



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Draft Minutes

11 March 2016, Halifax Town Hall

PRESENT:	Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Michael Walls	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Steve Pullen	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Geraldine Carter	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Ann Martin	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Masood Ahmed	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Phil Scott	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Amanda Carter	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Kevin Barker	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Alan Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Mrs Jo Sykes	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Emma Duckett	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Liz Ogden	- City of Wakefield MDC

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 The Chair of the Panel noted apologies from Councillor Hassan Khan (Bradford), Councillor Mohammed Iqbal (Leeds) and Mr Roger Grasby (Independent).

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 February 2016.

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.

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 interests declared.

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 5 to 11 with the Temporary Chief Constable Dee Collins and Lauren Wray and Kelly Laycock from the OPCC.

5. Results of the HMIC Inspection 2015

- 5.1 The Commissioner welcomed the new way of reporting and is pleased with West Yorkshire's overall outcome being judged as 'Good' in all three inspections. He stated that West Yorkshire fares well in comparison with the other MSG's.
- 5.2 The Commissioner acknowledged that there are still challenges about meeting demand in peak times and that there are still improvements to make.
- 5.3 It was noted that the two areas that do require improving are in the process of implementing improvements and this is why the overall judgement is deemed 'Good'
- 5.4 The Commissioner thanked the Temporary Chief Constable and her team for their work.
- 5.5 TCC Dee Collins informed the Panel that WY Police has volunteered to be a pilot on the next iteration of PEEL around the efficiency element. This is helping WYP to build on the positive report whilst recognising areas for improvement.
- 5.6 Panel raised the issue of WYP requiring improvement in the area of protecting from harm those who are vulnerable and supporting victims - and the particularly inconsistencies on dealing with Domestic Abuse.
- 5.7 TCC Collins agreed that there is inconsistency but there are also pockets of really good practice. There are plans in place to improve this and ensure a consistent approach across West Yorkshire and with other agencies. It was noted that they are working to develop a corporate framework and also ensure that staff have the necessary skills and understanding, particularly in assessing risk. The appointment of a safeguarding officer will improve the issues of consistency.
- 5.8 Panel were also reassured that improved training is currently being rolled out and a key area of planned activity particularly to ensure that risk is clearly assessed and recording practices capture early levels of DA/DV.
- 5.9 Panel raised the perceived issue of inconsistencies in different districts as to how the force deals with burglaries. The TCC stressed that she expects all districts to have same standards on how they deal with burglaries and would look into this and report back to the Panel.
- 5.10 Panel were reassured that the roll out of the earlier pilot, with complaints being overseen by a centralised department, but resolutions being delivered within districts, is being rolled out. The TCC believes that this will improve the issues raised by the HMIC in relation to complaints.

5.11 Panel congratulated the Commissioner and Force on their 'Outstanding' judgement for the workforce planning model. It was agreed that the Panel should receive a more in depth briefing on this.

5.12 RESOLVED

5.12.1 That the TCC looks at the perceived issue of inconsistencies across districts as to how the force deals with burglaries and report back.

5.12.2 That the Panel receive a more in depth briefing on the Force Workforce strategy.

6. Tackling Serious and Organised Crime – Commissioner's response to the provisions in the Serious Crime Act 2015

6.1 Panel noted the report from the Commissioner and that local profiles for each District have been completed, with a refresh due this month.

6.2 Panel questioned the Commissioner about what is being done to deal with the impact in West Yorkshire that the international-side of cybercrime has on the people of West Yorkshire.

6.3 The Commissioner assured the Panel that the dedicated West Yorkshire Cyber team are working with National Crime agencies to provide whatever assistance they can. However, international crime is dealt with at a National level. Work is being undertaken with the National bodies to look at how they can work together to meet the new threats. The Commissioner stated that he believes that national government should be doing more on this and he is calling for Government to allocate more funding to this issue.

6.4 Panel also noted that there are a number of awareness projects, including projects in partnership with the West Yorkshire Trading Standards particularly working with vulnerable people, providing education and awareness to help members of the public becoming victims of cyber crime.

7. Quarterly Performance Scrutiny

7.1 The Commissioner presented the Panel with a performance report to the 31 December 2015. He reminded Members that crime was at a thirty year low around 12 months ago and that, compared to 2010, there were now 2,000 fewer police officers and staff.

7.2 Members noted that there had been an increase in total crime of 25.6% over the 12 months to 31 December 2015. Similarly, there had been an increase in domestic burglary of 14.1% over the same period. The Commissioner reassured the Panel stating that most of the increases seen during 2015 were due to greater compliance with the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). He stated that the Force were now at 90% compliance in recording domestic burglary.

