



Report to: Police and Crime Panel

Date: 8th September 2023

Subject: Priority 2 – Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience

Report of: Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire

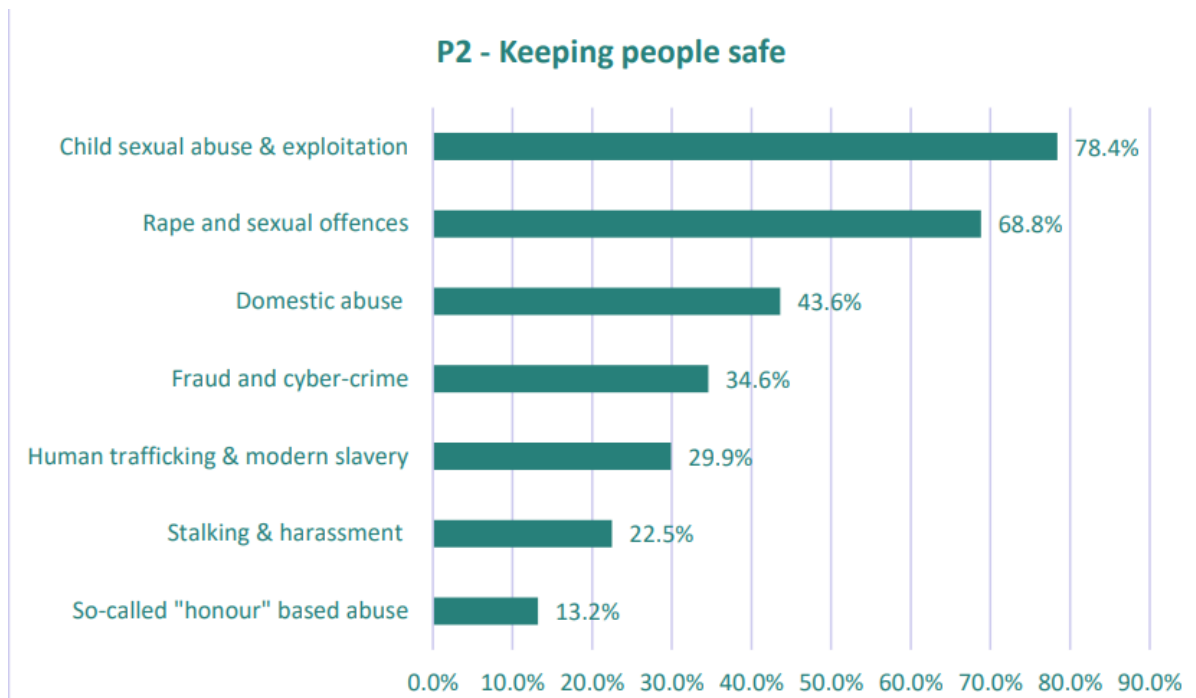
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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. This paper is designed to give an overview of the current position in the county and the progress over the last period with an understanding of the key challenges that have emerged for the Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience Police and Crime Plan priority.
- 1.2. Under this strategic priority the Police and Crime Plan states that the focus is on keeping people safe from (and preventing) harmful behaviour, exploitation, and abuse. We will support people in building their resilience to overcome and survive criminal behaviours.
- 1.3. Much of the emphasis under this priority is on working in partnership to reduce crimes that disproportionately affect women and girls and understand the extent of child sexual offences and domestic abuse which can be hidden due to underreporting. Much of this information has been included in the cross-cutting theme paper on the safety of women and girls; in this paper we will give some updates but also look at the other parts of this priority and the work taking place to support partners and organisations in this arena.

2. BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

- 2.1 Safeguarding and protecting those who are most vulnerable is one of the key themes running through the Police and Crime Plan; several safeguarding themes are captured under our ‘Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience’ priority.
- 2.2 The areas of focus under this priority were established with consultation with members of the public; the below graphic shows the percentage that considered them to be a priority under this heading.



3. STRATEGIC PRIORITY

- 3.1 Safeguarding vulnerable people is central to the work of the police and local community safety partners and, as vulnerability can take many forms, the response requires different agencies to work closely together to protect people from harm.
- 3.2 The following paragraphs highlight notable work from the past year carried out by West Yorkshire Police, the WY Violence Reduction Partnership, and the Policing and Crime Team within the Combined Authority, in our combined effort to safeguard vulnerable people in West Yorkshire.

