

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

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

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

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

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION
The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand the explanation for disproportionality in relation to Stop and Search.
ATTACHMENT
Chief Constable's report – Stop and Search
POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

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 now operational and has met twice to date and has reviewed the use of force in police custody. The HMICFRS West Yorkshire Police Custody Inspection stated that the recording of use of force was a cause for concern which is why this is being addressed first by the panel. The panel consists of an independent chair and eight independent members, drawn from communities across West Yorkshire through an open recruitment process. Also on the panel is a local criminal defence solicitor. The chair and panel are supported by the Police and Crime Team. A forward work plan for the panel has been developed and where the use of force will be a standing item, reviewed at least once for each panel.

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 Constable's report – Use of Force](#)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION
The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand the explanation for disproportionality in relation to Stop and Search.
ATTACHMENT
Chief Constable's report – Community Cohesion
POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

28 January 2025

SUBJECT: Hate Crime

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 21-24

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

KEY INFORMATION

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

crime/support-for-victims

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

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

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

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

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

[Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](http://westyorks-ca.gov.uk)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand the impact of Hate Crime, signpost support and increase awareness and reporting.

ATTACHMENT

[Report of the Chief Constable – Hate Crime](#)

POLICING AND CRIME CONTACT

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

28 January 2025

SUBJECT: Safeguarding - Child

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 21-24

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

victims are accessing support services, and that we are working with partners across organisational boundaries to help support vulnerable people.

KEY INFORMATION

8. Mayoral/DMPC Activity to date includes:

- Child First: Work by researchers within the Violence Reduction Partnership's Knowledge Hub has led to the publishing of a guidance framework for professionals who make decisions that may impact the lives of children in West Yorkshire. The framework was informed by the views of 455 children from all 5 districts in West Yorkshire who participated in the research.
- Publishing the Reducing Vulnerability strategy: Earlier this year, the Policing and Crime team published this strategy, covering child and adult safeguarding themes. The final document can be found at: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12266/reducing-vulnerability-strategy-1.pdf>
- The Mayor/Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime scrutinises West Yorkshire Police's work on child safeguarding through regular Governance meetings meetings with the Chief Constable, in addition to the review of safeguarding work provide through this Community Outcomes Meeting.

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

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

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

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

In addition, the Combined Authority supports the victims of sexual violence and abuse through the commissioning of victims' services in West Yorkshire, and this includes child victims of sexual abuse or exploitation, and the families of those impacted by child sexual exploitation.

- The West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership (WYASP) meets quarterly and is chaired by the Deputy Mayor. Modern slavery can include the exploitation of children through County Lines drug dealing, and this topic is regularly reviewed by the partnership, alongside other child safeguarding themes.
- The WY Adversity, Trauma and Resilience (ATR) Strategy Board is supported by the Violence Reduction Partnership. This board has the ambition to 'work together with people with lived experience and colleagues across all sectors and organisations to ensure WY is a trauma informed and responsive system by 2030, and develop a whole system approach to tackling multiple disadvantage'.

Underpinning the vision West Yorkshire ATR want to:

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

Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

- The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to deliver projects to support children and young people. 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))

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.

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.

ATTACHMENT

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

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 \(youtube.com\)](#)

Campaign Launch:

[#JustDont Campaign Launch Event in Leeds \(youtube.com\)](#)

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.
- HM Prison Wealstun is a Category C men's prison, located near the village of Thorp Arch in West Yorkshire, England. 350 prisoners at Wealstun have a West Yorkshire Police risk flag for domestic violence and HM Prison Wealstun have approx. 120 prisoners where domestic violence is their primary offence. Post campaign launch, HMP Wealstun requested to collaborate with the Mayor's office, and understand how they could use this campaign to provoke peer-to-peer conversations, and influence behaviour change within the prison setting.
- Each month HMP Wealstun plan an enrichment activity with learners. The typical format is a discussion about a topic based on the theme of the month, such as Black History, or current affairs topics such as increased use of AI. Last month they used the #justdont campaign to engage with their prisoners to raise awareness of the issues demonstrated in the campaign, and influence behaviour change within the prison setting.

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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ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constable's report – VAWG](#)

Community Outcomes Meeting (COM)

Date: Tuesday 26 November 2024

Present

Tracy Ch. Supt.
Brabin – Russ
Mayor of Hughes,
West West
Yorkshire Yorkshire
Alison Police
Lowe – Mark
Deputy Hibbert,
Mayor for West
Policing Yorkshire
and Crime Police
(DMPC) Ch Supt.
Robert Jon
Forrest – Arrowsuch,
Head of West
Policing Yorkshire
and Crime Police
John ACC
Robins Damien
QPM DL, Miller,
Chief West
Constable, Yorkshire
West Police
Yorkshire
Police

Also present

Sharon Waugh Paige
– Consultation Cowling,
and Consultation
Engagement and
Manager, Engagement
Policing and Officer,
Crime Policing and
Joshua Powling, Crime
Digital Sunny
Communications Williams,
Officer, Policing Policy and
and Crime Casework
Support
Officer,
WYCA

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies.

