

Community Outcomes Meeting (COM)

Date: Tuesday 18 June 2024

Present

Tracy Catherine
Brabin – Hankinson,
Mayor of DCC, WYP
West Damien
Yorkshire Miller –
Alison ACC,
Lowe – WYP
Deputy Pat Twiggs
Mayor for – ACC,
Policing WYP
and Russ
Crime Hughes –
(DMPC) Chief Supt,
Julie WYP
Reid –
Head of
Policing
and
Crime,
WYCA

Also present.

Rachel Hannan Paige
– Consultation Cowling,
and Consultation
Engagement and
Officer, Policing Engagement
and Crime Officer,
Joshua Powling, Policing and
Digital Crime
Communications Ella
Officer, Policing Rotherham-
and Crime Brown,
Mayoral
Support
Manager

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies.

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

2. Notes of the previous meeting on 27 February 2024 and Matters arising.

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

3. Mayors Announcements:

- a) **Mayoral Election** – The Mayor said she was delighted to have been re-elected and was looking forward to the next 4 years in office.
- b) The Mayor noted the recent sentencing of Rashane Douglas, who had been sentenced to 28 years imprisonment for the double murder of Joshua Clarke and Haidar Shah, and 6 years imprisonment for wounding with intent of Brandon Coupe in Halifax in October 2023. She commended West Yorkshire Police for this outcome and was hopeful it would bring some reassurance to local communities.
- c) **Annual West Yorkshire Policing Awards** - The annual West Yorkshire Policing Awards took place on Friday 7 June. The awards recognised the exceptional work of police officers, staff, volunteers and partners over the past year. The Mayor said it was wonderful to see the recognition for teams and individuals who had shown extraordinary dedication and bravery, and had contributed greatly to keeping the people of West Yorkshire safe.
- d) **Mayor's Safer Communities Fund** - The most recent round of the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund had now closed for applications. 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. .
- e) **Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel** – Applications were open to become a member of our new Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel. The Panel would objectively and independently review matters of disproportionality, looking at areas such as strip searches, use of force and access to services for police custody in West Yorkshire. This was a unique opportunity to make a positive contribution as the Panel would play an important role in supporting the Mayor and DMPC to hold the Chief Constable to account on both good and poor practices that impacted on people detained in police custody.

4. Item 4 – Exception Paper - Custody – access the full report [HERE](#)

The Mayor knew that Black and mixed-race people were over-represented in the arrest figures and said to help us understand why, she needed more information around the choices an officer made between arrest, and voluntary or informal attendance (VA). She asked for the full VA demographic data outside of this meeting. She also asked what the demographic proportions were of suspects shown on crime to get a true picture. She said they were looking to establish whether a protected characteristic signified whether an individual was more likely to be

arrested, or allowed to voluntarily attend for interview, for a similar set of circumstances where they were a suspect for a crime.

ACC Twiggs said that they arrested just over 51.5k people a year, of that approx. 8.3k people voluntarily attended interviews. This figure included adults and children. 4.5% of VA was with the black community compared with the census, which was 3.1%, this showed there was disproportionality present. In Leeds the VA rate increased to 8% compared with the local population of 5.6% which showed increased disproportionality. This mirrored the picture with arrests, and they believed one of the primary reasons for this was due to the proactive targeted activity on the youth violence problems within some Leeds communities where knife and machete activity affected a lot of young black people.

The Mayor asked how many of the 8.3k voluntary attendees were children. ACC Twiggs did not have the figures but would provide them outside of the meeting.

ACC Twiggs said WYP tried to deal with children outside of the custody environment wherever possible. If a child did need to be brought into custody they undertook risk assessments, ensured access to Liaison and Diversion and if they needed to be kept overnight for court, they were kept in a section 38 Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) bed rather than a police cell.

In terms of the suspect and offender records WYP had approx. 191k people recorded for the last calendar year. The ethnicity breakdown in this data showed the black community represented 3.6% which was much closer to the census data. The DMPC said that VA was not always a bad thing and for young people it was preferential. We knew that nationally, arrests of Black and Minority Ethnic people were also disproportionate to their numbers in the wider population. She would like to see the proportion of VAs versus arrests made by ethnicity as if individuals were choosing VA this was positive.

The DMPC added that His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) highlighted 2 areas for concern and 15 areas for improvement and this report was on the WYP website should members of the public be interested. There was a closely monitored action plan in place and WYCA had a working party with ACC Twiggs to offer any support.

The Mayor stated there was no data in the report about the numbers of children being admitted to custody, or the force's policy or ethical view of this. She asked for the data to be shared and asked what the force's approach to children being admitted to custody was.

ACC Twiggs said there had been 3829 children arrested last year which was a slight increase on the previous year of 4%. This was mostly in Leeds District and they believed this was a direct result of the proactive activity to address the Urban Street Gangs and their drive to reduce knife crime in young people. He confirmed that children were classed as those under the age of 18, most arrests were of those aged between 14-17.

The Mayor was aware that WYP were facing challenges with the quality of CCTV in Private Finance Initiative (PFI) suites, she asked how the force was mitigating against this risk e.g. use of Body worn video and when the PFI footage issue was likely to be resolved.

ACC Twiggs said the quality of the CCTV was ok but was not the high-definition standard that they had elsewhere. Because of how PFI worked it was slower to change as they had to work with the company that over saw it. They had a current trial ongoing at Leeds of a new HD camera that they were hopeful would bring things up to standard. They were waiting on the outcome of this before they could set a date for roll out.

The Mayor asked when custody officers wore Body Worn Video. ACC Twiggs said they would only be used if e.g., CCTV failed and they needed to monitor an individual, they were not deployed into cells as people's privacy needed to be considered.

The Mayor said there were cold spots within the CCTV at Elland Road. ACC Twiggs said that the HMICFRS also picked this up and they had now been rectified.

The Mayor then asked in terms of the HMICFRS inspection; what improvements had been made to the data and governance of Custody Services in WYP, what was WYP doing to improve the oversight and data capture around use of force in the custody suite.

ACC Twiggs began by explaining that force within a custody suite could include similar measures to those used on the street, from laying hands on someone, use of PAVA spray, handcuffs and baton. He said that taser was never really used in custody.

In terms of governance, there was previously a custody and criminal justice board, however this did not do the custody issues justice. They had therefore separated those boards. This allowed for a more detailed and focussed set of data. WYP were developing a Power BI App which would allow them to have a daily focus on use of force. This was still in trial stages but once fully live it would allow the force to see daily where force had been used. There were some challenges around recording use of force as currently the two systems used to record force (when on the street via their handheld device, and when in custody) did not speak to each other. Officers were responsible for recording and justifying every use of force. They were currently looking at work arounds including AI for this by simplifying the systems. ACC Twiggs said these improvements should be live in the next few weeks.

The DMPC asked about other forces who had not had this issue highlighted as a problem in their inspections and had learning been taken from them.

ACC Twiggs said it was a problem with all of the Niche forces across the country (approx. 30) and so far, nobody had come up with a work around for this. Some forces were developing similar Apps to WYP and they had linked in with forces that were ahead of them in this development.

The Mayor asked for reassurance that when errors did happen that management or disciplinary action was taken.

ACC Twiggs confirmed this was the case, they had increased their monthly monitoring and dip sampling, and the data was sent back to districts where relevant action was taken. The Custody Services team looked at every use of Public Address/Violence Alarm (PAVA) spray in custody as this was another area of concern from the HMICFRS inspection as there was disproportionality between WYP and other forces. Several referrals had been made to the Professional Standards Department regarding the potential misuse or overuse of PAVA in custody.