4. PROGRESS

4.1. Policing and Crime Team - West Yorkshire Combined Authority

4.1.1 Re-Commissioning of the Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

West Yorkshire has a range of specialist services in place which address violence against women and girls including, for example, our domestic abuse perpetrator programme (CARA) and the network of independent domestic violence advisors (IDVAs) and independent sexual violence advisors (ISVAs) working throughout our districts.

West Yorkshire's SARC service provides critical support to the victims of sexual assault. This flagship facility works to co-ordinate and simplify the pathway for all victims of rape, sexual assault, or abuse, to access wider health or social care and criminal justice services. The SARC's primary aims are to improve individual health and well-being at a time of great personal trauma and support the achievement of better criminal justice outcomes for victims and their families.

SARC facilities provide three main elements following disclosure: healthcare, forensic examinations, and visually recorded interviews, supporting Achieving Best Evidence. Earlier this year, the Mayor and partners launched a re-commissioning and procurement exercise for the Adult SARC service.

The Mayor of West Yorkshire, the Yorkshire and the Humber (YaTH) Police and Crime Commissioners, NHS England, and NHS Improvement jointly commission a single Adult SARC Service that is delivered across the Yorkshire and Humber region. The contract costs are split 50/50 between YaTH Policing and Crime and NHSE Commissioners under a collaboration agreement.

The successful bidder was Mountain Healthcare, the current provider, and the new contract started on 1 April 2023. The contract awarded is for a maximum duration of 7 years (4 years plus a 3-year optional extension).

4.1.2 Supporting the Safety of Women and Girls

The Mayor's Women and Girls Strategy was launched on 23rd November at the Mayor's Third Sector Annual Conference. The aims and objectives of the projects include:

- Improve perception and feelings of safety in the West Yorkshire region, increasing trust and confidence, especially for women and girls,
- Generate a broader understanding and commitment across communities around the safety of women and girls; and,
- Reduce sexual violence, harassment, and intimidation.

Key achievements so far have included:

- **Safe Spaces:** The Mayor has adapted the learning from the Safety in Parks Research (funded by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority), and shared best practice to parks managers, landscape architects, and other public realm design professionals across the UK

The research, led by Dr. Anna Barker and Professor George Holmes at the University of Leeds, is a good example of how the Mayor has delivered a multi-dimensional approach to achieve a greater understanding of how to innovate and aid the safety of women and girls in public.

- The Mayor also launched a safer travel campaign in 2022 featuring a **Bus Safety Feedback Tool** which was available to passengers through the MCard app and website. The tool allowed passengers to feed back where they felt unsafe on the bus network, and what factors influenced people's sense of safety. The data collected through the tool will inform the work of the Mayor's Safer Travel Team, who are currently recruiting PCSOs to be based across key West Yorkshire transport hubs.

- **Behaviour Change:** The Mayor has commissioned Storycatchers to create a series of videos to address male behaviour change in line with the Safety of Women and Girls Strategy. The content has been designed with an aim to tackle damaging behaviours displayed by some young men and boys, with the target age range between 14 and 30 years.

The Combined Authority's Police and Crime Team are leading the project. Filming took place in West Yorkshire in August, with the completed content scheduled for release in September.

- **Launch of the Stalking Advocacy service:** The close of 2022 saw Victim Support launch a new service to support the victims of stalking. The Independent Stalking Advocacy service was funded with over £450,000 from the Mayor and aims to help victims through the criminal justice system if they choose to report to the police. The service meets an important gap in victim care and has received a significant number of referrals.

- **Planning for Additional Resources:** The momentum behind our work on the safety of women and girls has called for a review of the resources available to deliver our ambitions. Proposals are currently being formulated for a Safety of Women and Girls ‘taskforce’, a collaboration between the Mayor’s Policing and Crime Team, the Violence Reduction Partnership, and West Yorkshire Police. The taskforce will deliver the Mayor’s pledge to improve the safety of women and girls and support the delivery of the related national Strategic Policing Requirement.

The additional resource will also provide the structure to embed the ‘Operation Soteria’ national operating model to improve the investigation and prosecution of rape cases.

4.1.3 Safeguarding Campaigns and Pilot Projects

The Policing and Crime Team are active members of the West Yorkshire Safeguarding Communications Group. The group works to co-ordinate awareness raising and crime prevention campaigns across the Mayor’s office, West Yorkshire Police, and allied community safety partners.

