



WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

May 2018

TRI SERVICE COLLABORATION UPDATE

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The PCC co-chairs a Tri Service Collaboration Board (TCB) along with the Chair of West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Authority. This is made up of executive officers of West Yorkshire Police (WYP), West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) and Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) and is currently the preferred way forward to progress this work in West Yorkshire.
- 1.2 The collaboration board is part of a governance structure to ensure all emergency services are working efficiently and effectively together and in compliance with the legislation within The Policing and Crime Act 2017. Work of the Tri-Service Board and ongoing collaboration is regularly reported to the Policing and Fire Service Minister.
- 1.3 The Board commissioned scoping work throughout late 2016 to identify areas of potential collaboration across the three emergency services. Occupational health and wellbeing, driver training and emergency planning are all mandated areas of work that are currently being progressed. Furthermore at the November 2017 board meeting consideration was given to future collaboration on delivering local community safety. During the Board's latest meeting in March 2018 progress on these areas of focus were discussed.
- 1.4 The OPCC along with the Chief Officers of Police and Fire have agreed a common approach to managing and preventing attacks on emergency services workers in support of the "protect the protectors" national campaign and have signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' to outline expectations from both organisations.
- 1.5 Detailed and comprehensive 'Option Appraisals' were presented to the Tri Service Collaboration Board (TCB) in November 2017, having been through the Steering Group and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority boards.

2.0 Occupational Health (OH)

- 2.1 Throughout 2017 a scoping exercise was conducted and a review of existing policies within each organisation took place, areas of consistency and opportunities for harmonisation were identified which has led to a paper being presented to the Tri Service Board in December 2017. The Board directed that a procurement framework model be developed, whereby each organisation could collectively purchase external services as and when needed.
- 2.2 After detailed exploration of the options during February 2018 and in light of existing YAS contractual arrangements, a phased approach has been agreed which could give WYP and WYFRS access to any new service procured by YAS at a later date. There are now also monthly meetings held between all three Heads of Service to allow for quality assurance.
- 2.3 Each blue light service is due to review their own arrangements across specific areas such as physiotherapy and existing Employee Assistance Programmes (EAP) and services are seeking to collectively procure services to support delivery in the future to offer better efficiency and effectiveness.
- 2.4 An Employee Assistance Programme is a telephone based counselling and advisory service open to all staff members and provides expert advice in any area from mental wellbeing to financial advice, stress management and trauma counselling. WYFRS already have a service provider and WYP will be reviewing the benefits of a joint procurement exercise for this service in early 2019.
- 2.3 Opportunities to collaborate on wellbeing initiatives will be explored in line with the Workplace Wellbeing Charter and the Blue Light Wellbeing Framework. One particular area to work together within OH is a joint Wellbeing Plan. An action plan is being developed during 2018 for sign off by the Board late this year ahead of delivery during 2019.

3.0 Driver Training

- 3.1 Work to develop the approach for joint working with regards to Driver Training has been completed and an agreement in principle has identified options within this area of business.
- 3.2 However, during discussions held in February 2018 it was acknowledged that the recruitment of Police Officers has had a significant impact on the demand for driver training within WYP and as a result WYP would need to review demand and capacity within their own organisation. This position however will continue to be monitored and reviewed to ensure that as soon as possible the identified benefits can be realised.
- 3.3 In the interim work is ongoing to formalise existing areas within Driver Training where collaboration can still progress through the production of agreed Memorandum of Understandings. This will include shared use of Category C vehicles (medium/large vehicles over 3,500kg as classified by the UK Government), Category C Training and facilities. The potential for joint working regarding specialist drivers such as Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) drivers will also be explored.

4.0 Ops Planning/Resilience

- 4.1 The existing project mandate is progressing to options appraisal in respect of Ops Planning/Ops resilience. YAS lead on this and expect a deliverable by the TCB in August 2018.
- 4.2 The release of the 'Kerslake Report' (an independent review into the preparedness for, and emergency response to, the Manchester Arena attack on 22nd May 2017) has lent new perspectives to the talks ongoing between the services.
- 4.3 The emphasis here will be on improving communication between the separate emergency services, who already work well together to plan for events such as the Bonfire period, Tour De Yorkshire and all the various sporting and main events across the force area.
- 4.4 A focus will be an improved joint IT platforms to aid this communication with consideration of a 'hub and spoke' model for the siting of staff within key locations.
- 4.5 The current Local Resilience Forum is an example of how well the three services currently work together and this will be built upon.