The Mayor said that use of PAVA in an enclosed space such as custody was completely different to use in an outdoor space. ACC Twiggs said use of PAVA was a level of force below e.g. use of a baton and they were concerned that if they removed PAVA from custody settings that higher uses of force would be used. He did agree that PAVA in enclosed spaces was a problem in terms of cross-contamination.

The DMPC pointed out that the HMICFRS report stated that some uses of PAVA they had reviewed should never have reached that stage. She said it was important for officers to understand how high the threshold was for PAVA use and the importance of managing escalation. ACC Twiggs said they were alive to this and they were monitoring the use, particularly with new officers.

The Mayor asked whether they saw a difference between newer officers and experienced officers. ACC Twiggs said they had seen some differences, but they were still exploring the reasons for this.

DCC Hankinson said they had been looking at this force wide, to ascertain whether it was a case of newer officers being less experienced in negotiation and therefore resorting to higher levels of force more quickly so they could adapt their training accordingly. ACC Twiggs said they had also introduced mandatory Custody Inspectors courses which focussed on use of force and recording. The central Custody Services team had also conducted in person briefings with all custody staff around issues with use of force.

The DMPC said finally that at the next meeting a Use of Force paper would be discussed which would separate out disparities around use of force in custody.

Actions:

WYP to

- a) provide the full Voluntary Attendance demographic data including a breakdown of adults and children and proportion of VAs compared to arrests by ethnicity**
- b) Provide data on number of children admitted to custody.**
- c) Update WYCA when the updated use of force recording was live.**

5. Safeguarding - Child - to access the full report [HERE](#).

The Mayor asked to start the discussion with a brief overview of the current trends in child safeguarding linked to offending that West Yorkshire Police were encountering. She said she knew from talking to the public that child safety was a big concern.

ACC Miller said WYP followed the national trends in relation to child safeguarding. Offenders operated both online and offline so there were no physical force borders. They got their national insights from the Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme (VKPP) who produced a totality report. Unfortunately, this report could not be shared publicly, however a public facing version was available on the VKPP website. They also received the Complex and Organised Child Abuse database which showed their rank regionally and nationally in relation to offending. The force had a good working relationship with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) lead and the VKPP.

The VKPP had done a peer review and WYP assisted with peer reviews of other forces which allowed best practice to be shared. The force was outstanding in terms of crime data integrity so any referral with any mention of neglect or abuse would be recorded as such, and they worked with partners to ensure the wrap around care was provided. Because of how these crimes were recorded WYP sat outside of the national trend in terms of neglect and abuse. ACC Miller said they had also seen an alarming rise nationally in child sexual abuse, this was particularly in relation to school age children sharing images. It was an offence to possess, take or share an indecent image of a child. All incidents were recorded, however where both parties were under 18 and the images had not been shared wider than the individuals involved, means other than a criminal route would be pursued. If the images had been shared further or one of the parties was over 18 this would be taken down a criminal route.

The Mayor said there were many challenges there, one being to identify what was a misguided young relationship and was sharing images on a phone sensible for young people. ACC Miller said that Pol-Ed covered topics such as this.

The Mayor said that Pol-Ed was a programme that most schools in West Yorkshire had taken up. ACC Miller agreed, 92% of schools were now signed up to the programme.

The DMPC asked for reassurance that even where children were not criminalised, the images were uploaded to the national database. ACC Miller confirmed they were as this allowed them to identify children who were subject of offending but had not yet been identified but may be during an investigation.

The Mayor said that the 'Working Together' document placed the Chief Constable as a lead safeguarding partner in West Yorkshire alongside our Local Authority Chief Executives, and Chief Executives of the Integrated Care Board. She asked how those working arrangements were operating e.g., how often were they meeting, were the minutes published and what were current topics under discussion.

ACC Miller said that the changes came in the latest round of 'Working Together' which was updated for 2023 and published towards the end of last year. Practices they had in place prior to this included the District Commanders which sat on the

Local Safeguarding Boards and fed into the Protecting Vulnerable Persons (PVP) Board that ACC Miller chaired. Information from this board was then fed directly to the Chief Constable. Through 'Working Together', the Chief Constable became the lead Safeguarding partner (LSP), in West Yorkshire they had kept the level below at Commander level as they had relationships at a local level. They would still report into the PVP Board but the Chief Constable would be the LSP. They were currently arranging a meeting between the Chief Executives and the Care Board Chief Officers which was still to be finalised. They also had the National Facilitator for Safeguarding Children Reform from the College of Policing come to talk through the process in West Yorkshire who had agreed this model was fit for purpose. WYCA had a seat on the PVP Board which received regular updates from Commanders in relation to their local safeguarding partners and progress.

The Mayor asked who was on the PVP Board. ACC Miller said it was chaired by himself and included the 5 District Commanders, WYP Safeguarding Governance Department, people from Corporate Services and WYCA. The Mayor said she was trying to include voices of lived experience wherever possible and wondered if this could be developed further.

ACC Miller said discussion topics would be decided once the meetings were scheduled, however key topics were fed into the PVP Board from the District Commanders. The key topic at the moment was the restructure of Working Together and how best to do this.

The Mayor said it was great to see multi-agency working to tackle bigger problems in society. She asked from the 12 recommendations they were working on, which areas would have the greatest impact in safeguarding children in West Yorkshire.

ACC Miller said the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs would have the biggest impact. They were looking at the ongoing quality training provided to the staff who worked in the hubs in relation to information sharing. The key to providing an effective response was sharing information between partners. They had also delivered quality training to front-line resources which included patrol, neighbourhood policing teams and operation functions and this had mainly been around Police Protection Notices. Improving the quality of the referral was key. He added they had also worked on the staffing levels of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs, increased demand in child safeguarding had resulted in an increased workload so they were working on increased staffing levels to prevent delays. They had also made sure that partners were part of the initial joint triage process.

The Mayor asked what the initial outcomes were from this new way of working. ACC Miller said they assessed based on a BRAG rating (Blue, Red, Amber Green). Blue meant there was no identified risk, Green highlighted a safeguarding concern which would be dealt with within 72 hours, Amber 24 hours and Red 2-3 hours. He said the triage and sharing of information was vital to ensure all available information was gathered.

The Mayor then asked what further improvement to safeguarding might be expected from adopting the Child Protection Team model being tested in other areas of the country. ACC Miller said this was a national review which WYP were not part of, they

had not been privy to the specific objectives or testing mechanisms and they were waiting for the review to be published. There was no date for publication yet, but once it was they would take it and implement it as it would be seen as best practice.

The Mayor said when she went out and about people raised concerns with her about sex offenders in the community and the management of those. She asked how many sexual harm prevention orders had been requested and how many agreed to in the last 12 months.

ACC Miller said they only became aware of them once granted, from 1 April 23 to 1 April 24 there were 299 sexual prevention orders granted. The Mayor asked for clarity on what the prevention order meant.

It set out requirements around how the individual had to behave, but also how they could be managed. If their conditions were breached it gave the police the power of arrest.

