



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Draft Minutes

12th September 2014, Wakefield Suite, Wakefield One

PRESENT:	Councillor Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Lal	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Hussain	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Ahmed	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Scott	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Carter	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Loughran	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Roger Grasby	- Independent
	Jo Sykes	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Emma Duckett	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Bernadette Livesey	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Mark Tolson	- City of Wakefield MDC

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were noted from Councillor Walls (Bradford), Councillors Sweeney and Thompson (Calderdale) and Councillor Iqbal (Leeds).

2. Minutes of the Meeting held 18th July 2014

- 2.1 The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. To note any items which the Chair has agreed to add to the agenda on the grounds of urgency.

- 4.1 The Chair confirmed that there were no items to add to the agenda.

5. Members' Declaration of Interests

- 5.1 There were no interests declared.

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire, attended the meeting for items 6 – 14 along with Sophie Abbott, Tricia Holder and Clair Hedges from the OPCC.

6. Long-Term Financial Strategy

- 6.1 The Commissioner gave Panel members an overview of the financial position he faces in the medium to longer term.
- 6.2 Panel noted that a fully revised medium term financial forecast is to be taken to a budget seminar to be held on 30th September. The forecast is to be extended to building two extra financial years (2017/18 and 18/19).
- 6.3 The Commissioner assured Panel that planning is being undertaken in a longer term context and part of the strategy is to utilise surplus revenue balances, generated from early achievement of savings targets, to support the transition through to a lower base budget. Panel will receive more detailed information following that event at its meeting in November.
- 6.4 Panel questioned the Commissioner about the levels and planned use of reserves.
- 6.5 The Commissioner informed Panel that whilst the total reserves remains high, a significant amount is already earmarked including the £20m of transformation projects. All transformation projects are designed to be 'invest to save projects' although there are some small amounts of revenue creeping though for maintenance of technology etc. Panel acknowledged that reserves are used for one-off spending.
- 6.6 The long term benefits of each transformation project and how they will help to reduce the base budget are thoroughly explored and are outlined in the business cases.
- 6.7 It was noted that the budget reductions would mean an overall reduction in the number of officers by the end of the CSR period, with an expected 1,000 less Police Officers and 1,700 fewer Police staff. Whilst PCSOs are currently protected, a review of Community Safety spend is being undertaken with local authorities.
- 6.8 A robust recruitment drive to increase Special Constables is continuing with a target recruitment of 1,500. The Commissioner confirmed that the recruitment drive is receiving significant interest from all communities and he agreed to provide information on the progress of this recruitment and how successful it has been in attracting people from a BME background.
- 6.9 The Commissioner acknowledged the need to look at sharing and pooling resources with local authorities and also other blue light services. Terms of Reference are currently being developed with the local authorities for a review which will identify and map all current spending on community safety. When this baseline is established, the Commissioner and local authorities can work together to ensure that the most joined up and efficient Community Safety interventions can be jointly delivered within West Yorkshire.
- 6.10 Panel raised the issue of future resources for CSE and CSE victim provision. Panel stated that they would like to see a substantial allocation of funding in next year's

budget to go towards CSE strategies, and to dealing with victims of CSE both past and present. Panel raised the issue of training / re-training of police officers and police staff in issues relating to CSE and also queried whether more could be done working in partnership with communities and schools.

- 6.11 The Commissioner commented that tackling CSE is a key priority within the Police and Crime Plan and that he has made an extra £3.5m available to the police for increased capacity to deal with CSE, human trafficking and cyber-crime.

6.12 RESOLVED

6.12.1 That the Commissioner provide information on the progress of Special Constable recruitment and how successful it has been in attracting people from a BME background.

6.12.2 That the Commissioner consider allocating additional funding in next year's budget to go towards CSE strategies, and to dealing with victims of CSE both past and present as part of the forthcoming budget discussions.

6.12.3 That the Commissioner brings a more detailed budget report to the Panel's November meeting, following the budget seminar on 30th September.

7. HMIC Report – Valuing the Police 4 Report

7.1 The Commissioner welcomed the HMIC Valuing the Police inspection report which recognised the 'impressive progress' made by West Yorkshire Police over the last 12 months. The Force is now graded as 'Good' in providing value for money.

7.2 Due to the way in which the government has applied grant reductions, West Yorkshire Police has faced one of the largest cuts in its spending of all forces. The Commissioner highlighted the need for an urgent review of the funding formula; which is used to calculate the police grant awarded to all forces from central government.

7.3 Panel asked the Commissioner for his views on the cultural audit which is highlighted within the HMIC report. It states that 56% of employees have a negative view of the Force. The Commissioner recognised that the cultural audit had identified some dissatisfaction amongst staff; spending cuts and the change in shift patterns being the likely causes of reducing staff morale. In response to this, the Commissioner and the Temporary Chief Constable intended to undertake visits around the Force to talk to staff about any issues.

