partnership and West Yorkshire Police. The unit is driving changes in:
 - Investigations and Risk Assessments – improving outcomes for victims
 - Victim Support and Engagement – embedding the voices of victim survivors and using this to drive improvements
8. Safety of Men and Boys - Our research shows that men and boys want those that are victims to be recognised and protection for those who are at risk of victimisation to be given. This cross-cutting theme will ensure that we keep this focus.
9. There are also key police and community performance measures in relation to supporting victims and witnesses in the Police and Crime Plan.
10. You can also find out more about the detail within the Victims and Witnesses Strategy [here](#).
11. The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to deliver projects to support victims and witnesses. You can find out more about the successful projects [here](#) ([Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#) (westyorks-ca.gov.uk))

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

- The LCJB Victims and Witnesses Group meets quarterly and is chaired by the head of the regional Rape and Serious Sexual Offences Unit within the Crown Prosecution Service.
- Membership includes the WYP Witness unit, the WYP head of the Victims and Witnesses unit, Courts Witness care, VCSE members including Victim support, Rape Crisis centres and Restorative Justice.
- Key Outputs include assessing Victims Code Compliance, Victims Right to

review and advising on Victims Policy through lived experience.

- Survivor Panels for Women and Men and Boys, attended by the DMPC and hosted by VCSE organisations are now in the final stages of development. These will be another avenue for victims and survivors of crime to speak truth to power around their experiences of the support services and the criminal justice system.

Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)

The Home Office outlined three key success measures for VRPs and the Serious Violence Duty specified authorities with an emphasis on victims under the age of 25:

I. A reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object and especially among those victims aged under 25,

II. A reduction in knife-enabled serious violence and especially among those victims aged under 25,

III. A reduction in all non-domestic homicides and especially among those victims aged under 25 involving knives.

Locally we use an interconnected approach through the themes: individual, relationship, community, society, sustainability and cultural change, with each considering the risks and vulnerabilities linked to becoming a victim of crime. We also recognise how children and young people can fall into the categories of both perpetrator and victim, and this is weaved throughout our delivery.

Serious Violence Legal Duty (SVD):

The VRP continue to coordinate the West Yorkshire partnership response, providing intelligence, capacity and capability to duty holders, and with oversight still provided through the West Yorkshire Serious Violence Reduction Executive Strategic Steering Group.

This duty exists to ensure councils, and local services work together to share information and identify activities to prevent and reduce serious violence.

In addition, the VRP host the 'Partnership Dashboard' which collates a variety of datasets from numerous partners to allow an informed and detailed understanding of where, when, how and who is involved in serious violence. This data is used annually to produce the West Yorkshire Strategic Needs Assessment and Response Strategy for serious violence which when combined with the VRP's Influential Factors report provides insights to why serious violence occurs in West Yorkshire too.

More detail about the work of the Violence Reduction Partnership can be found here:

[West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership Strategic Needs Assessment/Response Strategy/Influential Factors VRP Annual Report 2023-24](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION
It is important that all victims and witnesses are treated fairly, that vulnerabilities are addressed, diverse needs are met, access to information and support is available to all who need it. The Victims code and witness charter set out the key standards of service that victims and witnesses can expect from the criminal justice system.
POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT
Sharon Waugh – sharon.waugh@westyorks-ca.gov.uk
ATTACHMENT Chief Constable's report

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

29 July 2025

SUBJECT: Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of supporting the Strategic Policing Requirement.
2. This cover paper highlights the importance of the report topic in respect of the Police and Crime plan and also includes the delivery of the Mayor and her office. Together the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) report and the cover paper provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of work underway in respect of supporting the Strategic Policing Requirement.

RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the WYP report to scrutinise the Force response in respect of the Strategic Policing Requirement.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 24-28

4. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire'. The Voice of West Yorkshire represents the views of over 6,500 respondents and includes the views of children and young people. It is part of a series of documents which includes a summary needs assessment. You can review the documents here: [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#)
5. The plan sets out that the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) is the Home Secretary's view of what the current national threats are, and the national policing capabilities needed to counter those threats.
6. The seven threats are:
 - Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)
 - Terrorism
 - Serious and Organised Crime (SOC)
 - A National Cyber Incident
 - Child Sexual Abuse
 - Public Disorder/Civil Emergencies.

Note: WYP provide separate detailed reports on VAWG, SOC and Child Safeguarding.