The Mayor asked with regards to the management of the orders, what the current picture was and how this had changed. She also asked how many were high-risk and if the proportions changed. ACC Miller said in terms of registered sex offenders there were 3474 currently in West Yorkshire. This was an increase of 240 since 1 April 2023. He could not publicly break this down any further, however the number of high-risk offenders being managed had reduced. The main reason for the increase in registered sex offenders was in part due to online offending as more people were being convicted of possession and sharing of indecent imagery and these individuals were often being managed within the community.

The Mayor asked whether the 299 individuals with the sexual harm prevention orders were the most dangerous. ACC Miller said not necessarily, the most dangerous were the ones registered as high-risk sex offenders.

Action:

WYP to consider the voice of lived experience on the PVP board.

6. Neighbourhood Policing and Anti-Social Behaviour – access to the full report [HERE](#).

The Mayor began by asking what messaging WYP had shared with partners and communities regarding officer and PCSO visibility. She also noted abstractions and vacancy factors, and whether WYP understood how this impacted trust and confidence at a local level.

ACC Miller said it was a positive message as they were in a much better position to this time last year. They were on their way back to the 575 PCSOs and some of the Police Constable (PC) vacancies they were carrying within Neighbourhood Policing were due to an uplifted budget by 66 full time equivalents which meant they were currently recruiting. He anticipated those would be filled by September 24. The number of abstractions from Neighbourhood Policing had been minimised and was now monitored.

The Mayor thanked the public for agreeing to the police precept and she was able to get commitment from the Chief Constable that this money would go to PCSOs to reassure the public on the streets.

The DMPC said she was pleased to see that the College of Policing were developing a new career pathway for Neighbourhood Policing. She asked what involvement WYP had with this and whether they would be committing to rolling out that course. ACC Miller confirmed they had engaged with the College of Policing and had asked to be part of the pilot.

The DMPC added that we had been asked for examples of good practice that we could share with the College of Policing and so asked them to share anything they would like us to pass on.

The Mayor then asked what the reasons were for the decrease in volunteer hours for Specials and Police Support Volunteers. ACC Miller said this had been a national decrease. He felt the biggest reason for this was the police uplift programme as specials were becoming Police Officers. Additionally, they saw a massive reduction in people volunteering during Covid and pre-Covid levels had not returned. Finally, he said that the training programme that was provided for Specials was not fully accessible to those who worked full time because of the time commitment required. They had therefore shortened the initial training programme and had had a recent drive of Special Constable recruitment.

The Mayor asked if this was the same for support volunteers. ACC Miller said these individuals did not get the same training as Specials as they were brought in for a specific role. The Mayor and DMPC offered their help in publicising recruitment for these roles.

The Mayor noted that the data spoke about the increase in incidents finalised as harassment which had increased by 25.6%. She asked whether this was due to changes in recording. ACC Miller said that some of the increase was due to changes in crime recording, as the system was updated. He also said where there was a continued course of conduct. This was now looked at up to a 3 month window, anything further than 3 months was recorded as a new crime. He added that although these factors accounted for some of the increase, it did not account for all of it, and they had seen some increase in this crime type.

The Mayor asked what the plan was to increase the number of PCs in Neighbourhoods, whether there was an understanding of where these vacancies were sat and how this was controlled. ACC Miller said they had just completed the Local Accountability meetings and they now had a Power BI App which showed where all the vacancies were across districts. They had increased the budget by 66 full time equivalents who should be in post by September 24. He said the reason for the delay was that they had to bring people through training and patrol first before

they could be released to neighbourhoods. This process was being managed by District Commanders and overseen by the Reassurance Board.

The Mayor asked which areas had increased numbers of staff on neighbourhoods and whether this continue or was it due to short term projects. ACC Miller said the PCs were permanent, and the uplift officers were full time postings with no plans to remove them.

The Mayor then asked what understanding had come from the Solving Problems in Neighbourhood meetings, whether there was any understanding of shared themes across the county and how this was communicated. ACC Miller spoke about repeat demand locations and key individuals who were causing issues in those areas. From this they had learned that there were certain themes with those individuals and locations including mental health, domestic abuse, CCE and CSE. They had created a 'What Works Well' library to ensure best practice was shared. Best practice was also shared through a Neighbourhoods Learning Forum and the Chief Inspectors Steering Group. Each district also had to report one piece of best practice back to the Reassurance Board chaired by ACC Miller.

Finally, the Mayor said that the Reassurance Board sounded like a great idea and would be great information for out CSP's. She asked whether the information was shared with them.

ACC Miller said the information was not shared as the Reassurance Board was an internal meeting, however WYCA did have a chair on there. He said any best practice that should be shared with CSPs could be done so through the District Commanders who attended the meeting.

Actions:

- a) **WYP to share any examples of good practice with WYCA in relation to Neighbourhood Policing following a request from the College of Policing**
- b) **WYCA to help promote recruitment for Special Constables and support volunteers wherever possible.**
- c) **The Mayor to create a video to promote Special Constable and support volunteer roles**

7. Hate Crime – access to the full report [HERE](#).

The Mayor welcomed the detailed report, she asked aside from its production what data and information was available/updated on the WYP website to increase trust and confidence that all hate crime was addressed when reported.

ACC Miller said equality data as well as a separate report about equality of objectives and progress to date were both available to view on the website. The

Mayor encouraged the public to take a look as she was aware that people felt that Hate Crime was rising and she encouraged everyone to report.

The Mayor noted that the number of hate crimes recorded in 2023/24 had reduced by 10.2% from the previous 12 months and that the recent increases in 2024 were associated with the ongoing Israel – Gaza conflict. She asked based on the sharp increase in reporting of Anti-Muslim and Anti-Semitic incidents at the start of the conflict and the continued reports throughout the following months, what reassurance if any WYP could give communities across WY in respect of their ongoing work, especially at district level. She also asked what WYP would say to anyone who was fearful of reporting.

ACC Miller said in relation to the events in the Middle-East they had a dedicated Detective Sergeant and Detective Constable who had investigative oversight of anything Middle-East related and made sure any reasonable lines of enquiry were followed. They also determined whether an offence had been committed or not and then sent this back to districts to ensure they investigated to the correct standard. They also had a bronze community within the structure and the districts provided a daily tension monitoring report. In addition to this they had their Independent Advisory Groups and District Scrutiny Panels who looked into investigations to ensure they had received the correct response. ACC Miller encouraged the public to report all incidents to the police. Any individuals who did not want to report to the police could also report to a Hate Crime Reporting Centre.

The Mayor said there was an election in 2 weeks' time which could potentially be a hotspot for Hate Crime, she asked for reassurance that WYP were alive to this. ACC Miller said they were alive to this, and they had a structure in place for the elections.

The report referred to evidential difficulties which negatively impacted the positive outcome rates, the Mayor asked for more information about the issues and how they related to the different strands. ACC Miller said they were an outstanding crime data integrity force and recorded anything that came through to them as an offence. One of the key strands they had an issue with was disability hate crime. Some of these reports came from a third party e.g., a carer, so the crime was recorded and investigated, however when they went back to the victim, they were sometimes unwilling or unable to engage with officers. This meant that evidential difficulties had to be recorded.

In terms of victim satisfaction by service delivery area, the lowest score was around the outcome. The Mayor asked what more could be said about this and whether WYP understood the lower rate across Kirklees compared to other districts. ACC Miller said up to March 2024, the satisfaction for outcomes was 53.6% for hate crimes, compared to 57.4% for all other crime. He said victim satisfaction increased to 65.7% when an officer attended an incident, however when dealt with over the phone it fell to 47.6%. Therefore, if an officer was not going to attend, an aide memoire had been put in place to ensure that the correct information was given over

the phone and that the reporter understood that there would still be an investigation. In relation to Kirklees, who were at 56.3%, this was a sample size of just 80 individuals so although lower, was not statistically significant. It did however allow WYP to draw some meaningful conclusions at a force and district level.