7.3 The Panel was concerned with the notable increases in domestic burglary for Wakefield (27%) and Bradford (24%). The temporary Chief Constable outlined the steps that the Force is taking to try to reduce burglary in West Yorkshire. She outlined the work that the Force's Reoffending and Crime Prevention lead is undertaking research with offenders in prison to try to understand why a person may become a victim of crime. He is also working with other frontline responders who can also give crime prevention advice. The temporary Chief Constable highlighted that some people had been targeted by offenders due to the information they posted on social media.

7.4 The Panel questioned the temporary Chief Constable and the Commissioner about the offender management. Members noted that a variety of work was being undertaken with offenders to try and get them into employment.

7.5 RESOLVED

7.5.1 The OPCC to re-issue the performance report appendices due to an error being highlighted by the Panel.

8. Community Outcomes Meetings

8.1 The Commissioner made reference to the support that the Police had provided during the recent floods across West Yorkshire and was pleased that the Police and other agencies had worked well to help residents and business owners in affected areas. It was noted that the Commissioner has requested a report on what lessons for the future have been learned from the experience.

8.2 It was noted that there had been a slight delay in the roll-out of body worn cameras due to the need for a software update but this had no major implications for the force and the Commissioner was being kept updated.

8.3 Panel raised the issue of the recent publicity about poor 101 call handling within West Yorkshire.

8.4 The Commissioner acknowledged that there had been issues with a reduction in staff numbers and technical issues which meant that West Yorkshire had to pick up South Yorkshire's calls which has an impact on call answering.

8.5 The Commissioner assured Panel that call are monitored on a daily basis and that overall there has been a general improvement, whilst there will always be ebbs and flows of activity. There is a high turn over of call centre staff as this is used as a training ground for entry into other areas. For this reason, the force are looking at a plan for over recruiting in this particularly area.

8.6 Panel welcome the recruitment of mental health nurses to work in the call centre.

8.7 RESOLVED

8.7.1 It was agreed to bring an update report on 101 call handling to a future meeting.

9. Published Key Decisions

9.1 Panel noted the reported key decisions.

10. Agreed Actions Log

10.1 The Agreed Actions Log was noted. There are no outstanding issues of concern.

11. Commissioner's Response to any current issues

11.1 The Panel raised concerns with the Commissioner about the most recent HMIC report on Child Protection Post-Inspection Review which had been published earlier in the week.

11.2 The Commissioner responded by commenting that the report was a snapshot that was taken in August 2015 and that improvements had been made since that inspection.

11.3 The TCCC reported that key issues around recording had already been taken on board and that central governance of this area has been made more robust with a specialist working with the five Districts to improve consistency. Further improvements to training and accreditation are also being implemented.

11.4 The PCC is required to respond to the HMIC within a month and the Panel will receive a copy of this.

11.5 RESOLVED

11.5.1 That the Commissioner shares his response to the HMIC report with the Panel.

11.5.2 That the Panel receive an update on the progress against the recommendations in six months' time.

12. Amendments to the Panel's Procedural Rules

12.1 Panel members agreed the proposed changes to the Panel's Arrangements and Rules for Conduct in relation to the consideration of complaints against the PCC and his/her Deputy, to reflect current legislation.

12.2 RESOLVED

12.2.1 That the reference to "senior staff" in Part 7 of the Panel's Arrangements and Rules for Conduct be removed and replaced with "Deputy PCC", in line with current legislation.

13. Complaints Received by the Panel

13.1 The Panel noted the current position on complaints. The Complaints Sub Panel was thanked for their work on dealing with the complaints.

13.2 It was agreed to form a new Complaints Sub-Panel to consider the new complaint referred to in the update report. It was agreed that an additional meeting of the full Police and Crime Panel be convened to consider an appeal against the decision of the Complaints Sub-Panel.

13.3 RESOLVED

13.3.1 A new Complaints Sub Panel be arranged to consider the new complaint referred to in the update report.

13.3.2 That an additional meeting of the Full Police and Crime Panel be convened on 6th April to consider an appeal against the decision of the Complaints Sub-Panel.

14. Panel Forward Agenda Plan 2016

14.1 The Forward agenda plan was noted

15. Any Other Business

15.1 No other business was raised.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting

16.1 An additional meeting is to be held at 9 am on Wednesday, 6th April 2016 at Wakefield Town Hall.