



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Draft Minutes

9th March 2018 Wakefield Town Hall

PRESENT:	Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Tariq Hussain	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Steve Pullen	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Geraldine Carter	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Steve Sweeney	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Linda Wilkinson	- Kirklees Council
	Councillor Mumtaz Hussain	- Kirklees Council
	Councillor Josie Jarosz	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Alan Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Steve Tulley	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Mr Roger Grasby	- Independent
	Mrs Jo Sykes	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Sharon Fraser	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Stuart Sansome	- South Yorkshire PCP

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Andrew Mallinson (Bradford) and Councillor Amanda Carter (Leeds).

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd February 2018

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record with the exception of a change at 7.4 to read 'The Chief Constable' rather than 'Chief Inspector'

2.2 Matters Arising

- 2.3 Item 6 – Panel Response to Precept Proposal

- 2.4 It was noted that the PCC has now formally responded to the Panel's precept report and this has been circulated to Panel members.

3. To note any items which the Chair has agreed to add to the agenda on the grounds of urgency.

3.1 The Chair confirmed that there were no items to add to the agenda.

4. Members' Declaration of Interests

4.1 There were no declarations of interest made.

Mark Burns-Williamson the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 5 to 14, along with DCC John Robins and Jayne Sykes OPCC Interim Chief Executive.

5. Delivery Quarterly

5.1 The PCC reported on the latest performance data and the work undertaken to deliver the Police and Crime Plan outcomes in the twelve month period up to December 2017.

5.2 The PCC reported that whilst total crime is shown to have increased by 13% during the quarter, this is now below the national average and reflect the early work that West Yorkshire Police have done on improving crime recording.

5.3 The PCC reported that cyber enabled crime has increased significantly – whilst some of this is due to recording practices, it is clear that there is an incremental increase. The PCC stated that this is a priority and the force are recruiting a number of specialist people into the area of cyber-crime.

5.4 Panel expressed concern that victim satisfaction continues to fall and asked the PCC what strategies are being put in place to improve this.

5.5 The PCC reported that he is looking at this with the PCC at COM meetings.

5.6 The Deputy Chief Constable reported that work has been undertaken to look at the reasons for the fall in victim satisfaction and a key part of this appears to be about victims not being kept fully informed about progress. He stated that there is an action plan in place to deal with this but the pressure of workload remains a key issue.

5.7 It was also reported that the role of the FCMU is being reviewed with a view to improving the victim experience. An action plan is being implemented incrementally to help measure what works well for improving satisfaction levels.

5.8 It was noted that there have been some slight reductions in the re-offending cohort in this quarter from an average of 3.1 offences per year to 2.7 in the year that the cohort has been established. The PCC stated that he is confident that this data accurately reflects the trend around re-offending.

5.9 The PCC was asked about whether the changes to the penalties for the use of driving with a mobile phone had made any impact on convictions in West Yorkshire. The PCC stated that there is anecdotal evidence that the message is getting through. The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed that there had been an increase in fixed penalty notices and would bring back statistics around enforcement and prevention.

6. Regional Collaboration – PCC Update

6.1 The PCC provided Panel with an overview of arrangements that are in place for collaborative working and how these have developed since the Police Authority days.

6.2 Collaboration has now extended to include 7 policing areas across Yorkshire, the Humber and North East on a programme of collaboration now known as NETIC (North East Transformation, Innovation and Collaboration).

6.3 The PCC also reported on other collaborations including the N8 Policing Research Partnership with other forces and universities and collaboration with health providers to deliver the Sexual Offences referral Clinics (SARCs).

6.4 West Yorkshire are the lead force for Odyssey, the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) and Regional Scientific support Services (RSSS) as well as the Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU).

6.5 Panel welcomed the movement across areas of collaboration and also the increase from four to seven forces.

6.6 Panel questioned the PCC about the ambition in terms of efficiency savings.

6.7 The PCC responded by stating that the collaboration produces both financial and efficiency savings. The financial savings on the RSSS collaboration alone amount to £ millions. The value of financial and efficiency savings is however, dependent upon the individual PCC or CC of the individual forces being progressive and this can limit West Yorkshire's ambition.

6.8 The PCC agreed to provide the Panel with details of what efficiencies NETIC aims to achieve along with other clear examples where financial savings are being realised.

6.9 Panel members referred to a historic consultancy report commissioned by the Police Authority looking at potential efficiencies from regional collaboration and it was suggested that this is looked at again. The PCC stated that the landscape has changed significantly since that report was done.

6.10 Panel asked if opportunities were being explored to secure additional funds from the national Police Transformation Fund to pursue other collaborative approaches. It was noted that there are plans in place to do this. The PCC on behalf of the 7 areas has already secured funding of £140k to progress the NETIC programme of collaboration. This is much smaller than the original bid that was submitted and there is an expectation that the forces will be required to invest from existing budgets.

6.10 RESOLVED

6.10.1 The PCC agreed to provide the Panel with details of what efficiencies NETIC aims to achieve along with other clear examples where financial savings are being realised.

6.10.2 That the PCC revisit the historic consultancy report commissioned by the Police Authority looking at potential efficiencies from regional collaboration.

