

**West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel****Draft Minutes****24th April 2015, Ploughland House, Wakefield**

PRESENT:	Councillor Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Iqbal	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Walls	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Hussain	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Ahmed	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Scott	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Speight	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Jo Sykes	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Emma Duckett	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Liz Ogden	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Kelly Laycock	- OPCC

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were noted from Councillor Martin, Councillor Thompson (both Calderdale) Councillor Carter (Leeds) and Roger Grasby.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th March 2015

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Arising**Item 7 – 101 Call handling**

The Commissioner reported back following a recent update report he had received from the Force regarding improvements to West Yorkshire's call handling of 101 non-emergency calls. He reported that significant consistent improvements had been made following recruitment and training with a queue time average of less than one minute for the last three months. It was agreed to circulate the full report to Panel members.

When asked about the practise of putting people on hold after answering their call the Commissioner responded that he had raised this with the Chief Officer Team and this practise was not adopted by West Yorkshire Police.

- 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.

4. Members' Declaration of Interests

4.1 There were no interests declared.

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 5 to 12

Temporary Chief Constable Dee Collins attended the meeting for items 5 to 9

Katherine Johnson, Treasurer at the OPCC, attended the meeting for items 5 to 7

5. The Use of Police Bail in West Yorkshire – Six months on

5.1 Temporary Chief Constable Dee Collins explained that West Yorkshire do not follow the Hookway ruling as they do not feel it is the most ethical method, adopting the longer term use of bail also allows the management of people on bail with conditions that can be attached.

5.2 Temporary Chief Constable Dee Collins reported that the Force is currently embarking upon a purge of tackling overdue bails, although there are often complex reasons that many are overdue and they are aiming to clear the backlog.

5.3 It was noted that West Yorkshire Police is working to ensure that it complies with the eight Bail Standards that are recommended for implementation by the Home Office, College of Policing, ACPO and the National Policing Criminal Justice Business Area.

5.4 When questioned about West Yorkshire's preparedness should a future government legislate for a limit on pre-charge bail of 28 days, the Temporary Chief Constable stated that Force is well placed to deal with the potential changes if they arise and is pressing on with its works to clear the backlog and the changes that have been implemented to the custody suites.

5.5 RESOLVED

5.5.1 That a further update be provided to the Panel in six months' time.

6. Drug Intervention Programme Funding

6.1 The Commissioner gave an update on the Drug Intervention Programme to the Panel. Members note that a review was completed in March 2014 and, following discussions with stakeholders, a series of action plans have been developed to take forward the review recommendations.

6.2 Funding has already been passported to the Community Safety Partnerships following the review and performance indicators have been developed. It was noted that the programme will no longer be referred to as DIP as it is hoped to reflect the need to include both drugs and alcohol within its remit.

6.3 The Panel welcomed the work and also the wider definition that this now encompasses. Panel questioned if there was scope and capacity to look at more joint work on commissioning or shared services

6.4 It was noted that Partners have been brought together through the CSP Forum to look at what can be done jointly. As part of the agreement to passport funding across, districts are required to work closely with partners in areas such as drugs and alcohol and health.

6.5 RESOLVED

6.5.1 That the Commissioner continues to look at opportunities for joint commissioning where possible.

Paul Whiteley, Head of IT at West Yorkshire Police attended the meeting for Item 7

7. Transformation Fund update

7.1 The Commissioner provided an update on the allocation of the £20m Transformation Fund which has been established from a transfer from the significant reserves that had accumulated from previous years' underspend.

7.2 The Panel questioned the Commissioner about the governance of the projects and how they will be monitored to ensure the required outcomes will be achieved.

7.3 Paul Whiteley expanded on the future benefits and opportunities that the new technologies will bring. It was accepted that not all will have cashable savings but will create significant efficiencies and allow transformation within other areas of the Force that return necessary savings and improve the quality of policing outcomes.

7.4 The Temporary Chief Constable assured Panel that all officers are carefully trained with all new equipment and also about how it needs to be deployed appropriately and in terms of the rights and liberties of the public.

7.5 RESOLVED

7.4.1 The Commissioner to bring a further update on the progress of the Transformation Fund and its individual projects to the Panel in six months' time.

8. Home Office Innovation Fund update

8.1 The Commissioner presented a report to Panel on the West Yorkshire bids to the Home Office Innovation Fund.

8.2 Four of the eight submitted bids were successful, securing grant funding of £1.36m. The successful bids related to video identification parades (VIPER) and a digital forensic evidence repository.

8.3 The Chair of the Panel stated that whilst it was pleasing to note the success in securing the four bids, the top slicing of Force budgets to finance the Home Office Innovation Fund meant that West Yorkshire Police was still in deficit by approximately £1.4m.

8.4 In response, the Temporary Chief Constable stated that there was no formal feedback process for unsuccessful bids. However, the WyFi team would be reviewing all of the unsuccessful bids with a view to amending and re-submitting them.

8.5 RESOLVED

8.5.1 That the Commissioner provides a report on the work of the WyFi team to a future meeting.

9. Local Criminal Justice Board Performance report

ACC Geoff Dodd, Chair of the West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board, attended the meeting for this item.

9.1 ACC Dodd provided an update to Panel on the performance of the West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board 2014/15.

