



## West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

### Draft Minutes

9<sup>th</sup> November 2018, Wakefield Town Hall

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Russell Brown	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Richard Dunbar	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Mohammed Naeem	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Sophie Whittaker	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Amanda Pinnock	- Kirklees Council
	Councillor Salma Arif	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Amanda Carter	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Tony Wallis	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Alan Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Mr Roger Grasby	- Independent
	Mrs Jo Sykes	- Independent
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mark Tolson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC

***Mark Burns-Williamson the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 1 to 12, along with Chief Constable Dee Collins and Jayne Sykes, Interim OPCC Chief Executive.***

#### 1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Tariq Hussain and Andrew Pinnock.

#### 2. Minutes of the Meetings held:

a) 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018

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

b) 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

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 Child Sexual Exploitation – Huddersfield Grooming
- 3.2 The Commissioner provided Panel with an overview of the position following the recent convictions of a number of men in the Huddersfield area for child sexual exploitation between 2004 and 2011.
- 3.3 The PCC reported that Kirklees Council are to commission a full independent review into CSE in Kirklees. The Terms of Reference are still being scoped and West Yorkshire Police are expected to engage fully with this review to understand what happened and learn and improve approaches to CSE and safeguarding.
- 3.4 Following the CPS description of the behaviour of some officers of West Yorkshire Police as disgraceful, the PCC was questioned as to whether he would be asking the Chief Constable to investigate any officers who are currently serving to account for what they did or didn't do during that period.
- 3.5 The PCC responded stating that we want to make sure we understand the scope of the review and what that will mean in terms of police and cooperation and engagement with the review which will look at the role of officers at that time. The key thing at this time is to support victims and their families and bring perpetrators to justice.
- 3.6 The Chief Constable assured Panel that, where they have seen behaviour or conduct to date that is unacceptable they are already investigating it through Professional Standards.
- 3.7 Panel raised the clear pattern in these particular cases and the importance of Asian communities being able to recognise the signs and feel able to come forward.
- 3.8 The PCC stated that whatever the background of perpetrators and victims there is under-reporting which is a challenge that still needs to be addressed. The PCC assured Panel that work is already underway to build trust and links with communities. He stressed that this needs to be a collective approach done alongside the local authorities. The PCC outlined some of the work that is being undertaken including the use of Safer Communities Funding for groups that want to address this issue.
- 3.9 The PCC and Chief Constable were urged to ensure that the review is done in a timely manner to ensure that the learning can be taken forward and implemented as soon as possible along with the learning from other parts of the country that have uncovered similar issues.
- 3.10 The PCC was asked about what work is happening with schools. He responded that they are doing a lot with schools but again, it was not just about policing engagement but it is important to work with other partners on this and that more needs to be done.
- 3.11 The PCC stated that it is important to get the message out about what is being done in West Yorkshire and the pro-active work that is being undertaken to seek out and address this issue.

### **3.12 RESOLVED**

**3.12.1 It was agreed to revisit this issue in the New Year when the Terms of Reference of the review were known.**

**3.12.2 That the PCC's draws on the expertise of the Panel in relation to community relations where possible.**

### **4. Members' Declaration of Interests**

4.1 There were no declarations of interest

### **5. Neighbourhood Policing Post Implementation Review**

5.1 Panel received the report which gave an early update 6 months into the implementation of the new Neighbourhood Policing Model. Panel noted the key themes and some of the work that has been undertaken and is now being delivered.

5.2 The PCC pointed out that there are still some gaps in terms of staffing but there is a commitment to ensure that these are filled no later than January 2019. There are still some significant demands which have resulted in some unavoidable abstractions.

5.3 Panel noted some of the initiatives in the districts around early interventions, engagement and problems solving as set out in the report as well as a summary of the action plan before the full 12 month review next year.

### **5.4 RESOLVED**

**5.4.1 This will be re-visited by Panel next year when the full 12 month review is available.**

### **6. Violent Crime Update**

6.1 The PCC was asked if there was going to be a specific strategy for violent crime in West Yorkshire. However, it was noted that because violent crime overlaps so many areas of crime which already have specific strategies, to avoid these being diluted the force is looking at co-ordinating aspects of the national violent crime strategy and for them to be picked up in other relevant strategy areas. The Chief Constable offered to produce an additional report which better shows how this all fits into the national strategy.