The Mayor said what would help with understanding hate crime was a force that reflected the community it served, which was being worked towards, but she also welcomed the launch of the Community Engagement Tracker in November 2023. The purpose of which was to record and monitor community engagements by officers and staff who had visited multi-faith establishments, communities and any other events which formed part of West Yorkshire Police's 'Community Engagement Strategy'. The Mayor asked what learning had been taken from the monitoring and how WYP were sharing best practice across the force.

ACC Miller said this was currently a pilot which was running across Leeds and Wakefield and was going well. Once the pilot was complete, there would be a post implementation review and if the outcome was positive, it would be rolled out across all five districts. The pilot allowed detail down to street level about what had been done in the community, highlighting any communities that were being missed and what had worked well.

The DMPC added that Mark Rothery was doing some excellent work in Harehills with a football tournament that was a great example of community engagement with 500 local people involved.

The Mayor said it would be great to roll something like that out across West Yorkshire. ACC Miller said the 'What Works Well' forum was a great place to share initiatives like this so that other areas could replicate. They also mentioned CATCH as a great initiative, again in Harehills.

The report mentioned the proactive internal work in Kirklees, the Mayor asked how many WYP officers and staff had reported hate crime incidents and whether there was any information around the perpetrators e.g., were they external. ACC Miller said over the last 12 months there had been 680 reports of Hate Crime by officers and staff, an increase of 208 on the previous year. He was unable to share details regarding perpetrators, however he said all districts apart from Calderdale had seen an increase, particularly disability, faith, race and sexual orientation.

The Mayor asked what Calderdale was doing right. ACC Miller said Calderdale had smaller numbers reported so the changes were not significant. He said the important thing was the messages that had been given to staff about recording hate crime, so more staff were now doing so.

Finally, the Mayor welcomed all the positive work in schools and colleges which included the Pol-Ed uptake/resources. She asked who was capturing the feedback and intel discussed and shared in the sessions. ACC Miller said they had a brilliant Pol-Ed team and as mentioned 92% of schools were signed up. He encouraged the remaining

schools to sign up. In terms of capturing feedback, Google Forms were available online relating to pupil engagement and school staff engagement. These forms also asked for suggestions for improvements. Pol-Ed had also been rolled out in two other force areas and they had been asked to feed information back. There was also a stream on the WYP website and Pol-Ed staff visited schools who delivered sessions. They also routinely monitored the National Police Chief's Council and the College of Policing for any arising issues that should be added into the Pol-Ed offer. Additionally, the University of Huddersfield were assessing the full Pol-Ed package to understand the benefit it was delivering.

The Mayor asked whether there was anything within Pol-Ed on suicide prevention, she had visited Three Dads Walking and had suggested it might be a good opportunity to talk to young people about this topic.

Actions:

- a) WYCA to discuss with WYP about including suicide prevention and Three Dads Walking into the Pol-Ed package.**
- b) Mayor to write to the schools who had not yet signed up for Pol-Ed to encourage them to do so**
- c) WYP to send over a list of schools who had not signed up to Pol-Ed**

8. Stop and Search - access to the full report [HERE](#).

The Mayor was aware that WYP always aimed to stop and search legitimately and proportionately, however monitoring was important. She noted that previous data used to refer to children as young as 5. The report now showed data from age 10. She asked for the numbers of children stopped and searched aged 9 and under.

ACC Miller said there was only one stop and search under the age of 9. This was an 8-year-old in Leeds who was stopped and searched on suspicion of being in possession of an offensive weapon. This resulted in no further action.

The Mayor asked whether this age category could also mean that officers searched a pram. ACC Miller said this could potentially happen.

The DMPC asked whether the body worn video of the search of the 8-year-old was reviewed. ACC Miller was unsure but would check and report back.

The Mayor said as usual she could see that far more men in general were stopped and searched compared to women, she asked whether the positive outcome rates differed pro rata. ACC Miller said the positive outcome rate for women was 28.3%, and for men 33.6% for the reporting period July – December 2023.

In relation to all stop and searches of children, the Mayor asked for a breakdown of where they were taking place e.g. schools, colleges, educational premises. ACC Miller said there was no location categorisation in the data that allowed this breakdown, so

they had looked at key words. They found 36 records out of 1716 which showed stop and searches on these premises. This would not however take into account any searches that had been conducted e.g., on the street outside of a school. ACC Miller said they had brought in a policy whereby any child that was stopped and searched had a mandatory Police Protection Notice referral through to Children's Social Care.

The Mayor then asked whether WYP were monitoring any positive/negative community impact in respect of stop and search and the relevant actions from the Race Action Plan which was now 6 months on. ACC Miller said every stop and search was reviewed by a Sergeant which included scrutiny of the paperwork and body worn video. Any learning was fed back to the officer and any misconduct was referred to Professional Standards. This would also be fed into education and training at a wider level. Stop and search of Black individuals was reviewed in each district through the Continuous Improvement Teams in line with the Race Action Plan. This was also monitored by the force Race Action Plan Tactical Delivery Group and dip samples were carried out at force and local level of body worn, paperwork and supervisory oversight.

Stop and search complaints from the public were assessed by the Professional Standards Department. WYP also fed in randomly selected stop and searches into their scrutiny boards for review. Complaints could also be made through 101 and the QR codes on handheld devices allowed immediate feedback. The Mayor congratulated WYP on the QR code and felt it was a good development. Additionally, all officers were in the process of attending their 2-day Cultural Awareness Course, and the Stop and Search iLearn had recently been re-written which was mandatory for all officers to complete annually.

The DMPC asked about the search exposing intimate parts, she said of the 9 instances where this took place, 8 were from Black or Asian Mixed ethnicity. She asked what analysis had been done of those circumstances and whether they were satisfied that every consideration had been taken in the decisions surrounding these instances. ACC Miller said each of those should have been reviewed by a supervisory officer, however, to provide reassurance he would have them reviewed independently by local policing and report back.

The Mayor said in terms of confidence in the complaints trigger it was good to see that at least one young complainant had the confidence to report an issue. She asked ACC Miller to say more about the 6 out of 7 cases mentioned in the report which were finalised showing the service provided was acceptable. She asked for help to understand the basis of the complaints and the Professional Standards Department outcome. She also asked since the introduction of the Trigger how many stop and search complaints were upheld, officers dismissed, and disciplinary/advisory actions taken.

ACC Miller said there was an error in the paper and there had actually been 12 complaints rather than 7. All 12 cases had been investigated through the Professional Standards Department or the Independent Office for Police Conduct. ACC Miller provided an outline of the cases and the reasons they were deemed as acceptable. He said that the body worn video in every circumstance was vital in upholding or negating complaints. The Mayor asked whether any of the complaints had come via the QR code. ACC Miller said the QR code was a feedback opportunity, not a complaint route.

The DMPC asked whether WYP were assured that they were using handcuffs proportionately and only where necessary. ACC Miller said the answer was no, he had done a review personally and there had been a number of occasions where they were justified and a number where they were not. The Stop and Search iLearn included a significant element on handcuffing. Handcuffing should only be used in extreme circumstances.