The Mayor introduced the meeting, welcomed those in attendance and provided an overview of the agenda. Apologies from the Deputy Chief Constable, Catherine Hankinson were noted.

2. Notes of the previous meeting on 17 September 2024 and Matters arising.

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

3. Mayor's Announcements:

- a) **Welcome to our new Head of Policing and Crime** - The DMPC welcomed Robert Forrest who had recently joined the team as Head of Policing and Crime. The DMPC thanked Julie Reid who held the post previously and wished her all the best in her retirement following 22 years of service.
- b) **£1m Safer Communities Fund Grant Round** - Grant Round 7 of the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund (MSCF) had opened for applications on Monday 11 November. This round offered £1m seized from criminals to community groups and organisations to help make West Yorkshire safer. The grant round supported projects and interventions which helped deliver the new draft Police and Crime Plan 2024-28. The DMPC thanked West Yorkshire Police's Economic Crime Unit for their work to recover the money which funded the MSCF.
- c) **Re-commissioning of the Restorative Justice Service** - The DMPC was delighted to announce the recommissioning of the West Yorkshire Restorative Justice Service. This investment would continue to put victims first in order to create a safer, fairer region. Restorative Justice brought those harmed by crime and those responsible into contact with each other, and gave victims an opportunity to be heard, ask questions of offenders and have a say in the resolution. Restorative Solutions CIC had been recommissioned to provide the region-wide programme over the next three years with funding totalling £893,292. The West Yorkshire wide service, which had supported 5,767 people over the past three-and-a-half years, was delivered through the skilled facilitation of trained and experienced individuals including volunteers.
- d) **Police & Crime plan** - Consultation on the Mayor's new Police and Crime Plan 24-28 closed on 31 October. The DMPC thanked everyone who had been involved in the consultation throughout the summer. She was looking forward to sending the draft Plan to the Police and Crime Panel in December when a version would be available to view. The DMPC was happy to say that the priorities that the Mayor outlined in her manifesto pledges had been validated by the feedback from the public.

4. Serious Disorder Harehills – access the full report [HERE](#).

The CC outlined the key points within the report.

The DMPC thanked the CC and recognised that the investigation was ongoing. She pointed out that herself and the Mayor had received positive feedback from the community regarding the overall policing on that night. Key leaders from the community had passed on their appreciation for being listened to and that WYP left the scene at the community's request in order to minimise the risk of harm. Finally, she thanked all the officers involved on the night.

Organisations working within the Harehills community had been invited to submit questions to the Mayor and DMPC to support their conversation with the CC, so had been co-produced. Of note were the comments and questions from young people from the area.

The DMPC asked what steps were being taken to build trust between the police and young people in Harehills, noting that the blanket bail conditions after the Harehills disorder were seen by some young people as punitive rather than supportive.

The CC said that bail conditions were used to either bail someone to court or back to the police station whilst the investigation was ongoing. They could only be used in specific circumstances. He understood how people could perceive the conditions to be blanket as often in periods of disorder restrictions such as curfew or location restrictions were put in place to help people not to get involved in repeat behaviour and the same restrictions were in place against multiple people. He said that individuals did have a right of appeal. In this case, WYP quickly received feedback about their restrictive nature in terms of attendance at work or community groups and these issues were addressed. The CC said in terms of young people, WYP had been involved in Clear, Hold, Build and other initiatives in the area for many years, but accepted they should consider how to increase outreach into the other communities and make a greater effort to go to them.

The DMPC said going forward, should there be instances of disorder where multiple children or young people were being arrested and bailed, that it would be better to consider what questions should be asked of them and their solicitors to ensure they had the correct support in place. She said it would be good to co-produce these conditions with young people as it would save time and build trust.

The DMPC then asked whether WYP felt they were accessible and open to listening to the concerns and ideas of local young people, particularly through the Police Race Action Plan where there was a focus on those who felt over-policed or unfairly targeted, not just in Harehills, but across West Yorkshire.

The CC felt that WYP were doing this currently, however there would always be more listening and engagement that could occur. The CC reiterated that this disorder was around a child family court issue and a community that took out their frustrations on policing, the state and a bus company. To his knowledge there was no basis of people being over-policed or unfairly targeted in this instance. He did appreciate this was the general feeling within young people however, particularly in areas such as Harehills. He said WYP worked closely with community initiatives such as CATCH

and Shine, they also had specific education officers and Gypsy Roma Engagement Officers who worked across Leeds. Following this event they had also brought in Roma heritage police officers from other parts of West Yorkshire to work with young people in and around Harehills. They also accessed and listened to the Harehills Youth Forum. WYP were trying to listen to people and their training e.g., front line officer engagement, Stop and Search, Cultural Awareness all had elements of understanding young people's perception of policing. He noted there were some struggles with engagement due to government cuts, including in Local Authorities and they were increasingly reliant on Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector groups, however Neighbourhood Policing and engagement would remain a commitment to WYP.