6.2 The PCC was asked about the scale of violent crime in West Yorkshire and the interventions that are currently in place to address this.

6.3 Panel questioned the PCC was about what is being done to tackle the drugs trade in West Yorkshire. He responded that there is a focus on the more serious end of drug

activity but a government review around national guidance and policy on this is long overdue.

- 6.4 He was further asked to explain what he is doing to prevent young people getting into drugs, when a lot of reported activity appears not to get a response from the police.
- 6.5 Panel were informed that this is about volume and resourcing and much time and resource has been spent over past few years on this. A lot of this has been concentrating on network and distribution of drugs and some of the organised gangs have been taken out, however, there are always more to take their place.
- 6.6 The PCC stated that much work is being done trying to influence young people through raising awareness and schools, etc. and early intervention approach of neighbourhood policing should help. The PCC expressed concern that the number of drug and alcohol treatment programmes are reduced.
- 6.7 The PCC was asked how successful GANGBOs have been and he agreed to come back with detail on the benefits.
- 6.8 Panel questioned the PCC regarding what is being done about the issue of retailers selling knives to youngsters.
- 6.9 The PCC informed Panel that they work with Trading Standards and other partners in an attempt to raise awareness with retailers who may be inadvertently selling knives to young people. Follow up visits will be made and if necessary they will lose their license and face possible prosecution if they continue.

## **6.10 RESOLVED**

### **6.10.1 The PCC to bring back an update on the impact of GANGBOs**

## **7. New Police Transformation Fund**

- 7.1 The Panel noted the changes to the way that the national Police Transformation Fund now works. The aim being that the national programme benefits all police forces in attempting to help transform and enable policing to modernise and improve service delivery. Panel noted in particular how West Yorkshire engages through its transformation programmes.

## **8. Police and Crime Plan Priority Focus – Hate Crime**

- 8.1 The PCC presented the report which gives an overview of the work he had undertaken on this key priority topic over a number of years. This includes a number of recent campaigns as part of national hate crime awareness week and a recent grant fund round which focussed on this.

- 8.2 The PCC commented on the need to continue to improve under-reporting and highlighted the new 'App' which makes reporting hate crime much easier.
- 8.3 The PCC was asked about whether the police will be required to look at all demographics as hate crime becomes more widely recognised.
- 8.4 The PCC responded by stating that there is a need to ensure that the Police response is balanced – hate crime can often be a pre-cursor to more serious crime – but it is also important that dealing with it does not detract from other key priorities.
- 8.5 The PCC stated that the assessment of the severity of hate crime and the action taken is very much rounded in the perception of the victim and their views, however, aggravating factors are also taken into account.
- 8.6 Concern was raised by the Panel about the significant rise in reports of disability hate crime. The wide range of disabilities captured within this 'catch-all group' was pointed out. The PCC suggested that much of this was believed to be as a result of awareness which has increased reporting but that he will continue to monitor this.
- 8.7 Panel raised the issue of Trans and LGBT hate crime and the PCC and his team were thanked for the prevention work that they have undertaken on this agenda. It was pointed out that the rates of mental health issues are significantly higher in the Trans community. The PCC was asked if the aims and future delivery could include improving outcome rates for transphobic hate crime and to continue the ongoing work and engagement with the Trans community.

## **8.8 RESOLVED**

- 8.8.1 That the PCC considers including an outcome in future delivery to improve rates for transphobic hate crime and to continue the ongoing work and engagement with the Trans community.

## **9. Published Key Decisions**

- 9.1 The published key decisions were noted.

## **10. Commissioner's Response to any Current Issues**

### **10.1 Strategic Command Course**

The PCC informed Panel that the Chief Constable had been invited to oversee the Strategic Command Course for chief police officers for three months from December until early March. The PCC has agreed for her to go on a flexible attachment which will mean that she keeps in touch with the West Yorkshire Command Team and also spends some time in West Yorkshire overseeing her national lead roles. John Robins will undertake the role of temporary Chief Constable in her absence.

## 10.2 Police Funding

The PCC raised the issue of the recent Government changes announced to employer pension contributions which are expected to equate to a net cost and gap of £6.6m in 2019-20 in West Yorkshire and in real terms would mean 400 less police officers in the force.

10.3 Panel were informed that in his role as APCC Chair he has written to the Chancellor and has also raised it with MPs across the county highlighting the serious funding threats currently facing policing and the damaging consequences it presents for the service and communities.

