West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-24

Highlights and summary from the #TellTracy consultation on policing, crime, and community safety priorities within West Yorkshire

The Voice of West Yorkshire

West Yorkshire: Safe. Just. Inclusive.



Our consultation and engagement - analysis so far

Our objectives:

- Ensure everyone can share their views on what should be included in the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.
- Raise awareness of the Mayors/Deputy Mayor work on policing, crime, and community Safety.
- Support understanding on the Mayors pledges and draft priorities/themes.
- Ensure the voice of women and girls is heard.
- Ensure victims of crime and those harmed by crime are heard.
- Ensure all our engagement is fully inclusive.

Overall summary:

- Public Survey 2,433 responses Headlines attached
- Face-to-face engagement spoken to nearly 950 people face to face
- Partner consultation response over 40 responses received
- Phone calls, emails and casework Analysis to be completed
- Call for evidence for women and girls key highlights have been completed
- Social Media/Facebook/Tik tok comments
- Easy read responses awaited and still to be analysed

Police & Crime Plan – Public Consultation

Who responded to the survey?

- The online consultation attracted a good representation of responses from across West Yorkshire. The greatest share (37%) came from Leeds residents, and the smallest from Calderdale (9%). Broadly speaking, the volume of responses from individual districts reflected that district's share of the total population of West Yorkshire. The only deviation from this pattern is that Leeds has a slightly greater share of responses, and Bradford a slightly smaller share (21% of total responses).
- 50% of respondents described themselves as female, with 44% male. 6% said they were from a non-binary gender group or preferred to withhold this information.
- Almost three-quarters of respondents were over the age of 45, with the 55-64 yrs group the largest single group represented in the survey (24% of total respondents). In total, 9.5% were aged 16-34.
- This bias in favour of older respondents is consistent with the pattern we generally see in our public consultations, such as the Your Views opinion survey.
- 7% of respondents to the survey described themselves as belonging to a black or minority ethnic group, with people of Asian background the largest non-white group at 3%. 87% of respondents described themselves as White, with 6% of respondents withholding information about their ethnicity.
- Roughly 4% of White respondents described belonging to a group other than 'White British' this included Irish and European nationalities.
- Although the proportion of respondents from minority groups in this consultation is below that of the true proportion present in West Yorkshire, this survey's results represent an improved picture on that on our usual Your Views survey, where the share of White respondents has in the past comprised over 90% of all respondents.
- Efforts to boost the share of responses in this consultation from minority ethnic groups included translating the survey into five different languages and promotion of the consultation through our West Yorkshire-wide network of community groups.
- Finally, 27% of our respondent to the consultation described themselves as disabled.

Recognising the gaps in the engagement with the online survey especially from young people and those from Black and Minority ethnic backgrounds, where possible we targeted our faceto-face engagement to reduce the shortfall. This included:

- Engagement with specialist interest groups
- Working with our Community Safety Partnerships and their local partners to identify district-based local level groups
- An additional survey undertaken in person by young people for young people across Bradford district

- Additional youth focus groups
- Specific Youth Engagement event hosted by our Youth Advisory group

Headlines

Priority 1: Supporting victims and witnesses

- 63.8% of respondents described this priority as 'Very Important' to them (in total 93.1% said it was 'Important' or 'Very Important').
- Three 'areas of focus' topics stood out for respondents in the section of the questionnaire which asked which were peoples' top 3 priorities within the supporting victims and witnesses topic, all linked to building confidence in the CJS:



Priority 2: Keeping people safe and building resilience

- 76.5% of respondents described this priority as 'Very Important' to them (in total 96.6% said it was 'Important' or 'Very Important').
- Looking at the 'areas of focus' topics, the strongest backing for a single topic in the survey so far has been awarded to tackling CSEA. Rape and sexual offences also were identified as a priority for 68% of respondents. Both of these issues were clearly more of a concern than the other options we presented, none of which achieved more than 50% of the response.



Priority 3: Safer places and thriving communities

68.7% of respondents described this priority as 'Very Important' to them (in total 95.0% said it was 'Important' or 'Very Important')



- Three area of focus topic stand out in the provisional results for the Safer Places priority;
 i. Neighbourhood crime
 - i. Neighbourhoodii. Roads safety
 - iii. Serious violence.