The DMPC said that as outlined in the recent Police Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy (PEEL) inspection, that Neighbourhood Policing was something WYP were good at. She agreed that the seat of this disturbance was around the removal of several children, however she felt it was problematic to say that was why the disorder escalated as it did. In her view this had come from a deep seated distrust of policing, not always from West Yorkshire, but from around the world in this case. Building trust and confidence had to be a partnership response, it was great to hear what work WYP were currently doing, but she asked how sustainable it was and how they could work together to ensure that work continued to benefit those communities.

The CC said they received information that some of the Roma community believed that because of the policing requirements in other parts of Eastern Europe that the police could overrule the court order, and this was why the crowd gathered. This was not the case in the UK.

The DMPC accepted this, however said that more than the Roma community became involved very quickly who did not have that perception or lived experience and the reason for this was the tensions that were ongoing between the police and Black and Brown communities for which the Police Race Action Plan had been developed as a direct response. The CC said that the Police Race Action Plan was progressing in West Yorkshire, and they had invested significantly in it which included dedicated staff and their commitment to that would remain.

The DMPC reiterated the importance of engagement with those communities before, during and after the incident for many years to come.

The DMPC said the CC had spoken about a lot of the engagement that was happening, which included officers that had a Roma background, and this was appreciated by the communities and young people that the Mayor and DMPC had spoken to. They asked why it had taken so long to get to this stage.

The CC said this was around their recruitment processes and WYP's attractiveness to people from different areas and heritages. They had been working on a more diverse workforce for many years, however they did not post people based on their heritage, background or ethnicity as this would be contrary to the law. In this case it was a specific tactical operational requirement to move people in. WYP were continually engaging through their people directorate, with specific action plans in

every district to encourage people and their families into policing, however the greatest responsibility was to build trust and confidence in policing to increase its attractiveness as an employer. The diversity of the organisation had significantly increased over the last 5 years; however, it was a long battle. The CC said if any young people would like to get involved or work with the police, they had a Cadet programme and access routes into policing, and he encouraged them to come forward.

The DMPC added that CATCH had an employment pathway into all blue light services which they needed to re-visit to see how they could support that further. She said there may be some links through the apprenticeship programme at WYCA.

The young people also asked about improving visibility, which included in schools to build trust and confidence with young people and the community at large.

The CC referenced Pol-Ed a Police Education Programme which 92% of schools in West Yorkshire had taken up. More structured lesson plans were now being integrated into the programme for officers and PCSOs as they went into schools on topics such as knife crime, violence and safety. The key engagement for schools was through Safer Schools Officers. They also had youth engagement and schools' engagement officers across West Yorkshire. Their primary response was Neighbourhood Policing who were local, accessible officers in communities who would be around the school gates at the appropriate times or engaging in the schools. He said however, it was a difficult, pressured deployment issue and he wished there were more officers to put into this area of work. WYP continued to be committed to it nonetheless. The DMPC agreed that it was also a commitment on behalf of herself and the Mayor.

The DMPC then said that some communities felt they were unfairly targeted and blamed, particularly on social media. She acknowledged this was not a policing matter per se, however generally, hate was perpetrated on social media and they felt racist and discriminatory language was evident. The communities the DMPC spoke to wondered what powers policing had to tackle that and what more could be done proactively, perhaps in partnership with others.

The CC said it was difficult to tackle on the night without the necessary intervention from those social media providers. He said there was, through discrimination, a lot of misinformation shared. Retrospectively, they gathered evidence of malicious communications, hate crimes or other crime types where possible. In terms of the other disturbances across the country, West Yorkshire had some of the earliest and fastest prosecutions on this. They had limited success so far in relation to the Harehills disorder. The CC said Harehills was a vibrant, diverse and proud community and it was usually people from outside of West Yorkshire or even the UK who chose to incite hatred.

The DMPC said there was an opportunity now as the new government said they would review the Online Harms Act and the CC and herself would try to influence that.

The DMPC asked the CC to say more about the communications strategy, what information was shared in the day(s) after the disturbances, especially around the police response, and she asked for any reassurances given to residents of Harehills and the wider West Yorkshire public.

The CC said that on the evening during the incident there was ongoing social media and press releases about the incident. There was also verbal communication by officers on the ground including the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Key Individual Networks, Councillors. In the early hours of Friday 19 July, WYP released a further press release around reassurance to residents of Harehills and an appeal about avoiding speculation. The timing of this was deliberate to hit the morning media. A further update press release was given to hit the afternoon/ evening news, and again in the evening around the arrests made to reassure communities about the speed of the response. This was also an appeal for people to hand themselves in to avoid arrest. On the Saturday they began their first charge notes about arrested and charged individuals going to court for violent disorder. Within less than 48 hours, support was shown for the community via a robust response, and support for the peaceful vigil. During the following week there were further updates on prosecutions. Leeds District Commander also conducted an interview with BBC Radio Leeds one week post incident which covered the community engagement activity that had started and to thank the communities for all they had done. The CC appreciated there was often a feeling of not enough being done, however he felt they had updated regularly and given sufficient updates to the media. WYP did identify that some members of the community were not getting their information from the main stream media, so innovatively local officers worked with Romanian TV networks to identify and challenge misinformation.