A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priorities impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:

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[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

KEY INFORMATION

7. The Mayor in her role as Police and Crime Commissioner must have regard to the SPR as follows:

Key themes

- **Statutory Duty:** PCCs must have regard to the SPR when issuing or amending their Police and Crime Plans and provide an assurance statement within their Annual Reports.
- **National Threats:** The SPR outlines key national threats, requiring cross-boundary policing responses beyond local force areas.
- **Balancing Local and National Priorities:** PCCs must align their local policing priorities with national security and public safety requirements.
- **Governance and Accountability:** The SPR strengthens oversight by setting expectations on how PCCs and Chief Constables should collaborate to meet national policing responsibilities.
- **Evolution of the SPR:** The SPR 2023 revision includes an additional national threat—Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)—and expanded guidance on governance, standards, and capacity requirements.

Highlighted requirements

- **PCCs' Responsibilities:** PCCs must ensure their Police and Crime Plans reflect the SPR and assess whether their force has the necessary resources to meet national policing demands.
- **Annual Reports:** PCCs must provide assurance statements outlining how they have had regard to the SPR and its influence on their strategic direction.
- **Holding Chief Constables to Account:** PCCs must scrutinize how Chief Constables implement SPR obligations and maintain operational readiness.
- **National Collaboration:** PCCs work with the Home Office, National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), and other agencies to ensure policing is prepared for national-level threats.

National Threats Covered in the SPR

- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) – Recognized as a national threat requiring a strategic policing response.
- Terrorism – Forces must be prepared to prevent and respond to terrorist threats.
- Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) – Includes drugs, fraud, and organised immigration crime.
- National Cyber Incidents – Forces must have cybercrime units and resilience plans.
- Child Sexual Abuse – Strengthened approaches to safeguarding and prosecution.
- Public Disorder – Maintaining national mobilization capabilities.
- Civil Emergencies – Ensuring resilience to large-scale emergencies and natural disasters.

Impact and outcomes

- PCCs have strengthened governance mechanisms to align with the latest SPR guidance.
- Forces are adapting operational plans to address new and evolving national threats.
- The introduction of VAWG as a national priority has enhanced cross-agency collaboration and enforcement measures.
- Enhanced accountability and transparency in how forces implement national policing responsibilities.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Partnership working runs through all that the Policing & Crime team undertakes. This work underpins the Mayor's Police & Crime Plan 2024 - 2028. As part of this work there are regular updates to the Police and Crime Panel which holds the Mayor to account for her policing and crime work as the Police & Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire. The priority of Keeping People Safe went to the Panel in March 2025.

More recently the Safer Places and Thriving Communities priority went to the July panel meeting.

<https://www.westyorkshire-pcp.gov.uk/meetings>

These papers include all the work that we do alongside our partners under these priorities.

West Yorkshire Police maintain operational independence. A number of these areas relate to operational policing. In order to provide the Mayor with reassurance that West Yorkshire Police are providing an efficient and effective police service a governance framework is in place where the Mayor holds the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of policing services. This COM meeting forms part of that framework.

Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)

With partners, the WY VRP define serious violence as:

“Violence and serious violence include specific crime types where there is the use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community.”

The specific crime types included in West Yorkshire include homicide, knife crime, personal robbery, gun crime, violence against women and girls, **organised crime**, sexual exploitation, and domestic abuse.

The definition focusses on geographic areas of criminality and specific groups where serious violence, or its threat or impact, is evident; this is children, young adults, women and girls, public places, the night-time economy, gangs, **and organised crime groups**.

The VRP submitted a new budget and delivery plan for 25/26 to the Home Office based on the funding value of £4.34m (matched to 2024-25). Of this £2.38m has been allocated for commissioned community-based interventions which is over 50% of the overall budget.

A significant level of the VRP's work is targeted at preventing serious violence in communities and denying organised crime the space to thrive.

For 2025-26 a programme of 15 core VRP funded interventions are or will be delivered across West Yorkshire. These interventions include:

- A&E Navigator services in 4 hospital trust areas
- Education Inclusion mentoring programmes (Quarter 1)
- Focussed Deterrence (Police and Youth Workers operating together to identify those involved in or at risk of becoming involved in crime) in each of the 5 districts
- Virtual Decisions – knife crime and gangs education package delivered through ‘virtual reality’
- Support for Parents through the Ivison Trust (whose children have been affected by exploitation)
- Prevention Partnership Panels – part of the Government's Youth Futures Programme. 2 Home Office funded pilots in Leeds and Wakefield and 2 VRP funded in Bradford and Kirklees.