The serious violence result (we described it as the use of weapons or gang violence) is noteworthy, as it would not normally receive this level of prominence in our Your Views survey results.

Priority 4: Responding to multiple & complex needs

• 49.7% of respondents described this priority as 'Very Important' to them (in total 83.8% said it was Important or Very Important)



The areas of focus topic results for the Complex Needs priority shows a significant degree of support for several of the proposed topics. The prominence of the mental health topic is of interest, as is the relative lack of support for the ACEs topic.

In brief:

A very early observation is that 'Keeping people safe' was the priority which resonates most strongly with respondents to the consultation, with a weaker response for 'Responding to multiple and complex needs'.

A simple scan of the type of feedback we got for Priority 4 (Complex Needs) does indicate that a proportion of respondents did not feel that addressing 'social issues' (i.e. root causes of crime) was a role for the police, and so we may need to clarify here how the plan is describing a vision for all community safety partners, not simply the police, and/or better define early intervention for the reader.

Online Survey Public Consultation - Early feedback on the free text comments

Priority 1: Victims & Witnesses

Just under half of the responses to for this priority were shared across five themes:

- Improve victim services (esp. for vulnerable groups);
- CJS needs to prioritise the victim ahead of the perpetrator;
- Focus should be on tougher punishment of criminals;
- Dissatisfaction with the Police;
- Priority needs to be preventing crime.

The largest number of responses to this question recorded that there should be more (or better) services for victims of crime. These comments often highlighted the needs of vulnerable groups like children or disabled people including those with hidden disabilities. Comments about the victim being prioritised over the perpetrator tended to take a criminal justice focus rather than a victim support one. These comments reflected the sentiment that in was hard for the victim to see justice served in their favour because the legal system protected 'the criminal'.

Priority 2: Keeping People Safe and building resilience

Only partially coded now – signs of concern about VAWG related offences (e.g., stalking, domestic abuse, sexual offences) in the responses. Also, a cluster of comments from a special interest group concerned about the 'sex v. gender' debate, and the preservation of biological female only spaces.

[Priority 3: Safer Places and Thriving Communities and Priority 4 Responding to multiple Complex Needs - yet to be coded]

Special Areas of focus:

Women and Girls - What the Mayor can do to keep women and girls safe?

Around 25% of respondents called for greater police presence in public spaces to help build confidence that women and girls would be safe. Some respondents also said they wanted to see more female officers recruited adding this would create more overall confidence in policing.

"Put more officers on the beat to increase the visibility of the force, and ensure female officers are giving lead roles on a par with their male colleagues. Positive role models don't work when they are not visible"

An interesting response was peoples' sense that education and training was an important route toward keeping women and girls safe, this encompassed:

- Educating boys/men about healthy attitudes towards women.
- Educating women and girls on issues such as consent and included ways for women to keep safe, education for parents, and in positive use of the internet/social media.
- Education targeted at all including communities.

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"Education. This needs to be in the forefront to educate the possible perpetrators and the possible victims."

"I suspect at the present time, the most important element to this is education. In schools and across communities. I fear we live in times that the rights of women and girls could be quickly lost. It is up to women and girls to safely challenge inappropriate behaviours. They need to feel supported. I think that the same concerns apply more widely - we have a rise of hate crimes that we need to see fast and tough action against. Zero tolerance."

In terms of police interactions, people wanted positive encounters with the police, they wanted to be believed when they told officers what had happened and did not want to be judged, they wanted officers to investigate fully and quickly, they also wanted effective communication and support from dedicated teams where available

A further feedback point was that people wanted to see an improvement in the effectiveness of the police on VAWG issues. This included being tougher on offenders and talking reports of VAWG crimes 'more seriously'. This final comment was repeated several times in the feedback.

"Gain confidence of the public by action. I recently called 999 asked for the police and was put on hold for 7 mins. As a woman this does not make me feel safe. We have patrol officers attending incidents whilst investigating ongoing crimes - we need to create capacity for crimes to be investigated to a point of prosecution (good policing) and not investigation based on when an officer 'has the time'. Even hate crimes are treated in this way."

