

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

Tuesday, 4 August 2015
2pm – 3:30pm

PRESENT

- Mark Burns-Williamson – West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
- T/CC Dee Collins
- ACC Russ Foster
- ACC Mark Milsom

ALSO PRESENT

- Sgt.Sally Shipley
- Sharon Waugh, Engagement Manager
- Phillip Cross, Engagement Officer

1. Notes of the previous meeting including matters arising

The notes of the meeting held on 18 June were confirmed as a correct record. The PCC and T/CC also reviewed outstanding actions, which were all recoded as completed or ongoing.

2. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items.

3. Police and Crime Commissioner and T/CC Announcements

The PCC said he would be contributing to the consultation regarding the governments funding formula, he was consulting with partners to inform his response, he added West Yorkshire Police was one of the largest forces in the country with some of the greatest needs, he referred to challenges such as CSE and Cyber Crime and said the Government should take account of the changing nature of some crimes that forces like West Yorkshire Police had to deal with.

The deadline for Consultation was September 2015.

The T/CC spoke of the need to understand the criteria and weighting issues, the funding formula did not take account of all of the key factors for West Yorkshire.

The TCC gave an update on the current shift review undertaken by the Force Programme of Change team, the overwhelming feedback showed a preference for the FSDR shift pattern. This would however require some further changes. She was added the changes were planned for February 2016.

4. Human Trafficking

ACC Foster outlined the work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner to safeguard people from perpetrators of Human Trafficking. He spoke about the impact of Human Trafficking in West Yorkshire. He referred to the investment from the PCC and the work of the West Yorkshire Anti – trafficking network established by the PCC in Nov 2014. The network brought together key statutory and non-statutory partners to ensure a co-ordinated approach to help victims who had been trafficked and to identify actions to tackle trafficking across the county.

The report also provided an up to date intelligence picture in West Yorkshire which covered 9 investigations across the five policing districts in which included labour exploitation, sexual exploitation and exploitation through the commission of crime.

The PCC commented on a recent BBC programme on Human Trafficking, he spoke about the work that he was doing with Kevin Hyland (Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner) and his ambition to establish a national Anti-trafficking network. He commented on the work already undertaken in West Yorkshire and added the Force were well paced with a dedicated team to deal with Human Trafficking.

The PCC asked questions about the recent training that had taken place through the Anti-Trafficking Network and the ongoing training input being delivered by the Human Trafficking Team, he asked the T/CC Collins if she was satisfied that the training had increased awareness of the signs of Human Trafficking amongst front line staff

The T/CC said that the training had been well received and that frontline offers were actively challenging and making arrests which illustrated the impact of the training. She had also received positive feedback on the quality of service offered by Officers when dealing with Human Trafficking.

The PCC said that the new Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner at the APCC General Meeting had said his initial findings had shown there was a lack of prosecutions of Human Trafficking whilst the number of victims were increasing. The PCC asked if we could be confident in West Yorkshire that the appropriate resources and steps were place to ensure perpetrators of Human Trafficking were identified and importantly prosecuted.

ACC Foster spoke about completed prosecutions in relation to live investigations, he added that more needed to be done to encourage victims to come forward to the Police, he added that victims were often from countries where they had a negative relationship with the police. Much more needed to be done to build up trust.

The PCC spoke more about his aim set up a National Human Trafficking Network to increase awareness nationally, establish partnerships and share working practises, he added work was currently ongoing to progress this with his office and the Office of the Anti-Slavery Commissioners. He added that West Yorkshire were at the forefront of proactive work.

He also added he had met recently with Safer Communities Fund recipients which focussed on victim care with indirect links to Human Trafficking. Whilst he was keen to ensure the Force

continued to refer victims into the National referral model (NRM) and identify and prosecute offenders, he was also aware of the care provided for victims outside of the 45 days NRM process. This was another topic he planned to address this with the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner.

Further funding and the mainstreaming of the dedicated Human Trafficking team were also challenges to discuss further.

