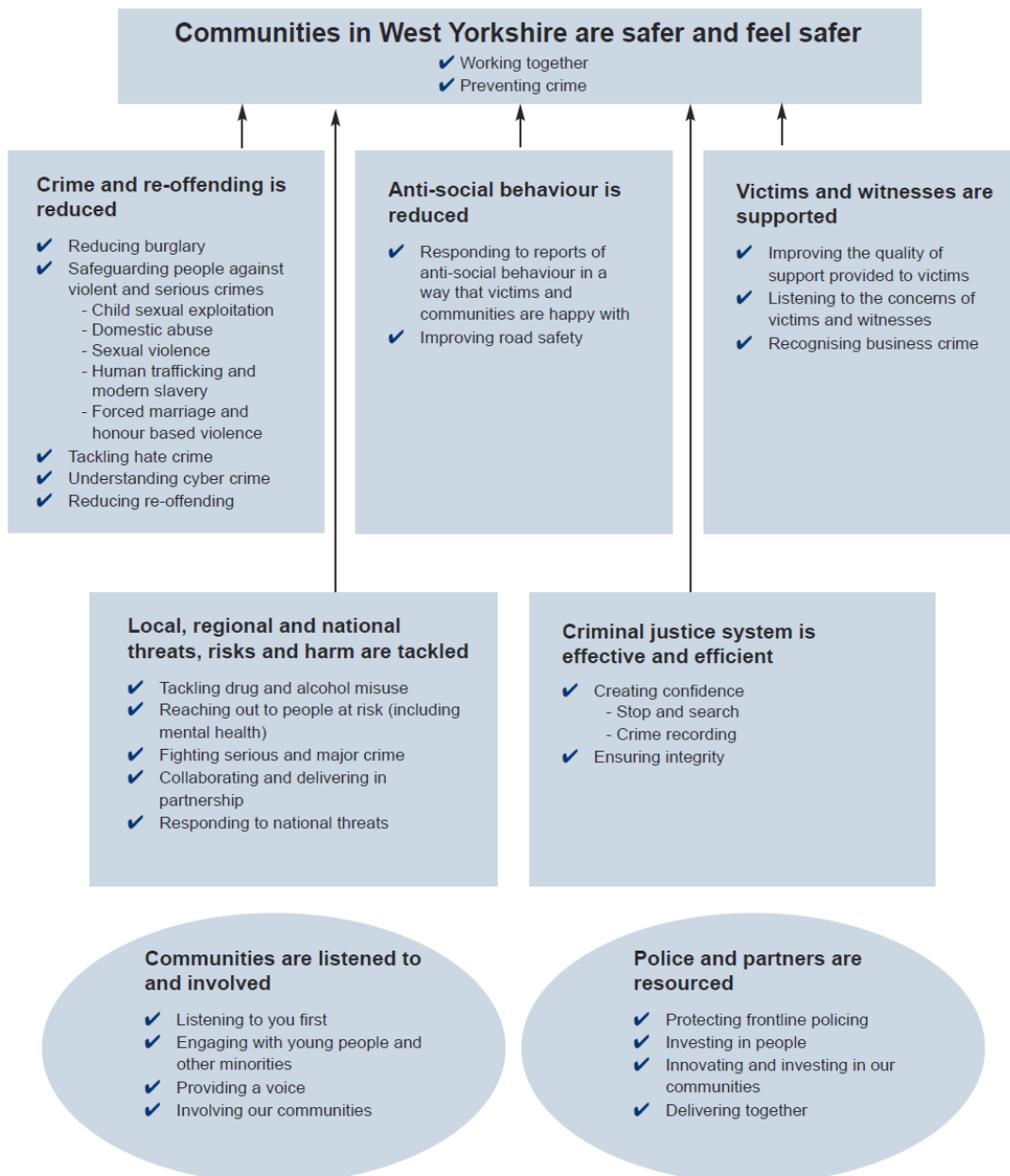


Our outcomes and priorities

These are the outcomes and priorities set out in more detail later in the plan



Improving road safety

When I ask people about the issues that matter to them, road safety and traffic issues are the issues that come up the most⁶. The police and community safety partners have also told me it is an issue. Road safety covers a variety of issues such as inconsiderate parking, speeding, use of mobile phones, general inconsiderate driving, and driving that causes a danger to others and vulnerable road users such as cyclists and pedestrians. While



Mark Burns-Williamson conducting speed checks with local school children in Calderdale

6 Police and Crime Commissioner Public Perception Survey September 2013

some view such issues as being minor and of little importance, an overwhelming majority feel it has an impact on their day-to-day lives and can impact how safe they feel. For some, the consequences can mean loss of health and life.

Of course, road safety issues are not necessarily endemic across West Yorkshire or even across local areas - they can be related

to a specific street corner, road or crossing. Local areas are looking to improve road safety through a programme that combines education, engagement, prevention and enforcement. Road safety will only be improved by working in partnership. While the police can prosecute some offences, others are within the jurisdiction of local councils and some road safety issues could be

better resolved through planning, the use of street furniture or the involvement of the highways authority.