Together, both final two points attracted 25% of the response.

(6%) commented that boys should be a priority too and were not happy with the women and girls focus.



What would help you have more confidence in your local police?

In keeping with the response throughout the survey, people felt that a greater degree of visible police presence in communities was the key to building confidence in their local police service. Just under half of respondents gave this answer when asked. Specifically, respondents felt that 'bobbies on the beat' were important rather than just riding around in cars.

"Put bobbies on the beat! The police have given the streets up and, in some areas, feral youths have taken over. Confidence would be improved if we saw less ASB on the streets... Leading to less crime and better neighbourhoods."

> "More visibility, knowing who our local police are and understanding their plan for the local area."

Around 7% said they felt better community engagement would help boost confidence, including improving communication with communities by listening and feeding back.

"I believe police need to build up better neighbourhood relationships with everyone, whether that be online or patrolling, the public will feel confidence if they feel they have direct local contact with officers."

Improving police effectiveness (in particular regarding 'low level crime') was also a common response. Respondents reported that they felt they were just given a crime reference number and nothing more was done to investigate smaller incidents which often made people's life very difficult.

Other responses to this question included quicker response times to incidents, including on the 101 service, a more representative workforce, and better feedback to victims who have reported a crime.

"Quicker attendance at minor crimes and antisocial behaviour. Too many think they won't get caught because no officers are available."

General comments:

In this 'final comments' section, we collected people's general opinions about what they would like to see change in terms of policing and community safety. The range of comments is exceptionally broad, but frequent comments focus on:

- The need for a more visible police presence in communities sometimes simply expressed as the need for 'more police officers. Over one fifth of respondents made this comment.
- Linked to this 7% of respondents mentioned they would like to see the police more engaged with communities on the ground. People wanted to know their local officers, and to have the sense that they understood local problems.
- Around 11% of respondents mentioned concerns for road safety/dangerous driver issues.
- Concern about drug dealing in communities was also a frequent point mentioned, as was the need to keep a focus on neighbourhood crime ("low level crime"), which troubled communities (e.g., burglary, vandalism, ASB).

Face-to face engagement – High level analysis

Engagement	Group and description	Audience	Key issues
VRU Community Advisory Group	The VRU CAG is a diverse group who advise the VRU, act as a critical friend and support two-way engagement between the VRU and West Yorkshire communities.	17 members of group	 Welcome multiple and complex needs in the draft plan - many of the group worked with/supported long term users of drugs/alcohol who self-medicate. Often referred to as offenders' but were also victims Welcomed reference to poverty and links to new and arriving communities Need clearer information around how we can improve CJS outcomes Need to ensure clarity between CCE and CSA and not link them together.
Anah Project	The Anah Project is a unique organisation which provides specialist support to single Black, Asian, Minority, Ethnic and Refugee (BAMER) women and girls (aged 16 or above) who are fleeing abusive domestic situations, including forced marriage; honour-based violence; female genital mutilation (FGM) and physical abuse. Anah aims to empower service users and encourage them to recover their self-esteem, enabling them to make independent and informed decisions about their life.	18 Women from diverse backgrounds	 Domestic Abuse (DA) Cultural impact of DA Long term support and mental heath Need for funded interventions Addressing trauma through therapy and arts
Joanna Project	Aim to journey with women offering holistic ongoing support to help them move forward towards safe whole lives free from prostitution and drug addiction	Project lead/staff	 Safety of Women and girls Drugs and alcohol abuse Housing and safe accommodation Sexual violence including rape and assault