One example is the recent ‘Safe to Play’ campaign, which provided advice for parents and guardians to make informed decisions in choosing activity clubs and sports facilities for their children over the summer months. The campaign encouraged parents to look out for signs that a sports or activity club may not be as legitimate as it seems.

Further campaign work planned for the near future includes a child-focused online safety campaign, whilst in November, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime will be supporting the 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Abuse and White Ribbon events.

4.1.4 SHAREDD programme

The DMPC recently met with the NSPCC where West Yorkshire Police’s involvement in a new child safety pilot programme was discussed. West Yorkshire Police have successfully bid to be one of three forces nationwide to pilot the NSPCC’s SHAREDD programme. SHAREDD is a tool to help response officers to identify, intervene, and take appropriate action to reduce the risk to babies, children and young people experiencing further harm through neglect.

4.1.5 West Yorkshire Children and Young People (CYP) Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel

Ensuring that children who enter the criminal justice system receive 'child focused' support is at the heart of the work of our Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel. This panel is an evolution of the Police and Crime Evidence (PACE) Beds meeting, which developed West Yorkshire's approach to ensuring children detained in custody are not placed in police custody but in secure accommodation and is chaired by a Policy Manager from the Policing and Crime Team.

This collaborative work across West Yorkshire between WYP, children's social care and local authorities has resulted in some positive recognition in a recent His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) inspection of CYP remands in West Yorkshire.

Our use of PACE beds and the regional arrangements that support this are highlighted as good practice in the report. We currently have the second highest use of PACE beds in the country, which is a significant step-change from last year and a real step forward in terms of our support for young people in the criminal justice system. The meeting has become a 'professional panel' that will continue to monitor and advise around CYP PACE bed provision and remands and will also look at other aspects of CYP in custody, initially addressing strip searches, with the potential to widen the panel's remit in future.

4.1.6 The West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership (WYASP)

The WYASP is chaired by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC). The group has continued to grow in strength over the past year, and attracts representatives from WYP, local and national anti-slavery and trafficking charities, and local health and housing services.

Recent meetings have included input from the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority and the Palm Cove Society, whose presentation featured insight into the practice of abuse exploiting victim's belief systems (e.g., accusations of spiritual possession). The principal means of exploitation in West Yorkshire remains that linked to sexual exploitation and labour abuses (e.g., cannabis farms, car washes, and emerging strands of exploitation seen through domestic servitude and in the care system).

4.1.7 Public Engagement Programmes

In July, the Policing and Crime Engagement team supported WYP in a

partnership event to promote the work of WYP's Professional Standards Department. The symposium 'Raising awareness to enhance support to victims' was held at West Yorkshire Police's Training and Development Centre at Carr Gate and was opened by Assistant Chief Constable Sarah Baker and the Mayor.

The event was designed to increase understanding of the work of the Professional Standards Directorate (PSD) and raise awareness of how partner agencies can support this work.

Speakers at the event talked about issues such as the Violence Against Women and Girls strategy, abuse of position for a sexual purpose, police-perpetrated domestic abuse and sexual misconduct.

4.1.8 The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund (Grant Round 4 – £350k) closed on 10th June. When Grant Round 4 closed, we had received nearly 150 applications totalling over £850,000 in value. The fund plays an important part in delivering on the priorities set out in our Police and Crime Plan through funding voluntary, community, and social enterprise (VCSE) sector and community scale organisations which deliver essential services to their communities and further afield in West Yorkshire. Recent grant awards addressing safeguarding concerns include:

**Happydays UK with West Yorkshire Police
Supported resident psychotherapy
Calderdale and Kirklees
£7280.00**

Happydays UK is a long-term housing and rehabilitation programme for formerly homeless people, many of whom are recovering addicts, to help them gain independence and stability. The project provides a year of weekly psychotherapy, to enable them to address deep-seated past trauma, develop healthier coping strategies, and focus more positively on their futures and place in society.

**Shine (West Bowling)
Shine
Bradford
£7424.00**

SHINE delivers a range of services to support their local community who face some

of the highest rates of deprivation in the country. From a central community space, they provide people with the support they need to address their needs and participate more fully in society. SHINE is a place people can access when faced with personal crisis; to receive food and support for addiction, abuse, or mental health problems.