The DMPC said herself and the Mayor received some feedback from outside of Harehills that they appeared to see, particularly on social media the police leaving the community of Harehills and not protecting them. We now knew that the police were asked to leave by the people of Harehills. The DMPC asked whether some of the misinformation around this could have been better managed through some more immediate feedback from the police.

The CC agreed that this could have been done in hindsight, however it was a challenge with limited resources available on the night. He said it was a unique set of circumstances because it was clear that the violence was directed towards the state of policing and nothing else so police presence on the night was, in their minds inciting a target. The main focus had to be keeping the people, communities and businesses safe on the night and in the weeks following the disorder.

The DMPC understood that the post-incident learning was a huge piece of work that rightly involved partners as well as WYP. She said however that there were concerns from those she had spoken to that some families felt arrests were heavy-handed/ intimidating or there was no use of translators where there could have been. She asked what steps were being taken to ensure better access to translators and during police interactions with non-English-speaking families, to prevent misunderstandings and uphold fairness.

The CC asked the DMPC's office to seek more detail around this so that WYP could have a deeper understanding of the incident in question. He said it was clearly laid out in legislation that whenever a person was interviewed or taken through custody processes, they would always have access to an interpreter and to their knowledge there had been no issues with that. There was some pressure post-incident around a shortage of people with certain language skills, however they had worked around this. WYP had also opened up a police station to allow families to bring in young people who were wanted for questioning voluntarily. He also confirmed that an appropriate adult was used in all necessary cases. The CC said challenges came when officers were engaging on the street, but they still had 24-hour access through mobile devices to live interpreters. One of the early operational challenges identified was that in the initial stages of the disorder there were very few people that could speak English, so the officers trying to communicate were struggling to get their points across.

The DMPC agreed to go back to the source of those questions to identify the specific issues raised and said they would be able to verify or disprove through body-worn video any claims around translators or appropriate adults not being used where they should have been.

In conclusion, the CC paid tribute to the front-line officers and staff and to the community members of Harehills who came to help dissipate and disperse the disorder. He also commended the initial officers for their resilience, fortitude and patience and the bravery of the subsequent officers who attended to deal with the disorder. The CC also acknowledged the difficult decisions of the supervisors on the streets and the Command Team, and he felt their decisions deescalated what could have been an even more significant incident.

The Mayor agreed that the Key Individual Networks in Harehills through Clear, Hold and Build paid off. She wanted to thank the people of Harehills who took the time to tell her and the DMPC what they would like to ask WYP as they represented the public in holding WYP to account and there was always learning to be done. She also thanked WYP officers who attended incidents across the country where needed.

Actions:

- a) **WYP to co-produce bail conditions and support needs with young people in the future to build trust and confidence and prevent issues such as not being able to attend community groups or work.**
- b) **WYCA to re-visit CATCH's employment pathway into blue light services to see how they could support it further, e.g., through the apprenticeship programme.**
- c) **WYCA to gather more detail around the incident that led the community/individual to believe that translators were not used where needed on the evening.**

5. Dangerous Dogs – Exception Report - to access the full report [HERE](#).

The DMPC began by asking for more information about the increase in dogs humanely euthanised in 2024 compared to previous years.

Ch Supt. Arrowsuch said this was a direct result of the XL Bully legislation that was introduced and an increase in reports to WYP and therefore the number of dogs that were required to be processed.

The DMPC said this alarming increase had been seen across the other metropolitan areas also and said there may be some conversations around the costs at a national level. She then asked what the key challenges around this area of work were in 2025 and how would WYP look to meet those challenges.

Ch Supt. Arrowsuch said there were 3 key challenges, the first being the limited number of dog legislation officers. WYP had previously operated with 2 such officers which had been sufficient to process the volumes required in West Yorkshire. WYP had to increase this to 5 to get through just the initial demand by seconding officers from other areas of operational policing, they would continue to monitor this demand. There was also limited kennel space. There was a national shortage, however other forces had suffered here more acutely than West Yorkshire as we had a facility that allowed the housing of a significant number of banned breeds. They had plans to ensure that WYP had access to sufficient kennel capacity, and they were consistently monitoring the animals in and out. The third challenge was the Criminal Justice System. In many areas in the UK there had been specific courts held to process the dangerous dogs seized under the XL Bully legislation, this had not yet been the case in West Yorkshire, however they were hopeful that it would take place going forward. It was currently taking 18-24 months to have a case heard in West Yorkshire and during that time WYP had to house the animals which caused a backlog on the streets. The DMPC added that WYP bared the cost of housing the animals during this time and there was no facility to re-charge the dog owner. This was something that the Mayor and DMPC would raise with government as clearly the system was broken.

The DMPC noted a Contingent Destruction Order (CDO) meant the dog was returned to the owner, but they must comply with certain conditions e.g. ensure the dog was always muzzled/on a lead when in public and kept in a secure garden. She asked who ensured the CDO was upheld and what percentage of cases were re-investigated for non-compliance.