7.4 RESOLVED

7.4.1 That the Commissioner extended his thanks to the Force for the pace and scale of improvement in efficiency and effectiveness over the last 12 months.

7.4.2 That Panel agrees to support the Commissioner in calling for a review of the funding formula.

8. Draft Delivery Strategy Update

- 8.1 Panel thanked the Commissioner for the opportunity to provide input into the draft Delivery Strategy and for the opportunity to be involved in future delivery planning.
- 8.2 Panel noted that responses are currently being collated and considered. The Commissioner thanked Panel for their input into the consultation draft.
- 8.3 Panel thanked the Commissioner for the opportunity to have early sight of the draft Delivery Plan for Victim Support Services. Panel were pleased to see the work that is now coming together and felt that the draft Delivery Plan gave them a better understanding of how the Commissioner intends to deliver the outcomes set out in the Police and Crime Plan.
- 8.4 Panel commented that it would be helpful to have the figures of the committed funding allocations and it was agreed to let Panel have an updated version in due course.
- 8.5 Panel suggested that the format followed for the Victim Support Services Delivery Plan be used for all the additional delivery plans.

8.6 RESOLVED

- 8.6.1 That the Commissioner continues to keep Panel updated with progress on developing further Delivery Plans.
- 8.6.2 That a further report on progress on Victim Services would be brought to a future meeting.

9. Quarterly Performance Scrutiny

- 9.1 The Commissioner presented a report to Panel which detailed performance against the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan to 30 June 2014. A Panel member and officer had provided input into the new performance reporting format which aimed to be more user-friendly providing performance information as well as the Commissioner's actions in response to any issues. Panel were invited to provide feedback.
- 9.2 The Commissioner provided key performance information to Panel.
- Total crime reduced by 3.8%
 - Domestic burglary reduced by 15%
 - Most Serious Violence increased by 12%
- 9.3 Panel commented on the lower level of confidence and satisfaction in local policing for BME respondents when compared to white respondents. The Commissioner felt that this was an area which required further research and invited Panel to be involved. Panel then questioned the Commissioner around the recommendations made by the Police Authority in 2012, in particular around BME user satisfaction, and asked for a progress update to a future meeting.

9.4 Further discussion then focused on ASB victim satisfaction and how this may be affected by police / PCSO visibility within local communities. In response the Commissioner stated that the survey doesn't specifically ask questions around police visibility but it is known from other surveys that an increase in police visibility does tend to have a positive impact on public perceptions of policing. Panel requested a breakdown of ASB victim satisfaction by District.

9.5 Panel raised the issue of outcome rates with the Commissioner and questioned whether the public would be satisfied with a 25% outcome rate. The Commissioner stated that he was actively considering proposals for holding the Local Criminal Justice Board to account.

9.6 RESOLVED

9.6.1 That Panel provide feedback to the PCP Officers on the format of the performance report.

9.6.2 That the Commissioner provides an update on the progress made against the recommendations made in the Police Authority report in 2012 with particular reference to BME user satisfaction.

9.6.3 That Panel be invited to be involved in any further research undertaken around BME user satisfaction.

9.6.4 That the Commissioner provides a breakdown of ASB victim satisfaction by District.

10. DIP Review update

10.1 The Commissioner updated Panel on the latest position following a review on the Drugs Intervention Programme.

10.2 It was noted that work with key stakeholders has been ongoing to look at how the recommendations can be implemented.

10.3 Panel noted that the Commissioner has agreed to pass funding through to partners with clear conditions and indicators set out within renewed contracts to ensure that delivery of drug and alcohol services at the local level responds to the recommendations made in the Review report.

10.4 It was noted that Nicola Hughes is working with partners to identify opportunities for coterminous commissioning and how things might be commissioned differently.

10.5 Panel queried the rationale that will allocate funding dependent upon where drug related crimes are identified. Panel asked for this to be monitored and ensure that adequate provision is made in all areas. Panel also asked for a comparison of how the funding looked previously, and how it will look under the revised arrangements.

10.6 Particular concern was raised over where a crime is recorded and how this relates to where the perpetrators are brought in. The Commissioner agreed to look into this issue.

10.7 Panel requested a report back giving a progress update on all the individual recommendations to a future meeting.

10.8 RESOLVED

10.8.1 That the Commissioner provides a comparison of how the funding looked under the previous arrangements and how it will be allocated under the revised arrangements.

10.8.2 That the Commissioner investigates the issue of where crimes are recorded to re-assure Panel that figures are not skewed to one particular area.