9.2 ACC Dodd explained that the Transforming Summary Justice (TSJ) programme aims to deliver a more efficient and effective across the criminal justice system by standardising contributions from partner agencies. Members noted that the TSJ programme had been piloted in Bradford where significant improvements have been seen across the piece. The TSJ programme is currently being rolled out across West Yorkshire.

9.3 ACC Dodd went on to highlight the reduction in re-offending rates for adults. The latest adult offending rate is 33.6% which is lower than the previous year. Juvenile re-offending is more volatile due to the relatively small sample sizes and the limited time offenders spend within this cohort. ACC Dodd stated that re-offending rates in West Yorkshire were much lower than the predicted rates.

9.4 Members noted that the proportion of guilty pleas at first hearing had increased by 3 percentage points to 63.7% compared to the previous year. ACC Dodd stated that the proportion had increased to 70% in Bradford following the introduction of the TSJ Programme.

9.5 ACC Dodd went on to highlight the conviction rate of 83.6% against a target of 85% for magistrates' court. ACC Dodd explained that this was an appropriate level of tension in the system.

9.6 The Panel noted that the ineffective trial rate was 17.5%, with a notable proportion being due to the courts over listing.

9.7 In summary, ACC Dodd reassured the Panel by stating that the West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board has a clear ambition of achieving justice for all victims. The Board welcomes the TSJ Programme and its roll-out across West Yorkshire.

9.8 RESOLVED

9.8.1 That the OPCC circulate the missing appendix outside of the meeting.

9.8.2 That the Panel thanked ACC Dodd for providing a comprehensive update on the performance of the West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board.

10. Published Key Decisions

10.1 The published key decisions were noted.

10.2 Resolved

10.2.1 The Commissioner committed to ensuring that the published key decisions are kept up to date on his website.

11. Agreed Action Log

11.1 The agreed action log was noted.

12. Commissioner's Response to current issues

12.1 West Yorkshire Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

The Commissioner reported that the SARC is now opened in West Yorkshire. Work is ongoing with Leeds Community Health Trust. Leaflets about the crucial services that are available for victims have been produced.

Panel raised the issue of locality and how some victims will be able to access the service.

The Commissioner stated that this was an issue that they were aware of and that they are looking at what outreach work can be done through IDVAs and IDSAs.

12.2 Professional Standards Department (PSD) Early Resolution Pilot

Cllr Wassell raised the issue of the PSD Early Resolution Pilot that was completed in March. Following significant improvements to the early resolution of complaints that were dealt with under the pilot scheme, Cllr Wassell urged the Commissioner to do what he could to support the roll-out of the scheme across the whole of West Yorkshire on a permanent basis.

The Commissioner reported that the Chief Officer team are looking currently looking at the resourcing and roll-out implications and he has already been involved in early discussions about the outcome of the pilot scheme.

12.3 Policing of Festivals / Community Events

Cllr Lowe raised the issue of policing resources for festivals and community events with particular reference to the Leeds Pride event in August. The Commissioner stated that he had recently discussed this issue with the Chief Officer team. He stated that due to the cuts the Force would have to adopt a common-sense approach to the policing of such events. He added that the Force would work with local authority partners to ensure that community events were supported effectively.

13. Local Perspectives Update

- 13.1 Members considered the latest Local Perspectives survey responses from Community Safety Partnerships and Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committees.
- 13.2 Members were disappointed to note that only the Wakefield Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee responded to the Local Perspectives survey. In terms of the Community Safety Partnerships, responses were received from Leeds, Bradford and Kirklees.
- 13.3 The Panel noted that the Chairs of Community Safety Partnerships and Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committees would be invited to attend the July meeting of the Panel.

13.4 RESOLVED

13.4.1 That due to the poor response from Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committees, Panel Members were asked to encourage participation from their respective authorities.

13.5.2 Police and Crime Panel Officers to ensure Panel Members are aware when the Local Perspectives information is requested from their respective authorities.

14. Complaints Received by the Panel

- 14.1 Panel noted the latest position on complaints and agreed to form a Complaints Sub Committee to consider complaint 765962.

14.2 RESOLVED

14.2.1 That Councillor Wassell (Wakefield), Councillor Scott (Kirklees), Councillor Walls (Bradford) and Jo Sykes (Independent) form a Complaints Sub Committee to specifically consider the complaint.

15. Panel Forward Agenda Plan 2015

- 15.1 Some Members asked if consideration could be given to changing the date of the July meeting of the Panel from 17th due to Eid. The 24th July was proposed as an alternative date.

15.2 RESOLVED

15.2.1 Police and Crime Panel Officers to contact the OPCC to check on the Commissioner's availability in the first instance before circulating an alternative date(s) to Panel Members.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 Cllr Lowe stated that she would write to Cllr Les Carter on behalf of the Panel to thank him for his hard work and commitment over the years and to wish him well in his retirement.

16.2 Police and Crime Panel Officers stated that they were currently working on the Police and Crime Panel's Annual Report 2014/15 and requested Member input onto areas of focus for the Panel over the next twelve months. A draft copy of the Annual Report would be sent to Members in mid-May.

17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

17.1 10am on Friday 12 June at Wakefield One.