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Women and Girls Roundtable Event	A roundtable event to bring together partners which included the police, local authorities, health, education, third sector, our communities' and those supporting and advocating for women and girls across all sectors.	130 attendees including victims of crime	 Overall Safety of Women and girls Requirement for men to be part of the solution. Breadth of work across areas of focus for call for evidence Role for employers in terms of safety Need for a WYP strategy and response to VAWG
Transitions Event	The event was organised to improve the safeguarding and situation that young people who are vulnerable to exploitation find themselves in when transitioning into adulthood in West Yorkshire.	130 attendees	 Transitional safeguarding of children and young adults at risk of exploitation Local policy, strategy, and partnerships Practice or service structures Culture and attitudes Inconsistency of policy Recognition of risk and harms Support services required Early intervention and prevention of harm. Continuance of support – removal of cliff edge. Greater collaborative working across organisations and agencies Information sharing Importance of third sector
Third sector conference on Domestic Abuse	Partners including the police, local authorities, health, education, third sector, communities' and those already working to address and tackle Domestic Abuse across all sectors came together to discuss the latest developments considering the passing of the Domestic Abuse Act, discuss and current impact and challenges on the sector because of Covid 19.	80 attendees	 The importance of partnership working across the sectors The impact of covid in enabling services to work differently ensuring victims were supported. It also exposed the increased complex needs that many DA victims have The need for services to truly listen to what victims want which may

Independent Custody Visitors	Independent custody visitors (ICVs) are members of the local community who volunteer to visit police stations unannounced to check on the welfare and wellbeing of people held in police custody.	10 Independent Custody Visitors	 often differ from what services providers think they need. That all victims including children develop their own coping mechanisms so they can often masque what going on (noting they don't always see themselves as victims That the DA commissioner recognised the importance of working with local partners in communities to tackle DA That our support for perpetrator programmes was impactive and that DA can only be addressed when looking holistically from every aspect Not enough focus on volume crime which impacts members of the public such as car crime and burglary Drugs are mentioned in two sets of areas of focus but other issues which span the four priorities are not. Plan needs more information around police officers' numbers - the priorities and areas of focus are wide Do we have sufficient resources to deliver the plan
Internal Groups and Board event	Representatives of Policing and crime internal boards and groups including: Reducing re-offending board, West Yorkshire Improving Women's Lives Network, Safer Communities Fund Independent Advisory Board, Domestic and Sexual Abuse board, Third Sector	45 attendees	 Drugs misuse and addiction Supporting vulnerable people Supporting those with multiple and complex needs Inclusive partnership working

	Advisory group, Criminal Justice and Mental health board, Risk and vulnerability group, Community Safety Partnership Forum, VRU Partnership Delivery Group, VRU Community Advisory Group, VRU Serious Violence Exec Group, Local Criminal Justice Board Victims and Witnesses Group This did not include Young People who had a separate event.		 Impact of and support for those suffering childhood trauma Understanding service gaps and identifying who and how Poverty and inequality Sex workers Dealation and training for Young people Safe stable and secure homes
WYCA All staff Event	Colleagues from WYCA took part in an online consultation exploring their own personal priorities and how they can support delivery of the Plan	70 attendees	 Crime and ASB Women's and girls' safety Safe spaces and safer public transport Delivering together
Partnership Executive Group	Senior partnership colleagues attended a workshop hosted by the Mayor and DMPC to identify what should be the policing and community safety vision for WY. This shaping of the vision then moved into discussion and feedback on the priorities and cross cutting themes.	25 attendees	 Ensuring partnership buy-in and governance Ensuring achievable delivery plans Increasing the presence of serious organised crime in the plan
Youth Consultation Event	The Mayors Youth Advisory Group hosted an online open consultation which included other youth groups including Youth Parliament and individuals to talk about feelings of safety, their priorities, and policing issues.	40 attendees from diverse communities	 Hate crime – disability/Islamophobia Drugs – nitrous Oxide/open drug dealing Lack of Police visibility – need to engage with young people Dog Theft Gangs and knife crime Mental Health Road Safety and speeding CCTV, Safe spaces, and public transport Online safety- trolling Rape and sex assault Support and reassurance for victims Support for those with Learning difficulties
Bradford District	Community of Interest group representatives:	20 attendees from diverse backgrounds	 Safety issues for marginalised groups Hate crime support,

