



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Draft Minutes

1st March 2019, Wakefield Town Hall

PRESENT:	Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Russell Brown	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Richard Dunbar	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Tariq Hussain	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Sophie Whittaker	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Andrew Pinnock	- Kirklees Council
	Councillor Salma Arif	- 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
IN ATTENDANCE:	Liz Ogden	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC

Mark Burns-Williamson the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting, along with Temporary Chief Constable John Robins and Jayne Sykes Interim OPCC Chief Executive.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Amanda Carter, Mohammed Naeem and Amanda Pinnock.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held 14th December 2018

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, although it was noted that the report for Item 8 had been revised with additional information added; this had been circulated and published on the website.

4. Members' Declaration of Interests

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

5. Delivery Quarterly

5.1 The PCC gave an overview of the latest Delivery Quarterly.

5.2 The PCC commented that overall progress against measures in the Police and Crime plan were stable or slightly improving although there are still some concerns about the deterioration around public confidence, victim satisfaction and an overall total increase in crime.

5.3 The decrease in the number of missing people is welcome and this is due to the partnership working and protocols have been put in place which will continue to be reviewed and developed going forward.

5.4 It was noted that the increase in overall recorded crime is down to 11.9% on 13.6% from the same period the year before. The increase in the volume of actual crimes was reported as remaining at around 6.5%.

5.5 The volume of reported ASB incidents has reduced and it is being explored to see if previously recorded ASB incidents are now being recorded in a different category to ensure that the data is fully understood.

5.6 The data for re-offending shows that the trend is showing reduction in re-offending rates for the cohorts of prolific offenders.

5.7 Frontline policing measure shows a slight increase on the last quarter but given the recent increase in funding, it is hoped to see an improvement over the next 12 months.

5.8 Whilst the figures have remained relatively stable, the PCC stated that he is actively in discussions with CSPs considering what can be done to improve confidence in the police and partners that they will prevent crime and ASB.

5.9 It was noted that the next HMICFRS inspection is due in May of this year and the PCC assured the Panel that all the recommendations from previous inspections have been addressed and actioned.

5.10 Hidden crimes are showing positive increases due to the work done around increasing confidence in reporting. The PCC is doing some work with the N8 Universities and looking at early identification of these types of crime and the issues associated with it.

5.11 Panel noted that whilst the anecdotal evidence seems positive, the PCC has asked for a review to understand the effectiveness of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) in managing offences.

- 5.12 Victim and witnesses satisfaction has seen a further drop of 2% to 73.8% compared to the 12 months to December 2017. The PCC reported that work is being undertaken at a district basis to try and see what actions help improve satisfaction.
- 5.13 The PCC was asked to explain why, when last quarter West Yorkshire's increase was lower than the most similar group (MSG) average of 15%, there had been a significant change this quarter with West Yorkshire seeing an increase of 11.9% recorded crime against the MSG falling to 9%, therefore showing a relative deterioration of West Yorkshire against the MSGs.
- 5.14 The PCC commented that West Yorkshire's crime data integrity (CDI) inspection which is due to be reported shortly is expected to be graded as 'good' which means there is an uneven playing field in terms of comparisons to the other MSGs as many of the MSGs have been graded by HMICFRS as 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement'.
- 5.15 The PCC assured Panel that his office do triangulate this data with all the local and national information, however, he agreed to look at this again more closely. The T/CC commented that the force is confident that the increase in West Yorkshire of victims of crime which had been at 5% for some time but is now at 6% is an accurate figure for the increase in numbers of actual victims of crime.
- 5.16 The PCC was asked if he could confirm recently reported figures of a 40% increase in hate crime in West Yorkshire, and of that 40%, 85% being related to Islamophobia.
- 5.17 The PCC commented that much work has been undertaken in relation to hate crime and much of this is around raising awareness and confidence of people to report and this has resulted in a higher recording. The PCC confirmed that he was working with partners in the districts and particularly Bradford on this.
- 5.18 The TCC confirmed that he was aware of an increase, but did not believe that they were at such high levels and was quite sure that the figures quoted were correct.
- 5.19 It was agreed to clarify the figures and bring this information back to the Panel.
- 5.20 Panel raised the issue of the significant deterioration in Youth re-offending rates since 2013 and the correlation with confidence in community safety partners. The PCC as asked what he is doing to doing to try to address this issue as well as what work he is undertaking with partners on this.
- 5.21 The PCC stated that he works closely with the YOTs. The cohorts are small in numerical terms but the rate is very stubborn in terms of re-offending rates themselves. Doing much work on serious and violent crime and knife crime. Have been successful in securing funding from the Government's Youth Intervention Fund and there are programmes in each of the districts. The PCC stated that he believes there is a correlation with youth offending and the cuts to funding for youth services. The PCC is doing work to look more closely at the pupil referral unit provisions and what can be targeted collectively to address some of the issues as this has an impact on these figures.