The Mayor asked whether the live trial on section 163 road traffic stop and searches had started and what early feedback could be shared at this stage. She also asked for an overview of what the live trial was. ACC Miller said the Home Office had originally stated that everyone stopped under a road traffic stop would have to submit a form. They then retracted this, however WYP still wanted to deliver the original ask so they developed a new App which would record the circumstances of s163 stops. The App had been piloted, however there was an issue with the system. It was currently held in testing, once the issue was resolved and the App re-tested they were hoping to roll it out in July/August. The Mayor asked whether it had been rolled out elsewhere. ACC Miller confirmed this was a West Yorkshire system that we had developed.

The DMPC asked whether it could be sold to other forces. ACC Miller confirmed it could.

The Mayor noted the training, which was very positive, she asked how it was having an impact on the quality of stop and search encounter.

ACC Miller said the data showed West Yorkshire had conducted 397 searches under s60 and from those there had been 22 arrests (5.5% arrest rate).

The highest force was Greater Manchester with 954 stops and 22 arrests (2.3%). The number of authorised s60 stops were on a decreasing trend.

Actions:

WYP to check whether the body worn video of the stop and search of the 8-year-old was reviewed and deemed satisfactory.

a) WYP to have the 9 searches exposing intimate parts reviewed by local policing independently and report back.

9. Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) – access to the full report [HERE](#).

The Mayor gave an overview of the SPR, and asked which of the seven elements of the SPR WYP considered to be their greatest priorities now in terms of responding to demand.

DCC Hankinson said the seven elements were included in the SPR because they were all significant threats. She said the ones that had been added latterly were the greatest threats at the moment such as Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). She said the reason for this was that elements such as Terrorism, Serious and Organised Crime and National Cyber Security had structures that had been embedded a long time and were delivering a cross-force response. DCC Hankinson felt CSA and VAWG were the biggest threats because they were focussed on vulnerable individuals in society and the other elements e.g.,

Counter Terrorism Policing had been coordinated across policing for a longer period of time and the structures in place meant they could mitigate the risks more easily.

The Mayor said that the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) was a good example of this. DCC Hankinson said there were a number of ROCU's across the country, they provided high level specialist capabilities and tackled issues such as cyber threats. She explained in terms of Public Order that every force understood what they needed to do, and regular testing was undertaken to ensure a quick and effective response if needed. CSA and VAWG were much newer in terms of national capabilities.

The Mayor asked whether AI was a threat in terms of Child Sexual Exploitation. DCC Hankinson said it was an area that teams were beginning to specialise in, such as the ROCU. They were also seeing more AI used in cyber-attacks. She said part B of the SPR was about understanding the capability and capacity required to mitigate and address the treats. The Mayor said their ethics panel would be able to help here in terms of identifying the criminality where an AI generated image of a child was produced.

The Mayor then asked whether there were any areas where the requirements of the SPR had placed additional pressures on day-to-day operations. DCC Hankinson said yes, particularly CSE and VAWG in terms of increased demand and safeguarding over the last decade.

They had therefore increased the number of officers in this area. Although this had been at the expense of other areas, there were finite resources and strategic decisions had to be made to protect the most vulnerable.

The Mayor asked whether there was anything that could be done to mitigate the pressure in those areas. She asked whether more recruitment was the only way, or whether there could be more innovative ways to deal with the issues. DCC Hankinson said there were possibly more innovative things that could be done. They undertook non-recent investigations which was about getting closure and a result for victims of crimes that had happened a long time ago, she said West Yorkshire was very proactive in dealing with those. She said prevention was better than cure, so the related campaigns and Pol-Ed were important. They also had domestic abuse perpetrator programmes which aimed to reverse their behaviour if it was low level, however this was not as effective for high-risk individuals.

Looking specifically at the Serious and Organised Crime strand of the SPR the Mayor asked whether WYP had any comments on the use of developing technologies by criminals (e.g. developing use of cryptocurrencies, AI, and the Dark Web). She asked whether there was anything WY communities could do to build resilience to these threats. DCC Hankinson said anything that offered new opportunities for criminal networks was a concern, crypto was one of those, however they had advanced crypto investigators and so were building capability and capacity to understand and move with the developing threat. They had already had some successful prosecutions where significant amounts of assets had been taken from criminals. They also had specific teams who worked similarly with the Dark Web. In

terms of advice, she said the best things to think about were password protecting devices and accounts and individuals should think about where their own data sat. She recommended the [Stop! Think Fraud](#) website. Businesses had a key role to play in protecting everyone's data and the WYP Cyber Protect Officer provided training for businesses across West Yorkshire. The Mayor added that Age UK did training for vulnerable adults also.

10. Future Agenda Items

- Road Safety
- VAWG
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Serious Violence and Organised Crime
- Use of Force
- Exception Paper - Technology in Policing

11. Any Other Business

None

12. Next Meeting

17 September 2024, 1430 - 1600

elements of the West Yorkshire Police Digital Policing Strategy.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

The Mayor and DMPC engage with all communities including victims to better understand the impact of policing which includes a digital policing footprint,

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand any concerns and impact as result of technology.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constables report – Technology in Policing](#)

control, financial abuse), work to influence and educate young people, and perpetrator programmes that reduce reoffending

Priority 2: Keeping people safe and building resilience

- The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on the volume of crime that disproportionality affects women and girls. We will work to uncover this hidden harm, getting the support and justice to those who need it.
- Work with all partners to embed a violence against women and girls' delivery framework.
- Reduce vulnerability and isolation by engaging women and girls in education, employment, and training opportunities.
- Challenge the male community to stand up and be counted, as role models to their peers, calling out unacceptable behaviour

Priority 3: Safer Places and Thriving Communities

- This Plan will make West Yorkshire a hostile place to exploiters, through developing strong deterrents, designing-out crime, supporting community challenge, making reporting crime simpler, and increasing confidence in the police.
- Support grass-roots community organisations that provide important services for women and girls.
- Use developing technology and tools to understand where and why women and girls feel unsafe in public spaces.
- Work to ensure women and girls are safe on public transport and taxis

Priority 4: Responding to Multiple and complex needs

- Bring a trauma-informed focus to those supporting women and girls who have experienced exploitation.
- Bring a whole systems approach to the safety of women and girls' agenda, for both victims and perpetrators.
- Embed the violence against women and girls' priority in the new Serious Violence Duty.
- Evaluate the impact of commissioned perpetrator programmes to understand what works to reduce violent behaviour

The Police and Crime Plan includes a series of indicators that will be used to measure performance which, while not solely related to women and girls, reflect the fact that women and girls are disproportionately represented in the associated crime cohort. These include:

- Increasing positive outcomes for victims of domestic and sexual abuse and violence
- Reducing the number of repeat victims of domestic abuse
- Increase the use of Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Domestic Violence Protection Notices
- Increase the use of Stalking Prevention Orders
- Increase the % of female officers

Performance against the indicators in the Police and Crime Plan is reported via the Mayor's Governance meetings and the Police and Crime Panel.

KEY INFORMATION

6. Mayoral/DMPC and VRP recent activity includes:

The Mayor/DMPC continue to do all they can to raise the profile of support required around the safety of women and girls both locally and nationally ensuring:

- They attend partnership events to advocate for the Safety of Women and Girls
- Attend community-based meetings and initiatives to better understand the lived experiences and challenges faced by Women and Girls.
- Address WYP performance in respect of accountability, scrutiny and oversight both directly, and through the work of the wider team.