It is important that I work with local partners to find local solutions. I will bring partners together and see where I can add value to work that is informed by local people.

- ✓ I will ask the broad range of local agencies that are involved in this area to work together with local people to ensure that local plans are in place to tackle high priority road safety issues where it is needed, and in the most appropriate way. As part of this I will ask local authorities, through the appropriate remit, to ensure that this is raised across relevant departments, as it is not simply a community safety issue and cannot be tackled without that wider buy-in from local people as well as local partners.
- ✓ I will encourage the police and other partners, where appropriate and a need exists, to educate communities on road safety.
- ✓ I will work with relevant partners to invest in and utilise technology such as automatic number plate recognition technology and CCTV to keep our roads safe.

Extract from the Draft Annual Report 2014/15 of the POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR WEST YORKSHIRE

IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY

- ✓ *I will ask the broad range of local agencies that are involved in this area to work together with local people to ensure that local plans are in place to tackle high priority road safety issues where it is needed, and in the most appropriate way. As part of this I will ask local authorities, through the appropriate remit, to ensure this is raised across relevant departments, as it is not simply a community safety issue and cannot be tackled without that wider buy-in from local people as well as local partners.*
- ✓ *I will encourage the police and other partners, where appropriate and a need exists, to educate communities on road safety.*
- ✓ *I will work with relevant partners to invest in and utilise technology such as automatic number plate recognition technology and CCTV to keep our roads safe.*

Road safety was added to the refreshed Police and Crime Plan in May 2014 as consistently people have raised road safety as a priority in their community. CSPs agree that there are problems around road safety, but that these need to be dealt with on a local basis – different local areas may suffer from different problems. Roundtable events were held with partners in Bradford, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield during 2014 while Calderdale provided feedback after their own consultation and the issues raised were: to focus around education not enforcement, specific issues varied greatly from district to district, there were particular concerns in Leeds and Wakefield around safety outside of schools and the immediate school area, and in all areas there were issues with communications and relationships with the police and partners including the level of strategic support.

In November 2014 the PCC launched his community conversation, where he spoke to residents and conducted a survey across West Yorkshire about the issues that mattered to them. One of the questions was around road safety and asked what the three issues relating to road safety were that caused people the most concern. The results can be seen on the PCC website [\[insert link\]](#) and is being used to inform his conversations with partners around what needs to be done across our communities going forward.

The OPCC is represented on the West Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership, which comprises West Yorkshire Police, the five local authorities, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, the Ambulance Service, and Highways. The Strategic West Yorkshire Roads Safety Partnership aims to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads across West Yorkshire. The OPCC also has formal links with each of the Districts Road Safety Partnership, these are integral to the delivery of appropriate road safety publicity, education and training to communities across the region.

Road safety campaigns

I have supported the production of 'It'll All End in Tears', an educational film inspired by the crash between the minibus and lorry on the M62, where local teenager Bethany Jones was tragically killed. The film focuses on personal safety and risk whilst travelling in vehicles and featured students from Hemsworth Arts and Community Academy and Minsthorpe Community College. The OPCC worked closely with officers from the South East Neighbourhood Policing Team to organise the premiere in November 2014 and help with the design of media products. I have supported the roll out of the film and accompanying teachers pack in schools across the county. You can find more on this at [\[insert link to website\]](#). I have also supported the "Strap It not Wrap it" Baby Safety Campaign in Kirklees.

£2,000 has been provided to the national road safety charity Brake, to enable them to provide an information pack and helpline for anyone who has been bereaved or seriously injured in a road crash.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)

ANPR technology is used within West Yorkshire Police to help detect, deter and disrupt criminality at a local, county, regional and national level, including tackling traveling criminals, organised crime groups and terrorists. I have provided support and authorised investment in West Yorkshire and regional ANPR capabilities, which involves the growth in the ANPR infrastructure, the ANPR vehicle fleet, the ANPR software provision plus the creation of an ANPR Operations Unit staffed 24/7 alongside a dedicated West Yorkshire-wide ANPR Airwave channel.

Wakefield CSP has also utilised ANPR cameras using the funding allocated to them via the Community Safety Fund, placing them at strategic points around the Wakefield district to assist in addressing road safety.

Community Safety Fund money used towards road safety, Kirklees

Road safety was identified by the CSP and the PCC as a new area of focus. The money allocated in this area will be used by the road safety group to develop work relating both to the anti-social and road safety aspects of road users. The CSP has also run a targeted initiative in specific areas to address road safety specifically seat belts and parking outside schools.

Reducing speed limits in Calderdale

20mph speed limits are being introduced from June 2015 to help reduce the number and seriousness of collisions, however changing driver behaviour will not happen overnight. Changing attitudes and driver behaviour will take a range of interventions so that over time, driving at 20mph becomes the norm. The police will continue to work with local people to tackle those areas where speed continues to be an issue. For example police will work with local schools and children to use 'speed guns' on selected streets and stop drivers who drive above the limit.

The approach uses education rather than enforcement, with a clear campaign message - by driving at 20mph those behind you will have to. The campaign also advises drivers about the tools available to keep them safe for example in car CCTV.