- 5.22 Panel welcomed the positive work that is being done in relation to wildlife and rural crime.
- 5.23 The PCC reported that recently launched joint operations with North Yorkshire will be looking at good practice which is in place and intend to spread this across other Districts.
- 5.24 The PCC was asked about the work that he is doing to hold the force to account to address the continued long term downward trend in respect of the feelings around fear of personal crime, confidence in the police and victim satisfaction.
- 5.25 The PCC responded to say that as previously reported to Panel through the precept report, he has agreed to again passport the funding to the CSPs. Over the coming year, he will be undertaking a review of this funding to ensure that it is being used effectively.
- 5.26 The PCC stated that the targeted work that has been undertaken, particularly in Bradford, is starting to have a positive impact. The Safer Communities Fund (SCF) and Early Intervention Youth Fund are being used to target issues in the districts but many of these projects are yet to get underway.
- 5.27 The PCC stated that he hopes to see benefits from the investment in neighbourhood policing start to make a difference to communities hope to arrest the downward trend but this is not something that will happen overnight.
- 5.28 Panel raised the issue of victim satisfaction, and a reference in the report that a proportion of dissatisfaction relates to officers not keeping victims informed and other information suggests that this is having an impact on call demand with disgruntled victims return calling for information.
- 5.29 The PCC assured Panel that 101 performance has improved fairly significantly over the past three to four months, however, views on satisfaction may relate to much older incidents before improvements were made. The new call centre arrangements are now up and running and these are starting to bed in.
- 5.30 The type and nature of investigations are much more complex, particularly around safeguarding and this means that there is less of a visible presence, which also affects perceptions of communities.
- 5.31 The PCC reported that new information forms for victims of crime have now been introduced which aim to set out much of the information that a victim needs and provides ways for victims to obtain updates without telephoning in and the awareness and compliance of officers using these forms is increasing.
- 5.32 Other ways of working to reduce demand, such as working with children's homes and partners and more problem solving are also being introduced. There is also an extra layer of support through Victim Support for victims which helps lift the pressure off the police and front-line officers are aware of this.

5.33 The PCC was asked about the latest rounds of SCF and the amounts of funding that were available. The PCC was also asked if district spread was considered as part of the evaluation of the projects. The PCC confirmed that the amount of funding depends on the amount of proceeds of crime money recouped and available and that the evaluation of projects does take into account where there is the greatest need. It was also noted that the grant grounds are balanced on various themes relating to the PCC's Police and Crime Plan. It was agreed to provide Panel members with a report on where the funding has been directed.

5.34 The PCC was asked about what was being done to minimise the impact of missing persons reported to the police as a result of persons attendance at A&E and the hospital staff reporting people who leave A&E without being seen as 'missing persons'.

5.35 Panel were assured that the force has recently approved a structure and approach as to how to deal with this and they will be writing to all A&E's in the area setting this out. This approach will ensure that people are assessed on a threat, harm and risk basis but it is predicted that there will be a reduction in calls and incidents as a result.

5.36 RESOLVED

5.36.1 It was agreed to clarify the figures for Hate Crime increases in west Yorkshire and bring this information back to the Panel.

5.36.2 It was agreed that the PCC provide information to the Panel as to where the Safer Communities Funding has been directed.

6. Force Management Statement Update

6.1 The PCC gave a brief overview of the purpose of the Force Management Statement (FMS) and how it will be used. The PCC made it clear that he will also need to ensure that the future iterations of the Police and Crime Plan takes account of this. Discussions with the Chief Constable and COT are looking at this and planning for the future.

6.2 It was noted that West Yorkshire Police would be publishing the full FMS document ahead of next Panel meeting.

6.3 Panel suggested that it would be helpful to have a private briefing on this to gain understanding of the document and the information within it, before the Panel look at this at a Panel meeting in public.