Ch Supt. Arrowsuch said WYP were responsible for investigating breaches of the orders, however they were intelligence led and relied largely on reports from members of the public. He said those that had these orders were generally more responsible dog owners as they were the ones that had come forward to the authorities and informed WYP that they owned one of the animals and asked for the order to be put in place so they could keep the animal. He added that it was 1-2% of CDOs were re-investigated for non-compliance.

The DMPC said that one of the reasons that WYP bought a facility was to manage their costs and to income generate. The new legislation had flooded all facilities but she asked whether the vision of an income generator was still live and whether we had begun to offer out kennel spaces to other forces at a cost.

Ch Supt. Arrowsuch said this was still in train, surrounding forces were stood by to utilise the facility, however at the moment the capacity was extremely limited. They were renting kennel space to South Yorkshire, averaging £7.6k per month, however as the number of West Yorkshire animals which needed to be housed increased, the income generation had decreased. They were hopeful however, that as the increase with the new legislation settled, they would be able to increase that income generation again.

The CC said this would have been a great self-generating facility had it not been for the changes in legislation. He welcomed the Mayor's support with criminal justice partners to put on some specific courts to work through the initial backlog. The DMPC said in her role as Chair of the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) she would pick this up and also raise it with the Home Secretary.

The CC reiterated that they originally had 2 dog legislation officers who were needed to identify that a dog was a banned breed and they had to increase this to 5 which was putting pressure on the organisation.

Action:

DMPC in her role as Chair of the LCJB to pick up holding specific courts to process dangerous dog cases. DMPC to also raise this with the Home Secretary.

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

The DMPC said report stated that the number of hate crimes recorded in the 12 months to August 2024 had increased by 1.5% from the previous 12 months, and that the recent increases in 2024 were predominantly due to the sharp increase in reporting of anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic incidents alongside the decrease in reports from other strands. She asked how this had impacted victim satisfaction especially from those reporting anti-muslim/anti-semitic incidents.

ACC Miller said in terms of victim satisfaction they could not currently break this down to identify whether it had been in relation to an anti-muslim/anti-semitic hate crime. He said that overall their Hate Crime satisfaction had fallen by 4.6%. They had however seen increased in 'ease of contact' by 6.1%, 'being kept informed of progress once the report had been made' by 7.6% and 'treatment' by 4.9%. They had identified difficulties with dealing with reports over the phone and had seen a decrease in satisfaction of 8.6%. They had undertaken work on their victim satisfaction action plan, in particular with their remote resolution teams. They now had software which allowed a live time video call with the victim and this was having a positive impact on satisfaction. The DMPC added that the pilot that was rolled out in Wakefield saw an approx. 7% increase over 6 months and she was hopeful that this would be a game changer and had reported it to the Home Office as such.

The DMPC noted that regarding Faith related incidents there had been a 47.9% increase in incidents recorded against Islamic/Muslim. Incidents relating to the Jewish faith have seen a 186.3% increase from the previous rate 12 months ago. She asked for more information about the nature of the main categories of incidents e.g., public order, stalking and harassment and how WYP were tackling the increase.

ACC Miller said in terms of the increase in anti-Jewish crimes recorded, the main two areas were public order offences and stalking and harassment. The same top two crimes were also recorded in relation to anti-Muslim. In terms of tackling this, they had dedicated officers to review all hate crimes daily to ensure that the corresponding investigation is at the correct level. These reports were fed into the NPTs to help ensure continued engagement and encourage hate crime reporting.

The DMPC added that herself and the Mayor had met many members from both the Muslim and Jewish communities and trust and confidence in policing and the processes had been issues that were raised with them but generally speaking they had positive experiences. That being said, areas such as evidential difficulties was an issue in 34% of finalised cases. She asked for some explanation around what was meant by evidential difficulties in relation to faith related incidents.

ACC Miller said the 34% could be broken down; in 0.4% of public order offences, no suspect was identified either by the victim or through enquiries, in 16.1% of cases the victim declined to prosecute and in 23.7% of cases a suspect was identified, however either due to a lack of evidence or an unrealistic prospect of prosecution, the investigation was discontinued.

They had been working to increase the number of offences brought to justice by working on a word on word pilot, where if the suspect had previous convictions this was also being passed to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) which had seen an increase in convictions.

The CC added that the figures for evidential difficulty did not mean the officer had done a bad job, just that they had gathered all the available evidence and it was sometimes insufficient as far as the prosecutors were concerned.

The DMPC then asked why the repeat victim rates had dropped across the board.

ACC Miller said there was some good work undertaken by officers across the board, which included Hate Crime Coordinators who proactively supported victims of Hate Crime and referred them to partner agencies where required. They also had the previously mentioned word on word pilot, the continuous improvement teams who continually reviewed Hate Crime reports and they had undertaken work to upskill their supervisors and staff around investigation standards. The Hate Crime Coordinators also monitored for any out of court disposal opportunities.

