

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 9th September 2015

Subject: Supplementary information – Item 7 Road Casualty Reduction and 20mph Speed Limits in Leeds – Updated information from the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1 Main issues - Road Casualty Reduction

- 1.1 The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2013- 2018 identifies Improved Road Safety as a priority of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner. An update position is provided in the agenda pack as Appendix A.
- 1.2 Following publication of the Scrutiny Board agenda further information has been provided from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provides a more up to date position on initiatives. The information also provides feedback on the round table discussion on Road Safety at Leeds Civic Hall in October 2014. This event aimed to bring together relevant partners to discuss how they could work better together to improve road safety across the district and to talk about the issues that were raised by the public as part of the Police and Crime Commissioners 'listening to you' consultation events.

2 Information from the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

- 2.1 Road safety was added to the refreshed Police and Crime Plan in May 2014 as people from across West Yorkshire had told the PCC that this is an issue that concern them locally. Community Safety Partnerships agree that there were problems around road safety, but that these need to be dealt with on a local basis – different local areas may suffer from different problems.

2.2 The PCC has held roundtables with partners in 4 of the 5 districts (Bradford, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield). Calderdale have undertaken their own consultation and fed back into the OPCC.

The key areas raised through the consultation were;

- Issues varied greatly from district to district.
- When enforcement was discussed it was agreed a focus should be on education.
- Concerns at Leeds and Wakefield were raised around safety at schools. Leeds specifically related to the immediate vicinity around the school.
- All partners identified a need to work better together.

2.3 Specifically when the Police and Crime Commissioner met with key people from Leeds on 10 October 2014 the group discussed:

- Much work had been done to improve road safety within the District, this was not reflected in public perception.
- Many of the issues raised by residents were in respect of inconsiderate parking/driving and speeding.
- A great deal of work had been done in schools to educate children – 97% of child accidents occurred outside the immediate school area.
- The district was going to pull together a problem profile to look at the top ten areas to better understand local concerns.
- Concerns that serious casualties were at a long term low but the trend for 2014 onwards was that they would go back up.
- Traffic management costs and the need for local management and local solutions were highlighted.
- Partners to work together: Leeds Watch, CCTV, ANPR and conditional cautions.

2.4 In November 2014 the PCC launched a 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 are being used to inform the PCC's conversations with partners around what needs to be done across our communities going forward.

2.5 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

The PCC 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 teenage 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. The PCC supported the roll out of the film and accompanying teachers pack in schools across the county. The PCC also supported the "Strap It not Wrap it" Baby Safety Campaign in Kirklees.

The PCC will also be supporting West Yorkshire Police during the Road Safety Week commencing 23rd September and future drink driving campaigns over the winter months.

- 2.6 The PCC has provided a £2,000 donation 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.
- 2.7 The OPCC is currently supporting the co-delivery of a Pavements are for People pilot in Leeds, which is a campaign to raise awareness of the hazards caused by blocked pavements, particularly to people with sight impairment, users of wheelchairs or mobility scooters and parents with buggies and young children.

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. The PCC 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 a 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 Community Safety Partnership (and the Police and Crime Commissioner) 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.

Crackdown on dangerous and illegal parking, Bradford

In the 2014/15 period, action has been taken to crack down on dangerous and illegal parking outside schools in Bradford, with over 400 people being given parking tickets as at February 2015. This has increased from 32 issued in 2011/12.

Reducing speed limits in Calderdale

20mph speed limits are being introduced from June 2015 to help reduce the number and seriousness of collisions. Calderdale recognises that 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.

3 Recommendations

3.1 The Scrutiny Board (City Development) is requested to:

- Note the supplementary information provided

4 Background documents¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information.