10.4 The PCC warned that the additional funding raised as part of the precept funding last year, risks being undermined as a result of this announcement and that there will be some tough decisions going forward.

10.5 It was agreed that local authority members should go back to their own authorities and use whatever influence they have to urge for more support from the Government on the issue of police funding. The PCC agreed to write to the five Leaders setting out the position.

## 10.6 Prioritising of Police Core Functions

The PCC was asked about the recent comments by the NPCC Chair Sara Thornton about funding cuts meaning that core functions of policing should be prioritised, and it was suggested that this might be discussed at a future meeting.

## 10.7 Number Plate Cloning

It was noted that the media had recently reported that number plate cloning has doubled in frequency over the past year. A number of forces do not have an idea of the extent of cloning in their areas and the PCC was asked about his view and the position of the WY Force.

10.8 The PCC suggested that WY is well placed following significant investment in ANPR over the years and there is a national system in the offing next year which he hopes will address the clone plate issue.

10.9 The Chief Constable went on to reassure Panel that this is being addressed in the county and whilst she was unwilling to provide detail on the Force's tactics in a public meeting, she was happy to discuss further in private.

## 10.10 **RESOLVED**

**10.10.1 It was agreed that local authority members should go back to their own authorities and use whatever influence they have to urge for more support from the Government on the issue of police funding.**

**10.10.2 That the PCC writes to the five Leaders setting out the position and seeking their support.**

**10.10.3 That the PCC and Panel discuss the implications of prioritising core policing functions at a future date.**

**11. Agreed Actions Log**

11.1 The agreed actions log was noted; there were no outstanding actions of concern.

**12. Forward Agenda Plan**

12.1 The forward agenda plan was noted.

**13. Assessing the Impact of the Commissioner**

a) Community Safety Partnerships

Cllr Abdul Jabar, Cllr Susan Press, James Rogers and Derek Benn attended for this item.

13.1 The CSP Chairs gave an overview of their local priorities and the impact of the PCC.

13.2 All CSPs agreed that the PCC's Police and Crime Plan reflects agreed local priorities and the PCC is accessible and committed to engaging with each CSP.

13.3 All welcomed the improvements to collaborative working that had been overseen by the PCC. It was noted that bringing the five CSPs together has allowed a better exchange of good practice and has improved ways of working.

13.4 CSPs were asked if the good relationship with the PCC meant that direct relationships with the Police had been affected.

13.5 It was noted that Leeds have a protocol between the CSP Chair and the Chief Superintendent about levels of contact and thresholds for this. It was suggested that it might be helpful to have a consistent protocol for this across West Yorkshire.

13.6 Panel asked the CSPs how they might be able to help support their priorities.

13.7 CSPs agreed that it was helpful to maintain contact with the PCP and for the Chair to continue to attend CSP meetings once a year. The importance of ensuring that Panel members triangulate information from Panel and CSP meetings at district level was stressed.

b) Local Scrutiny Boards

Cllr Steven Leigh, Cllr Julie Stewart Turner, Cllr Barry Anderson, Cllr Richard Forster and Sandra Pentelow attended the meeting for this item.

13.8 The Scrutiny chairs gave a brief overview of the work that they have been undertaking and are planning to do going forward.

- 13.9 Scrutiny Chairs were asked if not having dedicated crime and disorder boards had made a significant impact on the scrutiny of this area of work. It was suggested that whilst there are less resources and more issues have been taken on the quality and challenge of the work still remains.
- 13.10 It was suggested that Domestic Abuse might be an area for some joined up work across West Yorkshire. However, it was suggested that this has been looked at by a number of authorities and the work could be shared.
- 13.11 The PCP agreed to circulate copies of the scrutiny work that has been undertaken as well as the Panel's agenda plan.

**13.12 RESOLVED**

- 13.12.1 That PCP members and CSP's continue to liaise to ensure the triangulation of information.
- 13.12.2 PCP agreed to circulate copies of the scrutiny work that has been undertaken as well as the Panel's agenda plan.

**14. Complaints Received by the Panel**

- 14.1 Cllr Wassell reported that there were no new complaints, however, a Complaints Sub-Panel meeting had been arrange to consider whether/how to record a potential complaint.

**15. Any Other Business**

- 15.1 There was no other business raised.

**16. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- 16.1 The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be held at 10.00 am on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> December in the Old Court Room, Wakefield Town Hall.