The DMPC said they had achieved the Mayor's Pledge to bring in 750 additional officers and staff and as a result of that WYP had doubled the number of Hate Crime Coordinators they had.

Finally, the DMPC asked in addition to the ongoing work mentioned in the report, what opportunities WYP saw in the future to promote the positive work they were doing to tackle hate crime.

ACC Miller said they had their Community Alert engagement tracker that had been a pilot and would be rolled out in January 2025. They also publicised positive work through Scrutiny Panels, Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and NPTs attendance at engagement events. They also had district tactical plans which were refreshed frequently in terms of how they fed out information locally. He welcomed any support to reach further into communities.

The DMPC added that the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund was a great opportunity for grassroots organisations to bid for money to support the reporting of Hate Crime. Over £400k of monies from the fund had already been spent on tackling this area of work.

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

The DMPC highlighted that Neighbourhood Policing Teams' staffing, police officers and police staff (actuals), remained lower than the budgeted position. She asked whether this position would improve.

ACC Miller said the position had improved since the last report. In June 2024 there were 57 Police Officer vacancies and 43.5 for PCSOs.

The latest paper stated 25 vacancies for Police Officers and 44 for PCSOs so they were headed in the right direction. The Force planned to recruit over 800 Officers over the next two financial years and 96 were already in their initial training. They were still on track to meet their full budgeted numbers by early next year.

The DMPC then noted West Yorkshire Police received the Herman Goldstein award regarding Operation Vulcan, she asked ACC Miller to elaborate on the model and its implementation.

ACC Miller confirmed it was Greater Manchester Police (GMP) that received this award, not West Yorkshire, however they looked at best practice and they implemented a similar practice named Operation Orion. The operation was a partnership approach and looked at addressing key ASB issues within Calderdale. It began in July had yielded some great results so far. The operation was being evaluated and they would look to roll it out into other areas in the new year.

The DMPC asked why ASB numbers appeared to be rising, she asked whether this was an increase in reporting or an increase in actuals.

ACC Miller said it was likely both of those things, when broken down, the largest increase was in relation to nuisance motorcycle and quad bikes which was unsurprising as they had focussed on it and publicised it in order to encourage reporting. The DMPC added that this correlated with the concerns she had heard

from the public and she particularly highlighted the work that officers were doing in Leeds to reduce this type of ASB.

The DMPC was pleased to see decreases in youth related ASB across West Yorkshire, however noted the increase in Wakefield, she asked for WYP's understanding of this.

ACC Miller said this was a 3.9% increase, they had a specific issue within Castleford which related to two individuals who had been moved into the area but had since been moved out. 21Operation Masville was launched to tackle ASB and crime in the Castleford locality, so they had a dedicated deterrent car to target youth ASB. They also had issues at Wakefield and Pontefract bus stations in relation to Youth ASB, however issues had also improved in this area as staffing levels had returned to normal. They had also looked at problem solving plans in relation to shopping complexes in the area. The DMPC added that the Safer Travel PCSOs funded by the Mayor had reduced ASB on buses by 11%.

The DMPC asked what we could say to members of the public who experienced repeat ASB year on year and felt the Police were not tackling the long-term issues.

ACC Miller said tackling ASB remained a priority for the Force and they had invested in ASB teams and NPTs. This had resulted in determination to use extensive powers and they looked at the wide use of powers they had to make neighbourhoods safer. The recent HMICFRS PEEL report and ASB Spotlight Report also captured the good work they were doing around injunctions to take e.g., bikes away.

ASB reports were reviewed every day along with other crime reports that could be masked as ASB to ensure people were not repeat victims and if this was the case the Force were getting back in contact with them to ensure their approach was to the highest standard it could be. They also had the ASB case review which allowed members of the public who had been victims of ASB on at least 3 occasions in 6 months they could raise this with WYP for review. He encouraged members of the public to report ASB so they could tackle it.

The DMPC was pleased WYP worked in partnership with housing associations and Registered Social Landlords as this was sometimes key to achieving positive outcomes. She said ASB was a partnership problem facing all agencies, but particularly housing providers. She asked how the Mayor and herself could support the relationship between housing associations and WYP.

ACC Miller said they had an effective partnership across the 5 districts with housing providers, however the issues were around private housing providers and landlords. He said they needed to be brought together into a group to ensure they were aware of the powers they could use although he understood this had financial implications on them. ACC Miller said he was happy to facilitate a quarterly meeting. The DMPC said she had seen the positive work WYP were doing with private housing providers in Halifax. She would consider how best to work with Local Authority Partners to

coordinate those private sector spaces to talk about responsibilities of private landlords.

Action:

DMPC to consider how best to work with Local Authority Partners to coordinate those private sector spaces to talk about responsibilities of private landlords.

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

The DMPC was pleased to see the value that West Yorkshire Police was putting on Scrutiny Panels, including the implementation of a Youth Panel. She asked for more detail about the number of cases reviewed by the panels, the feedback received by WYP and how they shared their findings to increase reassurance.