**Yorkshire & Humber Regional Organised Crime Unit
County Lines Fearless Campaign
Across West Yorkshire
£6000.00**

WYP and Fearless will be working to deliver their project which addresses county lines drug gangs who exploit children and vulnerable people to move drugs and money. The gangs often use intimidation, violence and weapons. The campaign will highlight the ways people can identify those who may be being groomed into a life of drug dealing, along with the associated physical and sexual violence. Young people are encouraged to visit the Fearless.org website to find out more, pass on information anonymously, and access safeguarding advice.

4.2. Violence Reduction Partnership

4.2.1 Research and Toolkit Development

4.2.1a Social Media and Online Harms

We have recently concluded and published research to refine our understanding of young people's experiences of being online in West Yorkshire, what impact this has on their mental health, and what opportunities for education-based interventions may be to prevent, reduce and mitigate harm.

The report notes that the VRP has positioned itself as a future leader in this field and now has a real opportunity to pilot new approaches that could be scaled nationally and beyond. As such, we are seeking to deliver a school-based intervention to respond to the findings of this research. We have undertaken a 'Request for Information' process to help establish the appetite and capability to deliver an effective online harms intervention in West Yorkshire.

4.2.1b Night-Time Economy Toolkit

The VRP commissioned the development of a Night-Time Economy (NTE) toolkit to support towns and cities in the region to evaluate an area's NTE, secure the support of partners and create a strategic plan to address any

issues needing support. The toolkit content was developed using the outcome of research conducted with Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, and Wakefield.

The aim of the toolkit is to support the creation of a safe, vibrant, and healthy nighttime economy across towns and cities in West Yorkshire. The diversity and uniqueness of the NTEs in the region was acknowledged by the project team, and it was decided that this toolkit should take the form of a framework and template that each local authority could use in a way that reflects local circumstances and priorities.

The toolkit includes:

- An action plan template that can be used by the local authority areas to monitor the progress of the toolkit and its outputs.
- Best practice on relevant issues and opportunities identified in workshops.
- Data analysis and advice on best use of data to inform NTE action.
- An infographic highlighting the local NTE ecosystem.

4.2.1c Child First

The West Yorkshire VRP are committed to embedding a child first approach across the system. This was announced at the VRP launch event where delegates took part in a workshop focused on the areas of practice where we are already evidencing aspects of the approach, and what more we could do to improve. A survey has also been distributed to all our commissioned delivery partners to assess how aligned their VRP funded interventions are to the approach.

From the feedback gained from the workshop held at the VRP launch, we are now looking to develop a West Yorkshire framework with a panel of children. This is in keeping with the emphasis on the need for meaningful collaboration with children in the approach. We are also keen to adapt our internal products, such as the Strategic Needs Assessment and Response Strategy, to ensure they align with our child first ambitions.

4.2.1d Neurodiversity

The West Yorkshire VRP conducted research in relation to school absence, exclusion, and special educational needs (SEN) and/or neurodiversity.

The research was completed in partnership with Rocket Science and concludes that the elevated rates of exclusion, suspension and absence

result from systemic, structural, and cultural issues that exist with the education and adjoining systems.

The full report has now been published, which identifies three key recommendations:

- Improved systems
- Mentoring and/or peer mentoring
- Early intervention support

It builds upon previous local studies which suggest high levels of school exclusion for those with neurodiverse conditions or SEN is likely to be a risk factor in violence.

4.2.1e Housing

The VRP commissioned Humankind to investigate the extent to which housing is a risk factor for violence within West Yorkshire.

The research explored the intersections between access to safe, secure, appropriate, and affordable accommodation with experiences of violence, alongside a range of other lines of enquiry.

4.2.1f Theory of Change, Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit

The VRP commissioned Ecorys to develop a toolkit to equip our commissioned partners to contribute to an evidence base on what works in preventing and reducing violent crime. The toolkit, which will be finalised and available soon, gives the partners the building blocks to create theories of change for projects which, in turn, support the creation of robust monitoring systems and evaluation techniques.

4.2.1g NEET & Violence Review

The VRP have produced a literature review on young people not in education, employment, or training (NEET) and violent crime. The review provides an overview of the links between NEET and violence, the risk and protective factors for/against becoming NEET, the impact of Covid-19, and an analysis of what works, and sets out potential future directions and ideas for the VRP.