Partnership day	Bradford Hate Crime Alliance - The BHCA team are		Strong/Integrated communities
	working hard to make sure that		Domestic Abuse/Sexual
	the city of Bradford can be free		Violence Strategy
	from hate crime to be a true home to all its citizens		Multiple/Complex needs
	whatever their skin colour,		
	sexual or religious beliefs are.		
	 Police Stronger Comms team 		
	BMDC Stronger Communities		
	Together		
	BMDC Domestic		
	Abuse/Sexual Violence		
	Bridge Project - empower		
	people experiencing multiple		
	barriers to achieve positive		
	change.Public Health		
Bradford		15 attendees	Prevention/Early
District	 JUST Youth group Outloud Project 	from diverse	
Partnership	 Valley Project 	backgrounds	 Listening to young
day	 Knowleswood Primary School 	plus young	people direct (girls/trans
-	BMDC Youth Service (Youth in	people	group)
	Mind – mental health)		Mental Health Engaging
	Breaking the Cycle		at grass roots
Bradford	KAWACC (Keighley Association	10 South Asian	Safety of women
District	for Women and Children's	Women	Domestic Abuse
Community	Centres) Est in 1985 it is a		 Issues for Keighley
Day	registered charity and voluntary		
	organisation which adopts a		
	holistic view of women, young people, and children's		
	development – supports intense		
	outreach work to ensure it is		
	abreast of current issues and		
	emerging trends and has		
	reputation for designing and		
	delivering innovative and		
Dredferd	responsive communities.		
Bradford District	Young Covid Ambassadors are 16	9 young people from diverse	Recovery from Covid
Community	plus, The Covid Ambassador Project offers the opportunity to	backgrounds	Effect of Covid on Xoung Records
Day	volunteer and work with your	including	Young People – experiences in the
	peers to find fun creative ways to	LGBTQ.	community
	keep safe and healthy. Young		 Mental Health
	people learn new skills whilst		 Activities for young
	engaging in decision making		people across the
	processes and be able to shape		district
	ideas into strategies to deal with		
	Covid. They achieve an		
	accreditation for volunteering and		

	are required to commit three hours		
	a week.		
Bradford District Community Day	Windhill Community residents	8 people including older people	 Everyday issues on the estate for residents and older people including crime and ASB
Wakefield District Partnership Day	Discussion with CSP colleagues	<5 attendees	 Drugs and alcohol Multiple and complex needs Youth crime and violent crime
Wakefield District Partnership Day	Domestic Abuse	<5 attendees	 Domestic abuse Funding and resourcing Policing Legislative change
Wakefield District Partnership Day	Housing Needs Service	<5 attendees	 Homelessness Covid impact Multiple and complex needs
Wakefield District Partnership Day	Youth Services and Youth Offending - Wakefield District Housing	<5 attendees	 Early intervention and prevention ASB including off road bikes and fireworks Safety of women and girls
Wakefield District Partnership Day	Victim support	8 attendees including staff and victims	Supporting victimsFraudDomestic Abuse
Kirklees District Day	Platform 1 is a mental health and crisis charity to help you with complex needs. We support people from all backgrounds and experiences, that have, for whatever reason have refused to engage with other services. We encourage recovery through various activities, allowing them to recover at their own pace and within a safe and non-judgmental environment.	4 attendees and 10 people supported by the project from diverse backgrounds	 Mental Health Homelessness Multiple and complex needs
Kirklees District Day	Meeting with Heads of service	<5 attendees	 Refugees and stable accommodation Education and early intervention/diversionary activities Exploitation and safeguarding Safe housing for women leaving prison VAWG

Kirklees District Day	Huddersfield Mission/Women's centre	8 Women from diverse backgrounds	 VAWG Multiple and complex needs DA Support for women in custody IOM
Kirklees District Day	Communities and VRU intervention groups	18 attendees from projects and broader community including older representatives and those from diverse backgrounds	 Early intervention and diversionary activities Need for positive realistic role models for young people Poverty of aspirations Safe places for young people (not youth clubs) Healthy relationships Partnership working ASB – symptom people with complex needs Organised crime groups
Leeds District Day	St Anne's Resource Centre is a homelessness resource centre with an open-door policy, working with people who are homeless, rough sleeping or vulnerably housed. It provides a St Anne's Resource Centre Leeds safe unpressured place to go to and access a range of services. Meeting to talk to and listen to service users.	10 attendees plus those using the centre	 Impact of covid on homeless people Partnership working Housing needs and support Probation Complex need Vulnerability of homeless people – abuse/violence sex workers DA victims
Leeds District Day	Bangladeshi Centre, Roundhay Road, Harehills Meeting to talk to women who have lived experience of Domestic Violence and Abuse. The group was established to support the Local Authority in delivering its duty to provide support in safe accommodation and to provide a voice of victims-survivors on the new Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board.	10 attendees all women all victims mostly diverse backgrounds	 DA abuse Experiences CJS Reporting to WYP Housing needs Cultural issues Police training and support for DA victims Training, understanding and consistency of support from the police and stat services Victim support Police response times Counselling Therapeutic support
Leeds District Day	Nowell's Community Centre, Nowell Mount, Harehills, Meeting	15 attendees including those from diverse	Youth ASB Serious and violent crime