6.4 RESOLVED

6.4.1 That a private briefing on the FMS be arranged prior to a full discussion at a future Panel meeting

7. Community Rehabilitation Company Update

- 7.1 The PCC stated that he has a good working relationship with the CRC and the Chief Executive does attend the LCJB and also the PEG. The local CRC has recently been graded as 'requiring improvement' although leadership and partnership working fared better.
- 7.2 Panel noted that the MoJ are now proposing to introduce a Yorkshire and Humber regional wide service towards the end of 2020. As APCC Chair, the PCC has made representations to the MoJ that this is not the right model and to try to ensure that PCC's are involving in the co-design of the services. At a more local level, the PCC is looking to engage with the process and influence as much as possible at a Yorkshire and Humber level.
- 7.3 The Panel raised the issue of case supervision and what if anything the PCC can do to ensure that the CRC adequately supervises cases to improve re-offending.
- 7.4 The PCC commented that it is difficult for him in his role as he does not have responsibility for the CRCs. The PCC stated that he is keen to discuss this as part of the re-commissioning and re-design of the service.
- 7.5 The PCC was asked about the Community Payback scheme being brought back into the CRC and how he might influence to ensure that the quality of that service remains the same. The PCC stated that he was pushing as part of the redesign to have more influence on areas such as the Community Payback scheme.
- 7.6 The PCC was asked if Panel could offer any support in terms of ensuring that this service is brought under public sector. The PCC suggested that Panel members could raise this as individuals or collectively with local MP's as this will be debated in Parliament.
- 7.7 The PCC was asked if 'payment by results' is an incentive for some providers to cut corners and get people out of the system as soon as possible and whether this was an argument that the PCC would be using to influence/change the current model.
- 7.8 The example of a CQUIN type 'quality measure' payment was made where a proportion of the payment is held back until the quality/improvement can be evidenced. The PCC agreed to look at this example further.

7.9 RESOLVED

- 7.9.1 That Panel members raise the issue of the re-design with their local MPs prior to this being debated in Parliament.

8. Police and Crime Plan Priority Focus – Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

- 8.1 The PCC apologised for the omissions from the original report which meant that an updated version was circulated.

- 8.2 The PCC gave an overview of the amount of work and priority that has been given to CSAE since coming into the role in 2012 which is set out in the report. This includes the appointment of a Safeguarding Adviser, working with partners and the establishment of a sexual violence adviser service and various Safeguarding campaigns. A West Yorkshire CSAE strategy group working with the local safeguarding boards has also been established with an independent Chair.
- 8.3 The paper highlights the numbers of sexual crimes against children and shows a significant recording (25%) of “non-recent” cases during 2016-2017 and this still continues to be the case.
- 8.4 The PCC commented that keen to ensure that the SARC facility is upgraded to meet the demand and plans are well underway for the establishment of a new site to provide better services for victims.
- 8.5 The PCC referred to the independent review led by the local Safeguarding Board into the handling of CSE in Kirklees in light of the sentencing of the Huddersfield grooming gangs. The Government have recently approved the approach put forward by Kirklees Council, led by the local Safeguarding Board. Dr Mark Peel will be leading the review. West Yorkshire Police are fully engaged, and have a place on the Gold Group review in Kirklees. The PCC will be kept informed of progress, however, any initial findings will not be put into the public arena until around Easter time. The PCC stated that in the meantime, there are some issues within West Yorkshire Police that are being looked at internally by the Professional Standards Department (PSD).
- 8.6 The PCC stated that he has worked with Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (PACE) and offered joint funding to each local authority to establish a Parent Liaison Officer (PLO) role to offer support to parents of child victims and Kirklees has taken up that offer.
- 8.7 The PCC outlined the key challenges to the Panel. Panel noted that the number of victims coming forward continues to increase made up of both new and non-recent cases and the PCC’s commitment to continue to invest in safeguarding and safeguarding teams.
- 8.8 The PCC stressed the need to ensure the welfare of staff carrying out these roles is kept under review to ensure that their own wellbeing is not compromised.
- 8.9 The Panel raised the issue of lessons learnt in terms of Police handling of CSAE and in light of the Kirklees cases, and other cases in different districts that have come to light, that it would be helpful to have something back to Panel reflecting on the learning and the changes that are required.
- 8.10 The T/CC commented that these cases have taken a long time to come to this point in the public eye and that the lessons learnt for the force have, and are, constantly drawn out and implemented as these cases go through the different phases. He stressed that the learning from the current high profile cases was taken on board some time back and that the force is in a very different position in terms of culture, structure and

processes at the present time to when these particular offences took place some five years ago. He reassured Panel that each case is reviewed and all lessons learnt are addressed.