5. Cyber Crime

ACC Foster presented a report which outlined the Force position in respect of Cyber Crime which was highlighted as a priority in the refreshed Police and Crime Plan. The report highlighted the work undertaken in West Yorkshire to engage with academia and regional and national partners. He also referred to the development of a new Cyber Crime Team who would develop their knowledge, practices and skills with a view to ensure the effective investigation of cyber crime would be mainstreamed in 2017, he also spoke about the significant increase in Cyber Crime.

The PCC welcomed the joint report and stated he would like to see a further update 6 months' time. He also added that Audit were undertaking an audit into cyber crime and were currently drafting the audit brief which would take account of the peer review work being undertaken by the College of Policing.

The TCC spoke of the requirement to look at a national definition for digital crime, she spoke about the policing of significant concerns such as inappropriate and indecent images.

The PCC said there was an ongoing debate to have regarding a national definition, he also said people did not understand the term cyber crime, a concern given the number of people who used the internet or had a Facebook account.

The PCC asked about emerging threats around Cyber Crime, ACC Foster explained that some of the more recent trends included contactless payment devices, crypto currencies, bit crimes and the dark web.

The TCC spoke of the need to educate communities, she explained officers were fully cited and were looking at opportunities to minimise risk and prevent crime. She also mentioned building on the 'Get Safe on line campaign' and referred to the £643,000 awarded from the Police knowledge Fund, the grant would be used to produce an evidence-based approach to fighting Cyber Crime from the frontline. This would improve the effectiveness and efficiency of investigating Cyber enabled crime, more specifically the project will analyse how Cyber Crime was currently investigated from the experience of the member of public reporting the crime, to the call taker, the attending officer, investigator and the Crown Prosecution Service - it would identify any gaps and needs in the policing of Cyber Crime.

She also referred to the Safer Schools officers who were providing information and advice on a variety of issues which included cyber crime and which was targeted at both pupils and parents.

In response to a question from the PCC regarding mainstreaming, ACC Foster said the progress to mainstream into core policing was going well, he also about the work of the regional team.

The PCC and the TCC discussed the need to invest more money to tackle crime in this area nationally, and about the pressures on the National Crime Agency.

6. How West Yorkshire Police is tackling Firearms

The PCC received a report which clarified at a point in time (August 2015) how West Yorkshire Police were tackling the Firearms threat in West Yorkshire.

ACC Milsom spoke about the positive reduction in the need to discharge firearms and highlighted that only 21 firearm discharges had taken place over the last 12 months. The report also referred to Firearms licensing and stated that the County had 14,000 authorised certificates (11,000 shotgun and 3,000 firearms) held by 11,500 individuals who possessed a total of 35,000 firearms.

He welcomed the opportunity to present the report in a public arena which he felt would reassure communities.

Following a question from the PCC, ACC Milsom said that the majority of the firearms threat in West Yorkshire related to organised crime and was often essentially around arguments, drugs and cash.

The PCC was also updated on the work of the team who sat within protective services, they were uniformed operational officers who could be called on 24/7. In particular, the majority of planned operations related to criminals which included 91 specialist firearms operations, 548 arrests made as a result of firearms operations, 39 illegally held firearms recovered and drug and cash seizures which positively impacted on the Proceeds of Crime (POCA) and therefore the PCCs safer Communities Fund.

ACC Milsom spoke about the benefits of proactive policing particularly in Bradford District which had seen a large decrease in the number of discharges.

The PCC and T/CC spoke of the need to ensure investment in this area particularly in light of the current Government cuts, the TCC stated it must remain an area of absolute focus.

It was agreed there was a risk at only looking at discharges, consideration should also be given to the time and effort invested into firearms operations.

7. Issues raised with the Police and Crime Commissioner

A verbal report from the PCCs identified there had been 1116 pieces of new casework (between 1 June 2015 – 8 July 15), with 54 of these now closed (46.5%) with 16 (14%) being sent to Police Standards Department (PSD).

8. Future agenda items

A draft list was being pulled together for the PCC and TCC's consideration. The PCC also confirmed that the cycle of meetings would be every 8 weeks.

9. Any other business

There were no items of any other business raised at the meeting.