These have been complemented by locally agreed interventions led by Community Safety Partnerships as part of localities funding from the VRP.

The VRP are interconnected with the enforcement work against knife crime and serious violence under Op. Jemlock which aligns with WYP's response to SOC through their Programme Precision project.

Staff within the VRP have and are currently working locally with police and partners in Clear Hold Build areas across West Yorkshire.

Serious Violence Legal Duty (SVD):

The VRP continue to coordinate the West Yorkshire partnership response, providing intelligence, capacity and capability to duty holders, and with oversight still provided through the West Yorkshire Serious Violence Reduction Executive Strategic Steering Group.

This duty exists to ensure councils, and local services work together to share information and identify activities to prevent and reduce serious violence.

In addition, the VRP host a partnership data dashboard which collates a variety of data from partners to allow an informed and detailed understanding of where, when, how and who is involved in serious violence. This data is used annually to produce the West Yorkshire Strategic Needs Assessment, which in combination with the VRP's Influential Factors report provides insights to why serious violence occurs in West Yorkshire. These documents then inform the Violence Reduction Response Strategy.

More detail about the work of the Violence Reduction Partnership can be found here:

[West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership Strategic Needs Assessment/Response Strategy/Influential Factors VRP Annual Report 2023-24](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priorities impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:

[eqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

Sharon Waugh – sharon.waugh@westyorks-ca.gov.uk

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constable's report](#)

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

29 July 2025

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.
2. This cover paper highlights the importance of the report topic in respect of the Police and Crime plan and also includes the delivery of the Mayor and her office. Together the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) report and the cover paper provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of work underway to support Adult Safeguarding.
3. The most recent report in respect of child safeguarding can be found here – insert link.

RECOMMENDATION

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

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 24-28

5. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire.' The Voice of West Yorkshire represents the views of over 6,500 respondents and includes the views of children and young people. It is part of a series of documents which includes a summary needs assessment. You can review the documents here: [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#)
6. Child and Adult Safeguarding – Safeguarding is mentioned in the 24-28 Police and Crime Plan under Priority 1 – Keeping People Safe and also under the cross cutting theme of reducing vulnerability.
7. During the Mayor's first term the Reducing Vulnerability Strategy was launched. The priorities are:
 - Child Sexual Abuse, Exploitation, and Neglect
 - Transitional Safeguarding
 - Child Criminal Exploitation
 - Adults at Risk
8. There are key police and community safety measures which support child and adult safeguarding in the plan especially in relation to mental health incidents,

missing persons, looked after children or children in need (CIN) and Child Protection.

A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priorities impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:

[eqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](#)

KEY INFORMATION

9. Adult safeguarding refers to the police's work alongside other key partners to protect adults who are at risk of harm. Vulnerability may be a factor because of issues such as disability, mental ill health, substance misuse, or social isolation, but safeguarding adults also encompasses topics within the safety of women and girls agenda, and also the victims of fraud.

This paper covers the following topics within adult safeguarding:

- ~ Domestic Abuse, Stalking and the Women's Safety Unit
- ~ Missing persons (Incl. mental health safeguarding)
- ~ Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking (incl. 'Cuckooing' and Domestic Servitude)
- ~ So-called Honor-based Abuse
- ~ Fraud
- ~ Homelessness

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:

- ~ Over the past twelve months, the Mayor and DMPC have supported a number of initiatives with links to adult safeguarding, including:
- ~ Appearing at the keynote speaker at the 7th International Conference of Missing Children and Adults, hosted in Leeds by Leeds Trinity University.
- ~ Working with the police and local authority partners to secure West Yorkshire's 'Appropriate Adult' service, which protects the rights, entitlements, and welfare of vulnerable people who are under arrest.
- ~ 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.
- ~ West Yorkshire Police have recently reached an impressive milestone of 500 registered Herbert Protocol profiles - this accounts for over 50% of the total number registered across the 11 UK police services using the programme.
- ~ 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. This work is supported by the WY Combating Drugs Partnership Strategic Board, which is chaired by the DMPC.

~ Linked to the objectives of the Police Race Action Plan, West Yorkshire Police have also collaborated with the Black Police Association to examine the approach to missing occurrences involving people who are black or of black heritage. These cases have been scrutinised to identify areas for improvement in the service provided to the missing person and their family, and to understand whether there is any evidence of unconscious bias from officers dealing with the investigation.