Transport and the Night-Time Economy:

- An anonymous bus safety feedback tool on the Mcard mobile application, allowing users to feedback on their feelings of safety at any point along their journey. Also featuring travel safety information.
- Data collected from the App reporting tool along with other intelligence is embedded in the Violence Reduction Partnership Dashboard. This will allow for targeted interventions to take place on routes that have high levels of violence against women and girls as reported by passengers and staff.
- Transport staff and police in plain clothes will ride the routes identified to address any issues at high-risk times. Link to survey: [bus safety tool](#) The feedback tool is aimed at ensuring that public transport networks are safer, inclusive and welcoming.

Safer Travel Team

- This is a team of police community safety officers who are dedicated to working full time in bus stations and buses around West Yorkshire. With £1m in funding from the West Yorkshire Mayor's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), 15 full time PCSOs will patrol bus stations and buses across the county.
- The aim of the team is to reduce anti-social behaviour and violent crime, to protect the young and vulnerable and reduce VAWG.
- The Safer Travel Team collaborate with bus operators, Schools, Charities, Vulnerable groups and partner agencies to have a joint approach to making the public safe and feeling safe in and around the bus network.

Delivery of the Mayor's Safety of Women and Girls Strategy:

The launch of the Mayoral Safety of Women and Girls strategy was launched with £992k of Women and Girls funding over the next three years from UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The criteria for the Women and Girls strand of the UK SPF have been shared with Local Authorities, with an encouragement to work closely with the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector in developing the proposals.

The Policy Manager, leading the workstream for the Safety of Women and Girls

was identified as the UKSPF Delivery Liaison Manager. They have been nominated to be the single point of contact to support the recipient to achieve the strategic and policy outcomes in relation to the Grant. The Funding Strategy Team are responsible for overall contract management and Fund responsibility.

The UKSPF Delivery Liaison Manager is required to:

- Help embed the programme within the ecosystem and ensure that it does not duplicate or confuse existing provision.
- Undertake quality assurance of provision through contribution to the design and delivery of evaluation / impact analysis
- Help to ensure that the programme is effectively referring to other complementary provision and vice-versa.
- Contribute to the identification of risks, challenges and opportunities for the programmes.
- Contribute to programme boards and other strategic delivery reviews / discussions.
- Identify and, where appropriate, supporting the sharing of good practice.
- Attend and contribute to project review meetings, recognising that these are led by the Funding Strategy Team.

Examples of delivery to support the delivery of the Mayor's Safety of Women and Girls Strategy is not limited to, however includes the following:

- UKSF has been utilised in **Bradford** to appoint a Safety of Women and Girls Lead and employment of young change ambassadors to support delivery of a behaviour change campaign (following on from #justdont).
- Modifications to parks in **Leeds** to changes to the layout of the benches/paths in the park as they have been positioned to see multiple exits of the park at once to support the safety of women and girls. Significant amount of work has gone on to support consultation with women centre and schools.
- **Calderdale** have used funding to provide prevention and Behaviour Change Training with Halifax Panthers to work with schools around the district, educating young people (girls and boys) on healthy relationships, toxic masculinity, staying safe online, having respect for one another.
- In **Wakefield**, young people have taken up the opportunity to be Ambassadors for the education and behaviour change project. They will be available to deliver support and advice across 5 secondary schools in the district. The ambassadors have been part of a rota for weekly relationship support drop-ins within schools. They have also continued providing assemblies raising awareness of healthy relationships and where they can gain support.
- **Kirklees** have multiple projects ongoing, such as offering a safe space for local women in the community through arts and crafts, while promoting understanding domestic abuse and different forms of violence within different communities. Active Bystander training has been delivered to local

further education colleges and Huddersfield University staff and then to the students.

Active Bystander Training – ‘Stand Up to Harassment’

- Using the Mayor’s voice with businesses, we want to influence employers to understand what they can do to support women’s safety and support industries to be more gender inclusive. For this reason, the Mayor hosted ‘Stand Up to Harassment’ training, delivered by the Suzy Lampard Trust and L’Oréal. This training was delivered for WYCA employees during the national Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week. This training will be rolled out further to staff at West Yorkshire Combined Authority through the Gender Equality Group.
- The training helped to drive awareness of harassment, as well as upskilling and empowering bystanders in settings such as public transport, educational institutions, festivals, public spaces, and workplaces, to help defuse situations, discourage harassers, and support victims. It enables those who witness street harassment to feel confident to intervene and provide support to those being harassed.

Mayor’s Safer Communities Fund

- The Mayors Safer Communities Fund continues to deliver projects to support women and girls. 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/mayors-safer-communities-fund))
- **#Justdont Campaign**

The value that behavioural change programmes and initiatives have is powerful. The Mayor wanted to make a difference working across West Yorkshire to ensure women and girls are no longer harassed and abused online, in person, at home or in their work environment. A video campaign was created to generate male behaviour change within the Safety of Women and Girls agenda through engaging with men and boys in West Yorkshire. This was to support delivery under the theme of behaviour change, and delivery of the [Mayor of West Yorkshire’s Safety of Women and Girls Strategy](#).

- To align to the strategy, the Mayor ensured that the campaign had a West Yorkshire angle and represented different communities in the county through the reflection of different demographics and colloquial language.

Campaign Video:

<https://youtu.be/EN6fHDQ6IZQ>

Behind the Scenes Video:

[The Making of the #JustDont Campaign \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EN6fHDQ6IZQ)

Campaign Launch:

[#JustDont Campaign Launch Event in Leeds \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EN6fHDQ6IZQ)

Phase 2 of #Justdont Campaign

- Colleagues presented #justdont at the Pol-Ed conference Village Hotel

Tingley June 24 to 150 PSHE leads across WY primary and secondary schools, focussed on collaborative approach to VAWG. The audience consisted of school representatives (Head teachers, teachers, PHSE/ citizenship leads, education/PHSE experts).

- Currently 92.19% schools are registered in WY, 3295 active users and over 95,000 pupils accessed resources. Following the conference there were schools across West Yorkshire contacted us to discuss #justdont workshops and presentations in their schools. We will be following up after the new term to arrange visits and workshops to support schools in phase 2 of our campaign work.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

The Policing and Crime Team deliver work related to VAWG via several Partnership Boards, including:

- Women's Focus Group
- Local Criminal Justice Board (Victims and Witness Group)
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Board
- West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership
- Children's Risk and Vulnerability Group

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Safety of Women and girls is everyone's responsibility and is most effective in partnership. It is known that minorities groups and marginalised individuals can be at increased risk and vulnerable.

CONTACT OFFICER

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[Chief Constables report – VAWG](#)

organised criminal gangs).