ACC Miller said between Jan-June 24 there had been 74 cases that had been reviewed by WYP scrutiny panels. In terms of feedback, they had an online portal so at the end of each cycle of reviews, the information was assessed by local policing to capture organisational learning. This learning was shared internally with the relevant teams, which included those who delivered training. Local policing also collated any findings, feedback or actions within a newsletter that was published. They planned to begin sharing this on their Community Alert forum. He said that 74 cases was not many so they would like to increase the size and scale of their scrutiny groups and this had been advertised through Community Alert. The DMPC said she had attended a scrutiny panel, and they had been very challenging to the police which was good to see.

The DMPC thanked WYP for the breakdown of EIP (exposure of intimate parts) searches of children. The fact that numbers were low and that in all cases, Public Protection Notices were sent to the local authority showed these searches were only conducted rarely. She did however note on the data that almost a third of children stopped and searched were non-white so the disproportionality was concerning. In terms of EIP searches, 3 of the 4 children were from Black and Asian backgrounds and only one of them gave a positive outcome. It was important for the public to recognise that these trends were not going unnoticed.

ACC Miller said that disclosing the data was part of the transparency so that an open discussion could be had. The Force had delivered training on stop and search and they had developed a new iLearn for officers which needed to be renewed annually. They also had Officer Safety Training which was a 2-day course and included role plays on stop and search. The QR code for feedback on stop and searches was also active. The Force were working on driving the disproportionality down.

The DMPC said the find rate was still relatively low at around 30% which meant a 70% negative outcome rate. She highlighted that the chance of losing trust and confidence in those communities was high as you were 2.8 times more likely to be stopped and searched if you were Black. She asked how WYP were improving the intelligence around who they were stopping and searching.

ACC Miller said they had focussed on the hotspots that they needed to police, particularly through Operation Jemlock. They encouraged communities to report as improved intelligence allowed WYP to ensure they were stop and searching in the correct circumstances. They also had the process around the scrutinising of stop and searches. As well as scrutiny panels, they also had supervisory panels in place and body work video was key to this to ensure the grounds for the search and conduct of the officer were correct. The DMPC added that every stop and search of someone from a Black and Minority Ethnic background was overseen by a supervisor.

The DMPC asked in relation to EIP searches of children, whether WYP had included searches after arrest (Sec 32 PACE or Section 54 PACE) that took place in police custody.

ACC Miller confirmed they were not included in this report as it fell outside of the stop and search legislation and so would be picked up under custody. The DMPC asked for this information to be provided.

The DMPC said it was good to see increasing use of the QR code on search records, she asked what proportion of records currently resulted in feedback to the force through the QR code.

ACC Miller said between January and June 24 they had 53 hits in terms of individuals scanning the QR code to access the site. 31 individuals had gone on to complete the survey. WYP continued to raise awareness of the QR code, which included officers training. The feedback results from the completed surveys were positive.

The DMPC asked whether given the number of stop and searches in the last 6 months (9,480) versus the number of complaints (9) WYP were concerned about the lack of confidence in reporting complaints compared to public feedback on this issue.

ACC Miller said there was always room for improvement, it was pleasing to see that very few complaints were upheld as a result of body worn video reviewing. The QR code also now covered complaints, and their website had been updated. There were lots of mechanisms in place, but it was important that members of the public knew how to complain if they wanted to. The DMPC noted that 2 of the complaints were ongoing and she would like to know the outcome of those.

The DMPC was concerned that more and more people were being handcuffed whilst stop and searched. She asked what WYP were doing to ensure that this was not happening when it did not need to happen in line with our values in West Yorkshire.

ACC Miller said there was a section of officers' annual training that clearly outlined when handcuffing could be used during a stop and search. Stop and searches with handcuffs were dip sampled to ensure that use of them was justified. Use of force forms had also been updated to include handcuffing stop and searches and they were about to set up a Use of Force Board where this would be monitored. The CC added that the use of handcuffing during stop and searches was decreasing in West Yorkshire.

The DMPC noted that Greater Manchester Police had ended 'welfare' EIP searches of people in custody. She asked whether this was something West Yorkshire had considered doing and whether they could liaise with GMP to understand the benefits or otherwise, of doing so.

ACC Miller said this sat outside of stop and search as it related to custody, however West Yorkshire had a different approach to GMP in that where possible, detainees would be placed under constant supervision instead of undergoing an EIP search. The CC added that in West Yorkshire 'welfare' EIP searches in custody did not happen and were only conducted if there was a harm to the detainee or suspected illegal articles.

Action:

WYP to provide data for EIP searches of children after arrest that took place in police custody.

9. Safeguarding Adults – access to the full report [HERE](#).

The report stated that there were occasions when there were no spaces available in secure accommodation to safely accommodate people who experienced a mental health crisis and needed to be moved to a place of safety. The DMPC asked how often the demand for secure accommodation exceeded the number of spaces available in West Yorkshire districts.