4.2.2 West Yorkshire Adversity, Trauma and Resilience (ATR) Programme

As previously updated, the VRP co-lead the West Yorkshire ATR programme with the West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership (also referred to as the Integrated Care Board (ICB)). This is an ongoing programme and extensive engagement has been undertaken with system

leaders, networks, and boards, including Health and Wellbeing boards, safeguarding networks, Integrated Care System programme boards, children's boards, and local strategy boards to increase collaborative and partnership working. Governance for the West Yorkshire Adversity, Trauma and Resilience Programme sits with the West Yorkshire Adversity Trauma and Resilience Strategy Group, chaired by the Deputy Mayor for West Yorkshire, Alison Lowe.

A framework was developed in 2022 to provide an overview of the approach to becoming a Trauma Informed and Responsive System by 2030, highlighting the necessity for System Change and Cultural Humility. To implement the framework, we need to create capacity to work together at a West Yorkshire-level to develop a sustainable training approach, including a train the trainer style package. A Training Collaborative has been established for this purpose.

A review of the framework and programme structure is currently being finalised to inform activity for the next twelve months. There are approximately 400 members from the system engaged and working with us to achieve this ambition.

To compliment the partnership working at both at a district and West Yorkshire-level, during the last twelve months the programme has:

- Delivered a third annual Knowledge Exchange and an animation to promote the programme, with planning for a fourth event in 2024 ongoing,
- Held two training workshops looking at trauma informed co-production and online harms, which were filmed to produce training resources for professionals to access,
- Produced guidance to support schools and education settings to become trauma informed, including trauma-informed language guidance,
- Provided specialist training on trauma informed practice to colleagues across the police, housing providers, staff within HMP Leeds, and health,
- Continued to support HMP Leeds to become a trauma-informed prison and provided support to other organisations/services such as Locala, Liaison and Diversion, and the Combined Authority to start their journeys to be trauma informed organisations,
- Held an Education Awareness week sharing information, presentations and resources with partners working across education.

- Launched the second Fellowship programme, with over 20 having a focus on adversity, trauma, and resilience.
- Presented to colleagues working across the UK, USA, South Africa, and New Zealand to share the approach we are using to deliver in West Yorkshire.

4.2.3 Intervention Delivery

Our commissioned interventions reached just over 30,000 young people during 2022-23. We have continued to work with existing providers and core members to deliver a programme of commissioned interventions for 2023-24, aligned to the most recent Needs Assessment and Response Strategy and with consideration for research and emerging evidence. During 2023-24 this will equate to spend of just under £2.3million or approximately 51% of the VRP's annual budget.

Whilst some of this commissioning is ongoing, an updated intervention overview as of July 2023 is attached as Appendix A.

Some of these interventions work with especially vulnerable and at-risk young people within West Yorkshire, supporting them to make more positive choices, to re-engage with education or to access further ongoing support through both statutory and VCSE provision. We have successful collaborative approaches established through the A&E Navigator models within Leeds, Bradford, Calderdale, and Huddersfield, and are currently in discussion to expand provision into Wakefield. This will involve Liaison and Diversion, St Giles Trust, and West Yorkshire Police, as part of both the Custody Diversion programme and the Focused Deterrence Car, which is currently being reviewed for continued delivery across West Yorkshire. We have seen increased willingness from young people to engage with support services when using experienced and trained youth workers or staff with lived experience, as well as better identification of young people who need further support but have felt unwilling or unable to disclose honestly what they have experienced.

This programme of intervention delivery will be complimented by commissioned external evaluation, collection of performance monitoring, and review from VRP staff.

4.3. West Yorkshire Police

4.3.1 CSEA, Child Abuse and Neglect

CSEA continues to present a significant challenge for the Force and police

services nationally, particularly in relation to demand associated with complex and non-recent offences, and the ever-growing demand in the field of online offending against children. Nationally, the publication of three key papers has brought the spotlight on important child protection themes:

- The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel report into Child Protection in England
- The Independent Review of Children's Social Care
- The Report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

Notable activity from WYP includes:

- Each district has a dedicated Safeguarding Investigations Team with specialist and dedicated Child Protection Detectives and POLIT representative (Police Online Investigation Team) who focus specifically on offending in the online space. Further support is provided by the Abusive Images Assessment Hub (AIAH) and the Digital Forensics Unit (DFU).
- The force has a dedicated Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Team who work with partners and officers to investigate and understand complex and organised offending linked to Serious Organised Crime Groups (OCGs). In addition, each district has a Children Vulnerable to Exploitation Team (CVET) which is headed by a Detective Inspector.
- Dedicated non-recent complex CSEA investigation teams which are led by a Senior Investigation Officer (SIO).
- A West Yorkshire-wide response to safeguarding within the Homes for Ukraine scheme. This was taken forward as an example of good practice nationally.
- An ongoing commitment to training WYP officers and staff in safeguarding practice, for example a recent CPS input on child protection investigations.