7. Pre-charge Bail Update

7.1 The PCC provided an update on the current position regarding the numbers of people on pre-charge bail within West Yorkshire and the 'released under investigation' RUI category.

7.2 The Deputy CC explained the risk and difficulties this reduction of people on pre-charge bail has. It is important to ensure that West Yorkshire complies with the legislation but also need to ensure that they are not opening up Criminal Justice to these risks.

7.3 There are still a number of people who are on police bail for a significant length of time. There are some complex lengthy investigations and many of the cases sit with the CPS.

7.4 Panel noted that RUI is not a declarable status and therefore the impact is not as great on an individual.

7.5 It was noted that further work needs to be done to understand the implications of the significant reductions in people on pre-charge bail. This will continue to be monitored and analysed going forward and will be considered as part of the Post Implementation Review.

7.6 It was agreed to report back to Panel on these issues following the Post Implementation Review.

7.7 RESOLVED

7.7.1 That the PCC reports back addressing the issues raised following the Post Implementation Review.

8. Out of Court Disposal Update

8.1 The Panel received an update on the latest information on the use of Out of Court Disposals (OoCD) with figures covering the three month period from September to November of last year.

8.2 It was noted that the use of OoCDs has decreased and this is a trend that is mirrored nationally. Panel were keen to understand the reasons behind the reduction in the use of OoCDs and what the impact of them has been on West Yorkshire's re-offending rates. Panel did not feel that the report provided any understanding of how the pilot has worked or what the learning has been.

8.3 The PCC acknowledged that there is a need to unpick the information and understand the implications and the most effective preventative measures. It was also agreed to specifically look at the impact on young people and women.

8.4 RESOLVED

8.4.1 That the PCC reports back to Panel following the further work which is to be done to understand the implications of OoCDs and their effectiveness.

9. Abuse of Position – Update following HMIC correspondence

9.1 Panel noted the PCC's response to the HMIC outlining intentions and progress on this back in November 2017 and the report which provides detail on how this has been taken forward. Interventions include significant training of staff, revised Whistleblowing policy and mechanisms for reporting, external engagement with partners and dissemination of information to vulnerable communities.

9.2 It was noted that progress will be monitored and reported as part of the 2018 HMICFRS inspection programme.

10. Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Police and Crime Plan Priority Focus (including response to HMIC)

10.1 The PCC reported on the key priority of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. He stated that he has taken a real personal interest in this area of work.

10.2 Panel noted that there has been a significant amount of training to frontline police Officers and staff in other agencies as well as a campaign to raise awareness and to highlight what signs to look out for.

10.3 It was noted that there is a big challenge around Eastern European victims and also UK victims is also becoming more prevalent.

10.4 The PCC stated that he believes that the high figures in West Yorkshire are as a result of the proactive approach that is being taken in West Yorkshire. HMIC have recognised West Yorkshire's good practice on this and this was mentioned in a recent national report. West Yorkshire has played its part in securing national Transformation Funding to be used to assess the threat of modern slavery crime and improve response.

10.5 The PCC noted that Panel shares the PCC's outrage about this type of crime and recognises and welcomes the PCC's personal input.

10.6 In terms of going forward and receiving updates, Panel felt that it would be helpful to have a bit more data to show the full picture, including information on the numbers of prosecutions, the ethnic background of those responsible and the different types of work that victims are involved in.

11. Published Key Decisions

11.1 Panel noted the decisions that have been published on the Commissioner's website since the last meeting

12. Commissioner's Response to any Current Issues

12.1 Neighbourhood Policing Review Implementation

It was noted that the implementation of the new Neighbourhood Policing would begin to be implemented later in the month. The PCC has been attending events in districts to inform and promote the new ways of working. The PCC has asked for Panel members and key stakeholders to be made of these events.

12.2 Police Incident in Bradford

The PCC was asked about a recent incident filmed in Bradford that had been reported in the Telegraph and Argos. It was noted that this had been referred to the PSD and an investigation is ongoing.

12.3 Implications of the Closure of the M62

The PCC and the force were thanked for sorting out recent issues in Calderdale resulting from the closure of the M62 due to the heavy snowfall. The PCC was asked if a meeting of relevant stakeholders could be arranged to ensure that robust plans are in place for such events in the future.

12.4 The PCC agreed to look at convening a meeting of relevant stakeholders for this purpose.

12.5 RESOVED

12.5.1 That the PCC look at convening a meeting of relevant stakeholder to ensure robust plans are in place for the knock-on effects of motorway closures affecting West Yorkshire.

13. Agreed Actions Log

13.1 There were no outstanding actions of concern.

14. Forward Agenda Plan

14.1 The Forward agenda plan was noted. It was agreed to include an update on the implementation of the new Neighbourhood Policing arrangements.

15. Complaints Received by the Panel

15.1 Panel noted the complaints update. It was further reported that the complainant referred to in the report had now requested that the full Panel review the Complaints Sub-Panel decision. This review will take place at the Panel's next meeting on 20th April 2018.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 There was no other business raised.

17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

17.1 The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be held at 10.00am on Friday, 20th April in The Kingswood Suite, Wakefield Town Hall.