~ West Yorkshire Police has also engaged with an Independent Scrutiny and Advisory Group and a new Black Heritage Advisory Staff Group, to examine the approach to missing cases involving people who are Black or of Black heritage.

The Policing and Crime Team's approach to safeguarding is described in our 'Reducing Vulnerability' strategy. This strategy now reflects safeguarding's position as a cross-cutting theme across all priorities in the new Police & Crime Plan: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12266/reducing-vulnerability-strategy-1.pdf>

Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

- The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to deliver projects to support safeguarding. You can find out more about the successful projects here ([Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk))

Notable projects linked to adult safeguarding include:

- The Wakefield Hospice has introduced ReUnite fobs which allow passers-by who come across lost or confused people to scan a code using a smartphone. This then displays the person's name along with up to two emergency contact numbers.
- Nip It In the Bud is a free mental health and well-being support service located in Leeds city centre. It provides a safe drop-in space where young people can talk confidentially with professional youth workers and counsellors.
- In Bradford, The Bridge Project's Talk-Trace-Turnaround project works with young people and teachers about how neglect, exclusion, and undiagnosed Special Educational Needs informed their journey to substance use; and,
- Through the MSCF, we have supported Leeds Trinity University's project to

support the families of ‘cold cases’ and long-term missing persons.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Safeguarding children requires collaborative working between a number of key partners. The current guidance on working practices for multi-agency working in safeguarding places special responsibilities on the Chief Constable, Local Authority Chief Executive Officers, and the Chief Executive of the Integrated Care Board, to work together as lead safeguarding partners in West Yorkshire.

As detailed above, a range of mechanisms are utilised by the Mayor/DMPC to support effective partnership working in relation to Child Safeguarding. Notable areas of work for Policing & Crime include our co-ordination of the West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership, numerous interventions with young people through the WY Violence Reduction Partnership, and membership of WYP’s Out of Court Resolution Scrutiny panel, which encompasses youth justice outcomes.

Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)

The landscape to tackling the causes as well as impact of serious violence is complex and addressing trauma, adversity and the root causes is a cross-agency response. Our Response Strategy, the work of the VRP and partners, strongly aligns and connects to the Police and Crime Plan, West Yorkshire Plan to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and work of the West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership, district Community Safety Strategies, Health and Wellbeing, Safeguarding Plans and emerging Drug and Alcohol Plans. We continue to drive greater connectivity to maximise the collective approach and opportunities to reducing serious violence and enabling sustainable approaches.

We work closely with each local Community Safety Partnership as key partners in the prioritisation, coordination, and delivery at place and as such the conduit for named partners under the Serious Violence Duty to deliver at place. These local arrangements are ideally placed to identify, engage, and respond to locally evidenced based need and collaborate with Health and Wellbeing Boards, Safeguarding and Children’s Partnerships in their response.

Intervention delivery during 2024-25 funded through core VRP monies and additional Serious Violence Duty monies engaged with 1234 individuals aged 25 and over.

EQUALITY, 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 are 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.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

Sharon Waugh – sharon.waugh@westyorks-ca.gov.uk

ATTACHMENT

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

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

29 July 2024

SUBJECT: Drugs and Alcohol

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of tackling Drugs and Alcohol.
2. This cover paper highlights the importance of the report topic in respect of the Police and Crime plan and also includes the delivery of the Mayor and her office. Together the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) report and the cover paper provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of work underway to tackle Drugs and Alcohol related crime.

RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of tackling Drugs and Alcohol.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 24-28

4. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire'. The Voice of West Yorkshire represents the views of over 6,500 respondents and includes the views of children and young people. It is part of a series of documents which includes a summary needs assessment. You can review the documents here: [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#)
5. The Police and Crime Plan 24-28 has a spotlight on Serious Violence and in the Mayor's manifesto she stated she would make tackling serious violence a priority and deliver a Co-produced Serious Violence Strategy. Drugs and alcohol are often linked to serious and violent crime and the Voice of West Yorkshire (insert link) highlights the huge impact that Drugs and Alcohol have on feelings of safety.
6. Supporting Victims and Witnesses - The West Yorkshire Combatting Drugs Partnership Board was highlighted, emphasising the need for a co-ordinated response from key partners, the Mayor has said she will use her convening powers to bring together Combatting Drugs Partnerships across West Yorkshire to ensure consistency of response.
7. As Serious Violence is a spotlight in the Police and Crime Plan 24-28, the topic of tackling Drugs and Alcohol sits across all 3 priorities:
 - Keeping People Safe
 - Safer Places and Thriving Communities

- Supporting Victims and Witnesses

and all 5 cross-cutting themes:

- Safety of Women and Girls
- Effective response to men and boys
- Children and Young people
- Reducing Vulnerability
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

8. There are specific objectives and outcomes regarding Serious Violence (Homicide, Knife Crime, Hospital Admissions, Knife Enabled Robberies and Serious Violence Duty Measures) within the Police and Crime Plan's performance measures.

