



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Wakefield Town Hall

**Community Safety Partnerships –  
Assessing the Impact of the Police and Crime  
Commissioner**

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report informs the Panel about the latest priorities and views of Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) ahead of a discussion with CSP representatives on the impact of the Commissioner and the role that CSPs can play in making communities safer and feel safer. The report is based on responses from all five CSPs across West Yorkshire.
- 1.2 It is recommended that the Panel and CSP representatives use the information and structure of this paper as a basis for discussion about their respective roles, including:
- *What issues might the Panel raise with the Commissioner in future work?*
  - *How can CSPs and the Panel work together better to share information?*
- 1.3 The following CSP chairs / representatives have agreed to attend the Panel meeting on 9 September.
- Councillor Abdul Jabar (Bradford CSP Chair)
  - Chief Supt Whitehead (Calderdale CSP co-Chair) and Derek Benn (Calderdale CSP Manager)
  - Councillor Masood Ahmed (Kirklees CSP Chair)
  - Neil Evans (Leeds CSP co-Chair)
  - Jane Callaghan (Wakefield CSP Manager)
- 1.4 All five CSPs provided a response to the Panel's Local Perspective Survey. The format of the Local Perspectives Survey was amended this year. Each CSP was asked to provide their local priorities for 2015/16 and 2016/17. A summary of the local priorities in each District is attached as **Appendix A**.

**2. Strategy: the Police and Crime Plan**

- 2.1 Each CSP broadly agreed that the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan reflects agreed local priorities as required. Efforts have reciprocally been made to co-ordinate local plans and partnership activities with the work of the Commissioner. In particular, Wakefield CSP highlighted that it has aligned its Development Day to coincide with the draft Police and Crime Plan.
- 2.2 The CSPs continue to recognise the commitment the Commissioner has shown to engage with their CSP. Some highlighted the CSP Forum and the Partnership

Executive Group as effective ways of collaborating and sharing best practice across West Yorkshire.

- 2.3 Leeds CSP stated that the Leeds CSP Chair regularly meets with the Commissioner to discuss priorities and emerging threats to the District. This does not appear to be happening in Bradford as their response states they would welcome more regular meetings with the Commissioner.
- 2.4 Based on all of the responses received, experience of working with the Commissioner has been very positive and CSPs felt that the Commissioner is acting in accordance with the Plan.
- 2.5 *The Panel and CSPs may wish to discuss:*
- *Do CSPs have a clear understanding about what each partnership needs to do to help achieve the outcomes in the Police & Crime Plan?*

### **3. Supporting Local Priorities**

- 3.1 All CSPs felt that the Commissioner is supporting their partnership to address its priorities through the Safer Communities Fund and other funding streams including; Youth Offending Grant, Restorative Justice Grant, Drug Intervention Programme and Innovation Fund.
- 3.2 CSPs provided specific examples of how the Commissioner has supported their local priorities. In Bradford, funding was secured from the Commissioner to employ a data analyst at the Victims' Hub to ensure that information is shared across local authority boundaries regarding CSE and missing children issues. In Wakefield, funding was secured from the Commissioner to enable them to provide a weekend service for victims of domestic abuse.
- 3.3 CSPs would welcome longer-term funding to allow work in priority areas to become more sustainable. Leeds CSP also asked for a clearer and more defined process for additional funding.
- 3.4 Aside from funding, some CSPs felt that the Commissioner supported their priorities in different ways. Most of the CSPs stated that the Commissioner has facilitated opportunities for partnerships to come together which they have found to be useful. Leeds CSP stated that working collaboratively across West Yorkshire on burglary reduction and domestic violence had proved beneficial.
- 3.5 Wakefield and Calderdale CSPs also stated that the Commissioner provides a voice nationally to represent the five West Yorkshire CSPs, citing the example of raising concerns over the recent court closures.
- 3.6 In terms of reporting performance against priorities, some CSPs stated that there had been a greater link to performance outcomes. Some CSPs also referred the

amended quarterly monitoring report which had been developed by the OPCC in liaison with partners.

3.7 *The Panel and CSPs may wish to discuss:*

- *How Panel can better support CSPs to ensure local priorities are met*
- *What information and support can the CSPs provide to the Panel to ensure that it targets the areas of priority that are impacting at a local level*
- *The implications for CSPs about the lack of clarity of future funding*
- *How CSPs evaluate the impact of commissioning activity*
- *How do CSPs work with the Commissioner to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan*

**4. Other issues raised by CSPs**

4.1 Regional vs Local

4.1.1 Kirklees CSP raised the issue that there needs to be a balance of effective regional co-ordination to deliver cross-cutting work and fair allocation of funding to support local delivery.

4.2 Consistency

4.2.1 Leeds CSP felt that there needed to be a clear narrative on priority issues, such as domestic violence and hate crime, across West Yorkshire. A consistent message developed in partnership would make collective priorities better known to the wider public.

4.3 Mental Health

4.3.1 Wakefield CSP felt that because of the growing issues around mental health, the Commissioner should facilitate discussions around how health, police and local authorities can work together to support vulnerable people and keep communities safer.

*Issues that the Panel and CSPs may wish to discuss might include:*

- *What role can the Panel play in encouraging and facilitating greater collaboration both across the region and amongst partners?*
- *How can the Panel and CSPs improve information flows to ensure that the Panel is effectively scrutinising the Commissioner?*

**5. Liaison between CSPs and the Panel**

5.1 The Panel and CSPs have agreed Principles of Engagement (attached at Appendix B) that cover respective roles and the importance of working closely together. This provides the foundation for the 'Local Perspectives' report and the provision of information (e.g. meeting minutes) that help CSPs to keep aware of Panel's work.

Whilst information is relayed back to CSPs and Committees that have provided information for the Panel, this should be further underpinned by elected members of the Panel de-briefing colleagues in constituent areas in order to put it in a firmer local context.

**6. Recommendation**

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Panel notes the views and issues highlighted in this report. Suggestions for future work may be included in the Panel's work programme and members may also wish to record items to raise with the Commissioner.