4.3.2 Domestic Abuse

A force-wide domestic abuse training event took place in January 2023. The day was aimed at police officers and staff from across the Force who are involved in responding to, investigating, and supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse. Inputs included an overview of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, learning from domestic homicides, Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs), partnership inputs from Restorative Solutions on the

domestic abuse perpetrator programme, 'Cautioning and Relationship Abuse' (CARA), and the new Independent Stalking Advocacy Service (ISAC) provided through Victim Support.

Working with nationwide domestic abuse charity *SafeLives*, the force commenced the delivery of 'Domestic Abuse Matters' training in April 2023, with an aim of training 3,450 officers and staff across the force. Work is ongoing to identify DA Matters Champions to attend a further training course. DA Champions will play a key role in recognising and sharing best practice in relation to domestic abuse.

Finally, the WYP Safeguarding Central Governance Unit (SCGU) continues to provide access to the online training resources of Dr. Jane Monckton-Smith's 'Eight Stage Homicide Timeline'. As of 31st May 2023, 607 officers and staff from across the force have access to these training modules. The training helps staff understand how and why risk may escalate in a relationship and provides guidance for identifying appropriate interventions to safeguard potential victims of domestic violence.

The latest victim satisfaction results for the 12 months to March 2023 report overall victim satisfaction (for all crime types) at 71.8% whereas satisfaction reported by domestic abuse victims is higher at 83.5%.

4.3.3 Stalking

The WYP Stalking Coordination Unit (SCU) is linking with investigative staff to provide bespoke advice and better support to victims of stalking through our work with the West Yorkshire Victim Support Independent Stalking Advocacy Caseworker (ISAC) service.

Stalking Protection Orders (SPOs) are increasingly considered as an option to safeguard victims and manage risks posed by perpetrators. There are currently 46 active SPO cases (25 awaiting initial legal advice, and 21 authorized by Legal Services and awaiting completion of application paperwork by OICs). A further 2 cases are currently within the court process. A new interim SPO was granted in May pending a final hearing in July; this is in addition to the 3 SPOs obtained prior to the commencement of the SCU pilot.

The SCU continues to build links regionally and nationally with other forces to share and develop best practice; this includes participation in the Regional and National Stalking Working Groups. Importantly, strong links are being made with key partner agencies such as Victim Support and Paladin National Stalking Advocacy Services.

4.3.4 So-called Honour Based Abuse (HBA), Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The Force continues as the Northeast regional lead for this area, meeting with other forces to share best practice. From this position, we see all Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders sent to regional forces.

Nationally, West Yorkshire has the second highest number of protective orders. This reflects the strong partnership work carried out alongside local Children's Social Care services.

Following successful training in 2022, SCGU are liaising with HBA charity *Karma Nirvana*, with a view to delivering further awareness sessions and a three-day course for investigators later in the year. SCGU will also be re-establishing the force-wide steering group with representatives from partner agencies.

4.3.5 Mental Health

The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and the College of Policing have recently launched the Right Care Right Person (RCRP) programme nationwide. This toolkit supports the police in working in partnership with other agencies to ensure that vulnerable people get the right support from the right emergency services.

West Yorkshire Police have, over several years, adopted very similar demand reduction policies to those of RCRP, but there are still a number of areas to further enhance provision of efficient and effective services to those suffering mental health crises.

WYP will utilise existing structures such as the Mayor's WY Criminal Justice and Mental Health Forum to aid future planning with partners.

4.3.6 Adult Safeguarding & Missing from Home

WYP now have a refreshed 'Missing Module' embedded in its *Niche* incident management software. This has recently been updated to allow for 'TextSafe' messages to be sent to missing adults and children. At police request, this is facilitated by the charity Missing People, who will send a supportive message to the missing person's phone. This helps the missing person to reach out to the charity for free and confidential support. This tool not only provides much-needed support to the missing person but acts to reduce police demand by helping to reduce repeat missing episodes.