5.0 Forcing Entry – concern calls

- 5.1 An agreement in principle has been achieved between the three services in respect of a Memorandum of Understanding for protocols for forcing entry at calls for concern.
- 5.2 The proposal is for WYFRS to assist with forcing entry at medical assistance calls only – these are calls where there are no aggravating factors such as violence, crime or mental health issues reported. It is anticipated that this will reduce demand on police resources going forward.
- 5.3 A pilot is due to take place during the summer of 2018, with ongoing consultation before any rollout can be agreed.

6.0 Community Safety

- 6.1 Areas of work under the Community Safety umbrella, such as Early Intervention, Volunteers and Youth Engagement are being progressed as areas for possible further tri service collaboration. Currently both WYP and WYFRS deliver early intervention work and engagement with young people on a district level, and whilst the approach does differ between the organisations it does not discount the potential to align delivery programmes more closely going forward.
- 6.2 Existing activity with young people across West Yorkshire presents an excellent opportunity for partnership working across the blue light services.

- 6.3 At present there are a number of initiatives led by WYP and the WY OPCC across West Yorkshire including Police Cadets and Youth Advisory Groups. Locally at district level, there is the Sunnyvale project in Calderdale, which provides diversion and engagement for young people, physical activities, team-working and safety/crime inputs which has been supported by the PCC.
- 6.4 In Kirklees, there are joint work streams with Fire Youth Services around school engagement, diversion and personal safety awareness.
- 6.5 Similarly WYFRS deliver activities aimed at young people between the ages of 8-16 years and these are broken in to the 4 below strands:
- SHOUT – fire and safety awareness for 8-11yrs
 - GRIT – team working and resilience for 11-16yrs
 - FIREFIT – physical health and mental wellbeing for 8-16yrs
 - FIREWORK – developing employability skills, organisation, resilience, team work
- 6.6 Money from the PCC's Community Safety Fund, pass ported to each of the five Community Safety Partnerships, and the Safer Communities Fund (SCF), financed from monies recovered by West Yorkshire Police under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA), has been utilised for a considerable number of projects aimed at engagement with young people and to provide diversionary activities for those more at risk of becoming involved with crime and or to prevent re-offending. West Yorkshire Positive Futures is one such programme delivering in Calderdale, Bradford and Leeds that engages with young people across these areas through sport, activities and workshops that focus on decreasing crime and re-offending, reducing anti-social behaviour and making the community safer and feel safer. Work is ongoing to look at future delivery of Positive Futures and the possible expansion into Kirklees and Wakefield. Through Bradford Community Safety Partnership, an allocation from the money pass ported by the PCC, is committed to delivery of the Police Summer Camps and other districts are looking at the possibility of replicating this project in their own areas.
- 6.7 As a primary focus on youth engagement and education WYP, WYFRS and YAS are proposing the introduction of a tri-service volunteer role. Working across all three Blue Light Emergency Services, these Blue Light Champions would initially be based within priority schools supporting the roles of Safer Schools Police Officers. The roles will drive efficiency and provide better value for money by facilitating closer collaboration between the police, fire and ambulance services, whilst maximising the ability of all three organisations to make best use of volunteers. It will also allow all three services to co-produce educational resources and packages which will focus on current risks/priorities affecting children and young people.
- 6.8 This engagement with young people and the resources used will aim to:
- reduce risks of harm/injury to young people
 - develop positive relationships with children and young people
 - raise awareness of key issues

- help prevent young people from being drawn into crime and anti-social behaviour
- highlight inclusive opportunities within Blue Light Services

- 6.9 A year long pilot scheme in Leeds will see a team of 30 volunteers recruited to work alongside police officers, firefighters and paramedics within 5 schools within the district during 2018 – early 2019. An area of focus for this project will be to help educate young people about issues such as knife crime, water safety, arson awareness and lifesaving skills. Resources and packages will also be developed that consider road safety and specific input for the Bonfire Night period. Recruitment of volunteers is currently ongoing.
- 6.10 This provides an excellent opportunity for addressing critical issues with young people and will be subject to a full evaluation by Leeds University ahead of potentially wider rollout across West Yorkshire.
- 6.12 Discussions have taken place via the Tri Service Project Team leads and there is a planned workshop in mid-July bringing together the subject matter ‘experts’ in different areas of work, to identify further options for district and West Yorkshire wide level work and inform a strategic workplan going forward.
- 6.13 One particular challenge that will need to be considered throughout this work is the differing perception of the public with regards to the different blue light services and this is especially prevalent with young people.

7.0 Conclusion

The PCC, Chief Constable and heads of the Fire and Rescue Service and Authority recently met to agree a review of current governance arrangements, in order to look at how existing mechanisms could be streamlined to improve strategic decision making. At this meeting it was also decided to undertake a further review with the aim of producing a joint work plan to progress various strands of collaboration to help deliver more collective, effective and efficient community safety outcomes.