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

- In July, the DMPC became the Chair of the WY Serious & Organised Crime Partnership Board. The group has formed to oversee West Yorkshire Police's work on SOC, in particular the developing *Clear, Hold, Build* approach to tackling organised crime in specific neighbourhoods. CHB represents an important partnership approach between the police, local authority, and the impacted communities to reduce offending and build community resilience.
- **The WY Anti-Slavery Partnership:** promoting collaboration across our local partners both in the care for the victims of slavery and trafficking, and in the response to the SOC threat of organised gangs engaged in illegal migration and labour market abuses.
- Building resilience through **promotional campaigns:** Supporting through our own press engagement, WYP awareness raising campaigns on topics such as County Lines and students' vulnerability to 'Money Mule' scams. Much of this work is co-ordinated through the WY Safeguarding Communications Group.
- **WY Violence Reduction Partnership:** So much of the VRP's work is targeted at preventing serious violence in communities and denying organised crime the space to thrive. For example, the Focussed Deterrence Car project aims to prevent crime by bringing a youth worker and non-uniformed police officer together to intervene directly following a violent incident involving young people. The project engages young people at the 'teachable moment' immediately after the incident has occurred.
- VRP led enforcement work against knife crime and serious violence under Op. Jemlock aligns with WYP's response to SOC through their Programme Precision project.

Other important interventions include:

- ~ Gangs and Violence Reduction Service at HMP Leeds (Catch22) - working to reduce the risk posed by gang-affiliated individuals in prison and before their release.
- ~ HMYOI Wetherby Violence Reduction (St. Giles Trust) – a programme working with boys and girls with the objective of reducing knife-related violence once individuals have left custody.
- ~ Kirklees Community Resilience & Development (Thornton Lodge Action Group). This project uses gym sessions as a 'vehicle for change' in reducing knife-related crime, by diverting young people at risk of offending away from criminal behaviours.
- Drugs – With drugs crime the dominant factor behind most of West Yorkshire's organised crime groups, we are leading on the West Yorkshire response to the government's 10-year drugs plan – 'From Harm to Hope'. The Combined Authority has established the WY Combatting Drugs Partnership Strategic Board to harness partner's work to reduce the demand for drugs; help people to access the right addiction treatment services; and tackle drug crime in our communities.
- In July 2021, Wakefield was selected by the Government to host a new national programme to tackle drug crime called Project ADDER. It brings together partners across health, employment, housing, and policing to combine enforcement operations against drug gangs with improved treatment

and recovery services for drug users.

- Economic Crime: During the last year, the WYP Economic Crime Unit have seized criminal assets worth over £9 million; have targeted the perpetrators of courier fraud; and carried out important crime prevention work to raise awareness of romance fraud and fraudsters who target international students.
- The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to support a wide range of grassroots-level diversionary projects which aim to prevent serious violence in communities, you can find out more about the funded projects by following this link. [Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk)

Other Combined Authority delivery:

- The VRP have submitted a new budget and delivery plan for 23/24 based on the new funding value of £4.4m, a decrease of around 25% based on the budget from the previous year.
- The VRP have earmarked £2.3 million for commissioned interventions, which is over 50% of the budget and well over requirements of the Home Office.
- **Serious Violence Legal Duty (SVD):** The Legal Duty is now in place and the VRP have worked to coordinate the West Yorkshire partnership response and readiness assessment. SROs were identified from each responsible authority and have been briefed on SVD responsibilities. Oversight will be provided through the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Executive Strategic Group.
- VRP Community Advisory Group met in Bradford in March, continuing the VRP's commitment to listen to communities impacted by serious violence, and co-produce interventions which have the support of local residents.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

- The Violence Reduction Partnership: The VRP takes a 'public health' approach, which places emphasis on prevention rather than cure. They bring together specialists from health, youth justice, probation, community groups, and many more. They also work closely with the Policing and Crime team, particularly around engagement and commissioning.
- Reducing Serious Violence Executive Strategic Group: Chaired by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, this meeting brings together senior strategic leaders who provide system leadership and accountability for key areas of responsibility, including the delivery of a public health whole systems approach and driving the strategic direction.
- Partnership Delivery Group (PDG): Chaired by the VRP Director, the PDG involves wide ranging stakeholder and partnership representation and leads on many aspects of the coordination of delivery efforts.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Combined Authority and West Yorkshire Police commitment to EDI under the topic of serious & organised crime can be illustrated by: grassroots-level interventions within communities impacted by serious violence through the VRP's engagement programme; support for neighbourhood-level projects (often developed by communities or local VCSE groups) through the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund; and robust scrutiny of the use of Stop and Search strategies

across West Yorkshire.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

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[Chief Constable's report](#)

policing and crime by making 'safer places and thriving communities', and 'responding to multiple and complex needs' two of its four strategic priorities, in recognition that supporting people away from the harm that drugs and alcohol can cause requires a whole systems approach.

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 to Community Safety Partnerships to enable them to commission appropriate services.

This passported funding contributes to specific criminal justice related drug and alcohol support, as well as youth-based initiatives that help divert young people away from substance misuse and drug-related offending.

The specific drug and alcohol related outcomes of the Community Safety Fund are:

- Supporting services and early intervention approaches in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. (*Keeping People Safe & Building Resilience*)
- Reducing crime and disorder through place-based community safety initiatives identified by the Community Safety Partnership. (*Safer Places and Thriving Communities*)
- Tackling the linked determinants of crime as part of a wider local approach on responding to multiple and complex needs, including re-offending and re-victimisation. (*Responding to Multiple & Complex Needs*)

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.

Of note is the development of Combatting Drugs Partnerships (CDPs) across the county. CDPs represent a multi-agency platform for understanding and addressing drug-related harm.

West Yorkshire level oversight of this work is provided by the DMPC through the West Yorkshire Combating Drugs Partnership Strategic Board.

This group has promoted the use of the opiate overdose medication, Naloxone, with West Yorkshire Police currently running a pilot project of officers carrying Naloxone in Leeds and Wakefield. The group is also leading on WY-wide preparedness for the threat of dangerous synthetic opioids entering the local drugs market.

8. 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
ATTACHMENT <u>Chief Constables report – Drugs and Alcohol</u>

in our 'Safety on the Roads of West Yorkshire' consultation.

- The Mayor is committed to delivering the Vision Zero ambition in West Yorkshire. Vision Zero is a Safe Systems approach bringing together five aspects of a safe road environment: safe roads, safe vehicles, safe behaviours, safe speeds and, when a collision occurs, the response to the collision.
- The main objective will see us working towards eliminating all traffic fatalities and severe injuries while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable transport for all partly through the leadership of the new Vision Zero Strategic Board, which oversees the ongoing efforts to deliver an effective Vision Zero approach across all the districts. The first meeting of the Vision Zero Board took place in December 2021 and has then taken place quarterly since this time.
- The Mayor's Transport Strategy prioritises work through our Vision Zero Partnership (previously the Safer Roads Partnership) to reduce casualty numbers on our roads. During the COVID-19 pandemic we saw increased take-up of cycling and walking. This mode shift is welcomed and has been sustained by interventions supported by Active Travel funding, but injuries to pedestrians and cyclists continue to be a barrier, and a business-as-usual approach with existing levels of funding will not be adequate. We will embed road safety into our design and interventions (alongside education, training, and publicity programmes) and strengthen relationships with key stakeholders such as West Yorkshire Police.
- Funding provided through the City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement for the Safer Roads Programme is allowing districts to implement key infrastructure changes, with £25 million allocated across five years for safety projects. We are working through the Vision Zero Partnership meetings to bring new sources of data together to support the programme, and colleagues in the Combined Authority's Research and Intelligence Team are progressing with a pilot of 'near miss' technology which may inform a preventative approach for future highways interventions.
- The Combined Authority was successful in a bid to the Home Office for the Safety of Women at Night Fund. This is funding a project to support women and girls' safety on the West Yorkshire transport system, with a particular focus on the night-time economy. The first project is a web-based safety feedback tool on the MCard Mobile App, to allow customers to feedback their bus journey experiences and for us to use this insight to inform future investments and interventions.
- 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