	with Community representatives and local CSP partners Nowell's Community Centre, Nowell Mount, Harehills, Leeds City Council's Migration and Resettlement Team	backgrounds and 1 young person 8 people from diverse backgrounds many with lived experiences	 Knife crime Feelings of safety Drug dealing Cultural issues Feeling safe Contact with the police Misogyny in specific cultures and impact on women
Leeds District Day	Safer Leeds and Students Union and Safer Leeds	6 people	 Student safety Impact of Covid Vulnerabilities and issues, drink spiking, women's safety, and lack of reporting Pastoral care – support & wellbeing (mental health lessons learnt and improvements made. Leeds Universities and Collages Crime and Reduction Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour including Improved working relationships Violence and assaults in bars and clubs
Calderdale District Day	Partnerships meeting including local partners and Councillors	11 people	 Monitoring delivery of the new plan Connectivity with local plans and local priorities Impact of the police settlement on plan delivery Policing the M62 corridor Engagement with diverse communities and the importance of EDI as a cross-cutting theme Multiple and complex need of those leaving prison Tensions between priorities and the importance of liaison and diversion and early

			 intervention Police cuts and fear of crime Engagement before enforcement – street begging Health based approach to policing Impact of CJS delays and loss of local court Need for negotiated stopping schemes
Focus groups with young people	2 Focus groups with pupil Referral Unit 1 hosted at CATCH, Leeds	18 young people including those in pupil referral units, including attendees from diverse backgrounds	 Fear of crime is lower for young people in public referral units Safeguarding – paedophiles Drink spiking Dog theft Theft and robbery Violent crime Counter terrorism Cyber and online crime Kidnapping Stalking/being followed Drugs and alcohol Drugs crime out of control Negative perceptions of encounters with the Police Most would not call the police if they needed help
Muslim Women in prison	The Muslim Women in Prison (MWIP) project was launched by Khidmat Centres in 2013. The aim of the MWIP project is to educate the CJS on the needs of Muslim women both in custody and the community. They also aim to demonstrate to other providers what a culturally compliant model looks like in practice.	6 Women all from diverse backgrounds including project workers	 Support for women in custody Inequality re sentencing and support e.g., not being informed of faith facilities or mother and baby unit Accommodation and housing Cultural shame for women meaning they don't always share the full story of criminal exploitation Wrap around support when they are released Vulnerabilities of Muslim women who live alone

Young people covid project	The Covid Ambassadors are a Council initiative and Young in Covid are a voluntary sector initiative who are making a national impact	10 young people mostly from diverse backgrounds	 Rehabilitation Need to support and educate/early intervention by those with lived experience Peer support Need for tailored support Impact of covid on young people Health inequalities Suicide and bereavement Violent crime Frustration during covid services did not engage with young people
Newhall Prison	New Hall is a prison and young offender institution (YOI) in Flockton, West Yorkshire, for women aged 18 and over.	9 people including prisoners and staff including those from diverse backgrounds	 Accommodation Mental health Regulations on children in prison – trauma following separation and links to aces
Bradford All- stars apprentices	All Star Ents is a specialist training provider in Bradford, who employ young people as apprentice youth leaders. They regularly take part in consultations and took part in some of the VRU's research with Crest Advisory. Several young people have lived experience, and some are specialists in SEN.	7 young people	 Mental health Burglary/car theft ASB Homelessness Substance misuse Opportunities for young people Drug dealing Safety of women and girls DA, sexual assault, and rape
Total number engaged		930	