

Additional issues raised by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) at the Performance Meeting held on the 8th of November 2016**PEEL Efficiency inspection for 2016**

HMIC have recently released their PEEL Efficiency inspection report on West Yorkshire Police for 2016 in which they were graded as GOOD across the board and made no specific recommendations. The PCC congratulated the Chief Constable for this and recognised the hard work and commitment that has been put in. His response to the Home Secretary will be available on the website.

Non-domestic burglary

Non-domestic burglary has actually reduced by 6% (to 12,216) across West Yorkshire in the 12 months to Sept 16 compared to Sept 15 whilst most other crime types are increasing as a result of CDI. The PCC asked the Chief Constable whether this was due to a genuine drop in these crimes being committed if there was another explanation. The Chief Constable explained that this was a balance between the two. There has been some transference between the two burglary categories, as domestic burglary goes up, often non-domestic burglary goes down. This is one of the reasons that the Home Office is wanting to remove the lines between the categories and urging police forces to count burglary as a whole rather than focusing solely on burglary dwelling. The PCC agreed that this will hopefully result in victims being treated the same regardless of where the burglary took place i.e. in the house or in a garage.

Alternatively Non-domestic burglary in Calderdale has actually risen by 22% (to 1,400) in the same period. The PCC asked what was happening differently in Calderdale compared to the other districts which are all seeing reductions. The Chief Constable stated that analysis shows that this is largely due to displacement; we have been very proactive on the roads in Bradford to clamp down on various types of crime, as a result we think some criminals who would normally be active in Bradford are moving to commit crimes in Calderdale as they feel there is less chance of them being stopped on the roads. To combat this we are now doing similar operations in Calderdale and will be carrying out further analysis to understand this issue in more detail. In addition to this it would be fair to say that Calderdale have been a little slower in some ways in carrying out their crime data integrity improvements so there has been a little delay in their recorded crime increasing in comparison to other districts. Finally the volume of crime in Calderdale is much smaller than other areas so this often impacts on the percentage changes making them appear much more significant than they actually are.

Racially and religiously aggravated

Racially and religiously aggravated offences have risen by 38% to 2,979 (12 months to Sept 16). The Chief Constable's report provides detail around the outcome and conviction rates for this crime type. The conviction rate for racially and religiously aggravated offences has been steadily rising over the past few years currently standing at 89.0% and exceeding the ambition of 85.0%. However in the last year the outcome rate has started to reduce and now stands at close to 25% (following a steady rise to 42% in March 2015). The PCC asked what is causing this reduction in outcome rate, is there a reason why conviction rate is increasing whilst outcome rate overall is reducing? To which the Chief Constable explained that the number of offenders is about the same year on year, but it is harder to get an outcome for these as the cases are becoming more complex. Our conviction rates are improving however, as we have been putting our efforts into improving case building and only putting cases forward that we feel have a strong chance of success to avoid dragging victims through an unnecessary journey. It is an area that both the PCC and Chief Constable will be looking at closely going forward to ensure that improvements are made where necessary.

Vehicle crime

The PCC noted that the Wakefield and Leeds districts appear to be experiencing a spike in levels of vehicle thefts. Wakefield's total of car thefts between July-Sept 2016 is 70% higher than the same period in 2015. This has been discussed previously about how the decision to re-prioritise vehicle crimes has impacted on victim satisfaction levels, but the PCC queried whether this data from Leeds and Wakefield suggests that criminals are now capitalising on that decision? The Chief Constable responded by saying that there are two interesting patterns here; in the Eastern side of the force (Leeds and Wakefield) we are seeing significant increases in theft of vehicles, whilst in the Western side of the force (Kirklees, Bradford and Calderdale) we are not seeing this but we are seeing increases in the number of theft from vehicles. We are tackling both of these in different ways including through operations and are keeping a close eye on

these trends and the reasons for them. Ultimately they are real rises (not due to recording practices) but they are only in pockets. We are also now finding it easier to triangulate the location of stolen vehicle thanks to advances in ANPR technology which can also now identify many cloned number plates which is brilliant. The PCC was reassured by this and also added that he was now the national PCC lead for ANPR too so will be looking to drive this work forward not only within police forces but also partners such as the highways agencies.

Violence without injury

The Chief Constable's report outlines that the rise in **violence without injury** has increased significantly (by 52% to 20,763 Year to Date) across West Yorkshire. You have previously explained that this is due largely to changes in reporting and an increase in cyber enabled crime. The PCC asked the Chief Constable to provide further detail about this and what the force is doing to tackle it. The Chief Constable agreed to bring back greater analysis into this, but explained that in short, the rise is due to an increase in digital related crime, also due to a change in practice around recording domestic abuse incidents as a crime regardless of injury, and also has been impacted by crime data integrity. West Yorkshire Police has done a lot of work around awareness raising and education with safer schools etc. as a result confidence to report should/is increasing which is great. They are also doing a lot of work around prevention so which will be detailed in the report.