- The Mayor has supported the road safety charity BRAKE which provides a specialist national service to victims of road traffic collisions resulting in death or serious injury. We have provided funding to BRAKE via the Police Property Act Fund.
- As part of the Mayor's leadership on the road safety agenda, the Combined Authority's Vision Zero Policy Manager and Vision Zero Policy Assistant are currently developing the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Strategy with feedback from partners, following consultation and engagement during 2023. The strategy is intended to provide a common direction across the county in reducing the harm caused by road traffic collisions and outline objectives for the next three years.
- These posts are funded through the West Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership and underline the new momentum that all partners are bringing to this agenda to achieve the ambition of no one killed or seriously injured on West Yorkshire's roads by 2040.
- The Vision Zero communications officer role was filled by David Iverson, who moved from the Policing and Crime Team's communications team.
- The [Vision Zero strategy](#) was launched on the 13 August 2024. Vision Zero is a road safety aim to eliminate all traffic deaths and serious injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all in West Yorkshire. It advocates that no deaths or serious injuries are acceptable and argues for the joint responsibility of all road users for safety, alongside all those who plan, design, build, maintain, legislate, and enforce the transport system.
- The strategy was launched by the Deputy Mayor at an outdoor public event at Lister Park, Bradford. The event was well attended by the public who engaged with other key road safety stakeholders, such as West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Safety Camera Partnerships and all five local authorities, as well as essential Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector organisations such as Brake and Naomi Cheri Gough Foundation. Members of the public were able to make personal pledges towards the strategy.

6. Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to support road safety; details of projects funded can be found here: ([Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](#))

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

The Mayor has representation on the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership which includes all five districts, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, and National Highways working together to tackle road safety. The partnership is a strong example of partnership working, incorporating the VCSE sector and people with lived experience. Please see Appendix A for more detail.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

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.

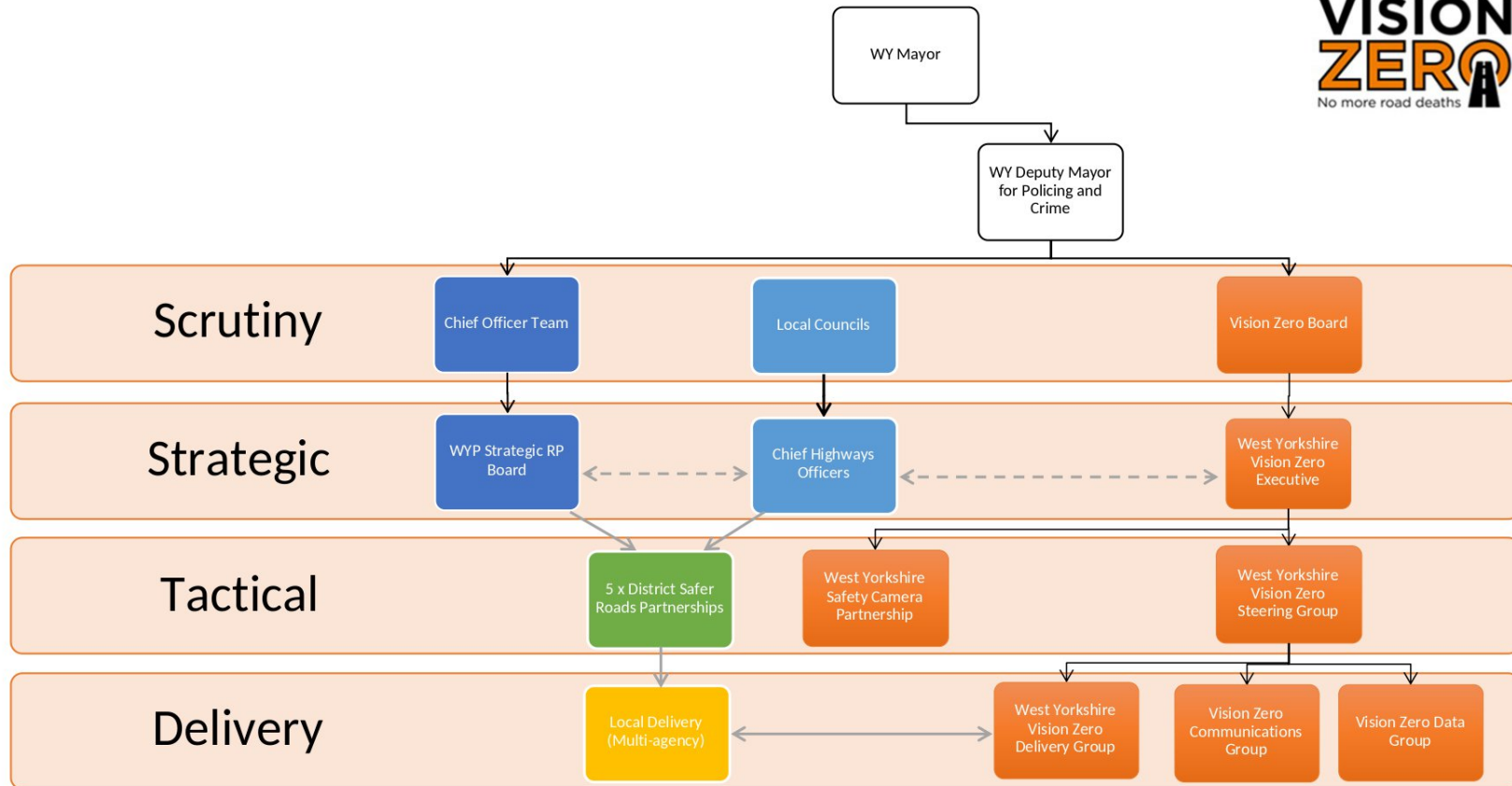
POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

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[Chief Constable's report – Road Safety](#)

Appendix A

West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership Structures



7. 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 which looks at Inequalities.
8. **Child Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel** - The Mayor convened a Child Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel in April 2023. This was a professional panel of predominately Youth Justice, Children's Social Workers and Corporate Parenting managers drawn from each Local Authority. It is chaired by a Policy Manager from the P&C team, and examines child custody matters, in particular where children should by law be transferred to the care of the local authority and also strip search. Observations from the panel are fed back to West Yorkshire Police. The HMICFRS custody inspection report, and the HMIP (His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons) report on youth custody both made positive reference to this activity.
9. **Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel** - This panel is on the final stages of development. The panel will consist of an independent chair and ten independent members, drawn from communities across West Yorkshire. The chair will be supported by the Police and Crime Team. The panel will also include, representatives from West Yorkshire Police, commissioned custody health care, staff associations and a member of the legal defence community. The panel will meet quarterly. On a themed basis, the panel will review the detention and treatment of detained persons. For example, the use of force in the custody environment, appropriate adult and legal rights provision, the welfare of those with mental ill-health or neurodiverse conditions. The Panel is currently being recruited through an open process. Interviews will be in July and the induction of the chair and new panel members will be in September. The Panel will review Custody Use of force at every one of the four sessions per year.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

The Mayor and DMPC work with specific groups and organisations to better understand the impact of Use of Force on individuals and communities. The Child Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel in particular is a significant partnership effort and supports West Yorkshire Police to improve their practices.

EQUALITY, 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 Use of Force.

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constables report – Use of Force](#)