9. There are also key police and community performance measures in relation to Drug and alcohol treatment in the Police and Crime Plan.

A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priorities impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:

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KEY INFORMATION

10. Mayoral/DMPC activity to date includes:

Drugs and alcohol misuse are part of the wider determinants of crime and community safety which require the designing and commissioning of appropriate services to reduce the harm on individuals and communities. To support harm reduction, the Mayor has continued to provide funding through her Community Safety Fund, both to support local initiatives to educate people of the harm of drug use, but also to support groups who address the serious and organised crime which can be linked to drug supply (for example the MSCF's support of the West Yorkshire 'Clear, Hold, Build' programme).

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime takes an important role in calling together district partners working on drug and alcohol issues in communities through her chairing of the WY Combating Drugs Partnership Strategic Board. The Board meets twice-yearly to hear an updates from district partners and representatives for HM Prisons & Probation, and liaison and diversion services, and to look for new partnership opportunities to tackle drug supply and support substance users into treatment.

A sub-group of the Board has been established to help co-ordinate the West Yorkshire response to the danger of 'Synthetic Opioids'. We have collaborated

with partners on our shared objective to devise a West Yorkshire-wide response plan for a potential mass-overdose event linked to synthetic opioids ('nitazenes'). Nationwide clusters of nitazene poisonings have led to fatalities, including two recent deaths in Leeds.

Further progress had been made in developing an effective relationship with the HM Coroner's office in the Western district, and in developing a new drug checking service at Leeds University, led by West Yorkshire Police.

In the months ahead we are looking to develop our relationship with the WY Local Resilience Forum and strategic health services engaged with that group, to further embed effective response planning linked to the threat of nitazenes.

Finally, West Yorkshire Police's pilot programme to test the use of the overdose-reversal treatment 'Naloxone' has concluded in Leeds and Wakefield. Following internal review (and the support of district public health partners), WYP expect to extend this project to the remaining West Yorkshire districts later this year.

The Mayor also funds specific dedicated testing of those arrested for offences likely to be linked to Class A substance misuse through the Test on Arrest / custody-based Drug Intervention Programme. A positive test result allows a number of treatment options to be considered to support individuals out of the cycle of drug related offending.

Humankind was commissioned by the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership in November 2021 to research the links between substance use and violence among young people, and how relationships between generations influence those links.

The Mayor has co-ordinated bids locally to the Safer Streets 4 Fund that have resulted in safe spaces being introduced in towns and cities. These safe spaces support people to enjoy the night-time economy and offer a range of services and support, including help to those that become vulnerable due to consuming of drugs and or alcohol.

11. Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to support projects which tackle Drugs and Alcohol, 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))

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Drugs and Alcohol interventions and support are undertaken in partnership with Community Safety Partnerships.

The Mayor supports all five local authorities across West Yorkshire through the Community Safety Fund. This enables LAs to identify and fund local priorities. In

addition, Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) Funding is provided to West Yorkshire Police to undertake specific drug services with a focus on drug testing in custody.

In Wakefield District, the Home Office have provided additional funding to support activity known as Project ADDER. This is a national pilot project bringing together enhanced investment in enforcement and drug treatment to reduce the harm caused by drug crime and substance misuse in communities. The Mayor is looking to learn and share best practice from Project ADDER to support the new Combatting Drugs Partnerships across West Yorkshire Districts.

Each district ensures delivery of Drugs and Alcohol services through their local Partnership arrangements. The DMPC will ensure county-wide join up and oversight through the chairing of the WY Combatting Drugs Partnerships Strategic Board arrangements.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Drugs and Alcohol is tackled most effectively in partnership. It is known that minority groups and marginalised individuals can be at increased risk of drug and alcohol misuse issues.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

Sharon Waugh – sharon.waugh@westyorks-ca.gov.uk

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constables report – Drugs and Alcohol](#)