- 8.11 The PCC assured the Panel that he has regular conversations with the Chief Constable and it may be helpful to bring something back at some point about what things have been put in place as a result of these and similar cases and what has been learnt. However, he did stress that these are done immediately and not at the point when the cases go to court.
- 8.12 The PCC asked about the measures of support have been put in place for victims.
- 8.13 The PCC stressed that victim welfare is a priority and there are a number of specialise resources in place to provide support to victims. Some victims might prefer this to be non-police support and so there is collective safeguarding support provided as well as the PLO roles and individual SVAs.
- 8.14 The T/CC also stressed that victim care is an integral part of an investigation. The PCC was asked about reciprocal 'out of area' support for historical victims who no longer live in the area and a previous request that he raise this with colleague PCC's with a view to there being a possible national protocol. The PCC agreed to provide an update to the next meeting on this.
- 8.15 Panel recognised and welcome the effort and energy put into this priority by the PCC. It was commented that the report refers to the work the PCC has undertaken in establishing groups, boards and strategies around this priority but felt that it appeared weak on data. The PCC was asked what data is collected to evidence what progress is being made and if this can be shared.
- 8.16 The PCC confirmed that significant data is collected on this priority to enable the picture to be fully understood, although some of this data is not easy to quantify in terms of actual outcomes. The PCC agreed to provide information to a future meeting that would demonstrate the full picture and the impact that the PCC is making in terms of this key priority.
- 8.17 The PCC was asked about how 'the voice of the child' was to be used in terms of terms of prevention and early intervention.
- 8.18 The PCC reported that a piece of work was undertaken on this last year which did prove to be quite difficult. For this reason, the PLOs play an important part in better understanding the views of child victims. The PCC suggested that it might be helpful to bring further information on this back to the Panel. It was also suggested that it would be useful to work with adults who had been victims as children to enrich that understanding further.
- 8.19 The PCC suggested that it might be useful to have a private briefing on aspects of this priority in the future.

8.20 RESOLVED

8.20.1 The PCC agreed to report back on reciprocal ‘out of area’ support for historical victims of CSAE.

8.20.2 The PCC agreed to provide data and evidence to demonstrate the impact that the PCC is making in terms of this key priority in a future report.

8.20.3 The PCC agreed to bring back further detail on how ‘the voice of the child’ is being captured and used to improve strategy and service.

8.20.4 It was agreed to hold a future private briefing session on aspects of CSAE.

9. Future Police Funding – Response from Police and Fire Minister

9.1 Following the letter that was sent from Panel to the Home Secretary, Policing Minister and all West Yorkshire MP’s, the response from Nick Hurd MP was noted. The PCC thanked the Panel for this support.

10. Published Key Decisions

10.1 The published key decisions were noted.

10.2 It was agreed to put the Commissioning Strategy as an item on a future agenda.

10.3 RESOVED

10.3.1 That the Commissioning Strategy is added as a future agenda item.

11. Commissioner’s Response to any Current Issues

11.1 Security for MPs

The PCC reported on the national issue of security of MPs and threats that some MPs have faced. Panel noted that there had been some instances of this in West Yorkshire. The PCC wanted to assure Panel that this was being taken seriously in West Yorkshire and as well as linking in nationally, that everything possible is being put in place to ensure local MPs’ safety as well as making sure that MPs themselves are aware of what can be accessed in terms of security and also police responses.

11.2 Reducing Re-offending

It was noted that the launch of the new Reducing Re-offending strategy had taken place earlier in the week. Panel members have been sent a link to the strategy. The PCC expressed his hope that the strategy can be put into practice and start to make a

difference. The PCC agreed to share the leaflets that had been distributed at the launch.

11.3 RESOLVED

11.3.1 The PCC agreed to circulate the Reducing Re-offending summary leaflet to Panel members.

12. Agreed Actions Log

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

13. Forward Agenda Plan

13.1 The forward agenda plan was noted.

It was agreed to hold a private briefing on the FMS prior to this being a substantial item on the Panel agenda.

13.2 RESOLVED

13.2.1 To hold a private briefing on the FMS prior to this being a substantial item on the Panel agenda.

14. Complaints received by the Panel

14.1 The Panel noted that there were no new complaints recorded. There has also been no response from the Local Government Ombudsman regarding the complaint about the Police and Crime Panel.

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, 5th April 2019, in the Old Court Room, Wakefield Town Hall.