A digital Herbert Protocol platform, 'Safe and Found Online', was launched in April 2023, and West Yorkshire Police officers and staff are promoting its use. Over 260 officers working in neighbourhoods have been shown how to use the system if they are investigating a missing person living with dementia. The Herbert Protocol is a national scheme which allows relatives and friends of those at risk of going missing to complete a form in advance providing important information about them to help emergency services locate them quickly and provide the right support when found.

To coincide with Dementia Awareness week in May, a series of dementia awareness sessions were run by Insp Neil Taylor (Dementia Friends Ambassador). The main aim was to refresh the force-wide list of Dementia Champions. The sessions proved extremely popular, and all districts/depts now have a high number of SPOCs they can approach for advice/signposting about anything dementia related.

Together with this support, WYP has been able to launch an updated Dementia Awareness iLearn package to help raise the profile of the Herbert Protocol and Safe and Found Online platform. The iLearn aims to increase officers' knowledge and therefore boost their confidence when supporting people living with dementia.

5. GOVERNANCE

- 5.1 The **West Yorkshire Children's Risk and Vulnerability Group (WYR&V)** met in January, chaired by the Safeguarding Advisor, and is currently under review. This group receives updates from all the Local Authority areas highlighting risks and opportunities. Other updates were from the Safeguarding Central Governance Unit in West Yorkshire Police and the Violence Reduction Partnership. The January meeting also included a full briefing on the Mayor's Safety of Women and Girls Strategy from the WYCA Policy Manager.
- 5.2 The **West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership (WYASP)** meeting took place on 19th April 2023 chaired by the Deputy Mayor. Since its creation in 2014, the WYASP has successfully brought together law enforcement, local government, public services, and NGOs for the delivery of a coordinated response to modern slavery, as well as the continued improvement of services for the safeguarding of victims. After a pause for the summer, the Partnership will next meet on 28th September.

6 EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION BENEFITS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 West Yorkshire is a vibrant and diverse region. It is home to many different communities within the towns, cities, and villages of each district. Together, the shared ambition is held to live and work in safe, thriving neighbourhoods. At the centre of the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan is the celebration of this diversity and the vision of a fair, just, and inclusive West Yorkshire.
- 6.2 The Police and Crime Plan (from which this report draws its priority) was subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.
- 6.3 The Mayor's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion is central to Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience and the associated commissioning approach and processes. An Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit¹ for Policing and Crime funded providers, services, and projects was published in October 2022 to provide information that supports services commissioned and funded by the Mayor to support Police and Crime Plan delivery. All funded services and activity require an Equality Impact Assessment, and continuous performance of identified actions and progress will be monitored as part of our contracting and granting arrangements.

6 IMPLICATIONS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN WEST YORKSHIRE

- 6.1 The issues tackled through Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience impact all people, regardless of age. However, they can have especially profound impact and implications for the outcomes for children and young people.
- 6.2 The responses in this report highlight the areas where young people are impacted and how this is mitigated through the various services and provisions. The VRP and the Adversity, Trauma and Resilience framework, through a public health approach, looks specifically at children and young people, both victims and perpetrators, and exploring methods to break the cycle of vulnerability through education and evidence-led policing tactics.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 All commissioning is undertaken in line with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Contract Standing Orders approved by the Mayor under the

¹ <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/commissioning/tools-for-providers/>

scheme of delegation and financial regulations.

7.2 The Policing and Crime Commissioning Strategy 2022-2024 sets out how we commission safe, just, and inclusive community-based services and activities for West Yorkshire.

7.3 The community-based services and activities commissioning budget is split into the following strategic funding:

- Victims of Crime
- Community Safety
- Criminal Justice
- Violence Reduction Unit
- Partnership Contributions

8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None.

9 EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

9.1 Where external consultation has taken place, this has been included in the paper and where possible the priorities of the public have driven much of the ongoing work. Feedback from Your Voice – Consultation on the Police and Crime Plan continues to inform our work on keeping people safe and building resilience.

<https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/8215/police-and-crime-plan-voice-of-west-yorkshire-public-consultation.pdf>

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the panel note this report as a comprehensive update on the Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience Priority from the Police and Crime Plan (2020-2024).

BACKGROUND PAPERS AND APPENDICES

Appendix A VRP Commissioned Interventions

CONTACT INFORMATION

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