ACC Miller said he was unable to provide specific data currently as health did not retain the data. WYP had updated their handheld devices so they could capture the data, however officers did not record this to a good standard so there was a gap they were working on improving. The data did show that over the last 12 months, 28% of s136 detentions had been taken to A&E, he could not tell from the data whether this was a genuine reason that needed A&E attention or whether it was because there was no space available elsewhere. He said they did work in partnership, however there were data gaps on both sides which they were working to address. The DMPC said once they had the data, they could push the conversations through the Integrated Care Board (ICB). The CC said they would welcome this as he understood that each mental health facility was licensed to have a certain number of people in it. When the facility reached capacity, they closed the doors, leaving the person in mental health crisis outside with the police officer and he was not sure this was the best place for them, and they would be much better inside.

The report mentioned that Digital Policing were currently developing an App designed to improve referrals to support agencies for vulnerable adults who did not meet the threshold for an 'Adult at Risk'. She asked WYP to explain how they currently decided whether a case met the 'at risk' threshold, and who was being engaged with during the consultation phase of the App project.

ACC Miller said they currently used the Care Act 2014 which included a clear definition, however, had quite a high threshold. They were therefore looking at those

below that threshold and how WYP could help and support them. The App would allow these individuals to be referred to appropriate agencies.

To date, conversations had been internal as they had been discussing with the digital team how best to build the App. They would then have wider district conversations with partners as the set up in each Local Authority area was different so they needed a mechanism that would work for them all. The DMPC offered her support in identifying any suitable people or organisations within districts to consult with.

Page 7 of the report described how there was an increase in recorded cases of stalking. The DMPC asked for more information about how a case was escalated to an application for a Stalking Protection Order, and how long that application usually took before an order was issued.

ACC Miller said it may be identified by an officer that an Order may or may not be needed, and they also had their Stalking Coordination Unit who would review the crime and if they felt an Order was necessary, they would make contact with the officer in charge. The officer would then refer to legal services, if legal agreed that an order was suitable, an application process then needed to take place. A detailed statement was required which was a lengthy process as once this was obtained, legal would prepare the case and present the application in court. The mean average time taken from start to application was 103 days, which ACC Miller said was too long. To shorten this process, they had key meetings between Safeguarding Governance and Legal Services to look at how to shorten the time for initial legal advice and this had reduced significantly over recent months to within a month.

They were also working on the other delay in relation to officers completing the statement and extra staff within the stalking unit was being considered, although this would mean them being taken from other areas. The DMPC said that Sussex Police had success in this area and asked if WYP had looked at what they were doing, she also wondered whether the threshold for gaining an SPO was too high, and they would have conversations with Shabana Mahmood's office regarding this. ACC Miller agreed that the current legal framework was not an easy process, but they had to operate within that. They also needed to ensure that once they got to court they were successful with the case.

The CC reminded that the primary objective was always prosecution, court orders and rehabilitation. It was only where that did not happen that a Stalking Protection Order was considered and not as an alternative.

WYP had recently produced a video on Cuckooing to help raise residents' awareness of this exploitation of vulnerable people in their own homes. The DMPC asked WYP to explain the extent of cuckooing in West Yorkshire, and how WYP worked with partners to address it.

ACC Miller said they currently recorded the numbers of addresses, victims and offenders linked to cuckooing either via intelligence or crime records. As of October 24 they had 72 victims, 13 offenders and 46 addresses identified across West

Yorkshire. With partners they built a response to the criminal exploitation of vulnerable people in their own home, this was called Operation Cuckoo. The Operation was designed to increase the knowledge of the police, partners and public to recognise indicators, and risk factors and also educate those vulnerable on the risks and preventative measures that could be taken. The Operation also worked to safeguard those who were already victims and crucially to increase the number of offenders prosecuted. They had built a toolkit to assist themselves and partners to achieve this.

A Specialist Sexual Violence Service (SSVS) pilot project was currently being run at Leeds Crown Court. Finally, the DMPC asked for more information about WYP's involvement in this project, and what outcomes were expected for police staff as well as the victims of sexual assault.

ACC Miller said this was a Ministry of Justice led pilot to enhance victim experience in Rape and Serious Sexual Assault (RASSO) cases at court. Leeds was chosen as a pilot area as it had one of the longest back logs of RASSO cases nationally. There were 4 areas to the pilot; trauma informed training to those that worked within the Crown Court setting, enhanced use of evidence provisions, a dedicated victim coordinator role and to offer victims remote access to sensitive hearings. The key point for policing was the enhanced trauma training and 32 officers and staff had attended the training during the pilot but they had since secured extra places which would result in 80 officers and staff being trained.

Actions:

- a) **WYCA to consider how the issue around mental health facilities at capacity could be best addressed through the ICB.**
- b) **WYP to provide data on how many individuals in mental health crisis are taken to A&E when available.**
- c) **WYCA to support in identifying suitable people/organisations for WYP to consult with on their referral app.**
- d) **WYP to reach out to Sussex Police to look at best practice in terms of Stalking Protection Orders**

10. Draft calendar of meetings/Future Agenda items – access to the calendar [HERE](#).

The draft calendar of meetings was agreed.

11. Any Other Business

None

12. Next Meeting

Tuesday 28 January 2025, 1430 - 1630