10.8.3 That this new way of allocating funding be monitored to ensure that adequate provision is made in all areas.

10.8.4 That a report giving a progress update on all the individual recommendations from the DIP review are brought to a future meeting.

11. Community Outcomes update

11.1 Panel noted that Community Outcomes would be a regular item on the agenda and would be an opportunity for the Commissioner to update Panel on the discussions he has with the Chief Constable.

11.2 The Commissioner commented that he is keen for the Force to be more transparent and is working with them to try and ensure that more reports are available to go in the public domain.

11.3 RESOLVED

11.3.1 That the Commissioner work with the Force to ensure information from Community Outcomes meetings can be communicated better in the public domain.

12. Published Key Decisions

12.1 Panel noted that this would also be a regular item at each Panel meeting.

12.2 It was noted that the backlog of publishing key decisions had now been resolved and the Commissioner assured Panel that he would ensure that these were kept up to date. The Commissioner stated that he would also ensure a further trawl is undertaken to make sure that all decisions have been captured.

12.3 RESOLVED

12.3.1 That the Commissioner ensures that the Published Key Decisions area on his website is kept up to date.

13. Agreed Actions Log

13.1 The Commissioner and Panel considered the action log and the progress made on the actions. Whilst there are still some outstanding issues, these are all matters that are progressing and Panel will continue to be kept abreast of progress and receive reports back at a relevant time.

13.2 RESOLVED

13.2.1 That the Commissioner and Panel continue to work together to ensure that appropriate and timely information is presented to Panel and that Panel is kept informed of progress on agreed actions.

14. Commissioner's Response to any current issues

- **Child Sexual Exploitation**

14.1 CSE had previously been discussed under item 6 in terms of future funding provision. A Panel Member asked a specific question around CSE and how West Yorkshire can learn lessons from the issues which have been identified in the Rotherham report.

14.2 The Commissioner stated that safeguarding is a joint issue which needs to be tackled alongside local authorities and a number of other partners. Whilst already aware of CSE issues in West Yorkshire, the Rotherham report is very much a wake-up call and West Yorkshire needs to re-double its efforts to proactively tackle CSE and safeguarding issues. A review of CSE protection and safeguarding was already underway in West Yorkshire. The Commissioner stated that he has called a meeting with members from safeguarding boards, Directors of Children's Services and West Yorkshire Police to ensure that everything possible is being done to protect children from sexual exploitation and grooming.

- **HMIC's inspection report on Crime Data Integrity in West Yorkshire Police**

Detective Superintendent Clive Wain and West Yorkshire Police's Force Crime and Incident Registrar, Jo Morgan, attended for this item.

14.3 The Commissioner invited colleagues from the Force to provide Panel with an overview of how the Force is responding to the recommendations made in the HMIC report.

14.4 The Force explained that the HMIC's inspection of crime data integrity covered the period November 2012 to October 2013. Since October 2013 the Force has taken a number of steps to improve crime recording in West Yorkshire Police. This has

included the re-introduction of a central audit team and a focus on training staff in the principles of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS).

14.5 Panel sought reassurance that crimes involving CSE were recorded correctly, in particular those referred into the Force's safeguarding units. The Force stated that the new systems in place around enhanced audit have meant that these crimes are recorded immediately. Panel asked about plans to revisit historical cases to ensure that crimes relating to CSE had been recorded properly. The Commissioner stated that this was something that he would be discussing with the Temporary Chief Constable. Panel were provided with some reassurance from the Force that the central crime recording bureau did have a tight grip on crime recording prior to it being dissolved in 2011.

14.6 Panel also questioned whether performance figures were reliable following the findings contained with HMIC's Crime Data Integrity report. The Force responded that all of the immediate recommendations within HMIC's report had been done and that the remaining recommendations, due for completion within three months, were all underway.

14.7 RESOLVED

14.7.1 That the Commissioner provides a report to the Panel within six months on the progress made against the recommendations highlighted within HMIC's Crime Data Integrity report.

15. Complaints update

15.1 Councillor Wassell updated the meeting on the latest position regarding ongoing complaints.

15.2 Councillor Wassell thanked the members of the sub-panel for their time and involvement in the current complaints.

16. Panel Forward Agenda Plan 2014

16.1 The Forward Agenda Plan was noted.

16.2 It was noted that an additional meeting had been arranged for 10th October to meet with the Temporary Chief Constable. Panel agreed to hold a private pre-meeting commencing at 1pm.

17. Any Other Business

17.1 There was no other business raised.

18. Date and Time of Next Meeting

18.1 The next Panel meeting is an additional Panel meeting scheduled for Friday, 10th October in the Wakefield Suite, Wakefield One, Wakefield commencing at 2pm.