**Item 2**



**West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel**

**Draft Minutes**

**13th December 2024, Old Court Room, Town Hall, Wakefield**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Eileen Taylor - Leeds Council (Chair)

Councillor Lynn Masterman - Wakefield Council

Councillor Nussrat Mohammed - Bradford Council

Councillor Chris Hayden - Bradford Council

Councillor Celia Hickson - Bradford Council

Councillor Brenda Monteith - Calderdale Council

Councillor Shazad Fazal - Calderdale Council

Councillor Anthony Smith - Kirklees Council

Councillors Jackie Ferguson - Wakefield Council

Mr Trevor Lake - Independent

Mrs Jo Sykes - Independent

In attendance

Tracy Brabin - Mayor of West Yorkshire

Alison Lowe - Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

Wendy Stevens - West Yorkshire Combined Authority

Robert Forrest - West Yorkshire Combined Authority

John Robins - West Yorkshire Police

Andrew Wright - West Yorkshire Police

Sharon Fraser - Wakefield Council

Samantha Wilkinson - Wakefield Council

Fiona Bernardo - Wakefield Council

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gwen Lowe, Nicole Lloyd and Andrew Carter.

**2. To approve, as a correct record and deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel held on 13th September 2024.**

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

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

3.1There were no urgent items to add to the agenda.

**4. Members’ Declaration of Interest**

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**5. Performance Monitoring Report Q2**

5.1 The Deputy Mayor introduced the report and highlighted the ‘Maude & Scram’ initiative which aims to prevent young people from falling victim to fraud.

5.2 The Mayor highlighted the overall increases in victim satisfaction which is as a result of renewed efforts to keep people informed.

5.3 The Mayor was thanked for the report and for incorporating some of Panel’s previous comments regarding some extra data which gives more context. Panel welcomed that the report generally showed things appeared to be moving in the right direction.

5.4 Whilst welcoming the overall increase in satisfaction rates, Panel questioned why there is a significant and widening difference between overall satisfaction of White victims and for victims and callers from all other ethnic groups.

5.5 In response, it was reported that WYP had previously undertaken work specifically targeting BME groups and improving communication as there is a clear correlation that where communication is good, satisfaction is better and there were subsequent improvements. However, resources have needed to be redirected into operational policing and WYP have not been able to sustain this work, and that is reflected in the reduction. It was pointed out that there are good increases in victim satisfaction around areas such as, ASB, and violence against the person which does reflect the renewed effort to keep people informed.

5.6 Panel questioned the large increase year on year for Rape and Serious Sexual Assault (SSO)and the large disparities across the different districts. The Mayor responded commenting that rape not consistent across or specific to districts. It was also noted that these figures have been affected by non-recent allegations. The Deputy Mayor stated that the figures do include a combination of more rapes, more reporting and the historic cases. It had been expected that the historic numbers would reduce once the unit was established but has carried on at same rate.

5.7 The Mayor stressed the need to be outcome focussed on this and pointed out that 63 more victims have received positive outcomes and justice. She stated that her mission is to get justice for all victims to enable them to heal.

5.8 The Mayor was asked if the data on Rape and SSO could be split to understand the picture of what offences are happening now and as a result if current policies are working. The Chief Constable confirmed that the force does have this data and the ability to split this out into historical and current. The Chief Constable also clarified that this data is just part of what is looked at and data from the crime survey of England and Wales provides further detail of a more realistic picture and provides a view of what is happening across society.

5.9 Panel commented that the report doesn’t include numbers of prosecutions but does report on the change from previous years. It was suggested that this might be something that could be considered as part of the new police and crime plan.

5.10 Panel asked the Mayor to pass on their congratulations to the Kirklees District DMI’s and DC Richard Carter on their national recognition in digital forensics.

5.11 Panel asked the Mayor to feedback on the WYCA survey which monitor’s cyber-attacks on businesses. It was agreed to provide Panel with written feedback on this.

5.12 The Mayor was asked about the measure to increase the proportion of the workforce from ethnic minorities and in particular the statement that during recruitment it was higher and nearer to the target, but now dips.

5.13 It was explained that new recruitment is much closer to the percentage of population, however, when looking at the whole of the existing workforce it dilutes the figure and is much lower. As retirement and leavers happen, the figures will change but takes time. Numbers recruited and the retention of women is strong and shows that the culture is inclusive.

**5.14 RESOLVED**

**5.14.1 The Mayor ageed to pass on Panel’s congratulations to the Kirklees District DMI’s and DC Richard Carter on their national recognition in digital forensics.**

**5.14.2 The Mayor agreed to provide written feedback to Panel on the WYCA survey which monitor’s cyber-attacks on businesses.**

**6. Draft Police and Crime Plan 2024-28**

6.1 The Mayor opened by thanking her team for their help and support with the plan and the public for re-electing her and enabling her to build on the work from her previous term.

6.2 The Mayor went on to say that the priorities set out in the plan were the priorities which formed part of the manifesto commitment. The cross-cutting themes continue, along with the addition of men and boys, and early interventions with children. The Mayor stated that serious violence is an area that she would like to highlight, and work has been ongoing to develop the serious violence strategy. She commented that this spotlight has been supported by public and partners in the ongoing consultation work.

6.3 The Mayor stated that her direction to the team had been to keep the plan very high level, easy to understand and accessible for the public, however, there is a huge amount of work that sits underneath it.

6.4 Panel welcomed the draft plan and the objectives outlined in the document. They agreed that the structure works well and the simpler plan was easier to read and understand by members of the public.

6.5 Panel asked if the Mayor was aware how many people will access the report. It was reported that the Mayor’s team are looking at ways to launch the plan and it will be launched to different communities in different ways, including at a Violence Reduction Partnership event, online and in hard copy. There is also a lot of work ongoing to launch at a local level to mirror how the consultation and draft plan worked. As well as being available as a hard copy, there will be a format for children and young people with additional needs and requests for other formats will be responded to.

6.6 Panel asked if the Mayor was happy that the plan gives sufficient detail on how outcomes will be delivered. The Mayor responded that she is happy, and the Deputy Mayor explained how the individual strategies that underpin the plan will provide the delivery implementation detail that delivers the ambition of the strategic plan. There are links in the plan to strategies that were developed in the Mayor’s first term, and these will continue. When asked if the public can access how they will be delivered, the DMPC confirmed that they will all have delivery plans sitting underneath.

6.7 Panel queried if there are intentions for performance measure numbers be in the plan or are they going to be in a separate document.

6.8 It was confirmed that the new Police and Crime Plan will exclude performance data, featuring only the matrix of the measures. It was explained that whilst the performance measures in the plan are what drives the performance reporting that comes to Panel each quarter, it is the Needs Assessment (NA) that sits alongside the Plan that contains the numbers. The NA is based on the trends in the measures across the period of the Mayor’s first plan. There has been an assessment of these and what changes are required and replaced with figures to reflect metrics for new plan.

6.9 Panel asked what the baseline for performance measures will be and if it would be changing from 2019 (pre-covid). Clarity on this could not be provided at the meeting.

6.10 Panel pointed out that the report did not include information on crime and disorder reduction grants which is a requirement of Police and Crime Plans, and questioned if they would still be available. It was noted that grants will continue to be available and there is much ongoing work with community safety partners to make sure these are used. It was explained that the graphic in the plan is simple and the Commissioning Strategy that sits behind it does clearly define the grants available.

6.11 Following the questions to the Mayor and her Deputy Mayor, Panel will produce a report setting out their agreed views and recommendations on the Mayor’s draft Police and Crime Plan which will be sent to the Mayor and published on the Panel’s website.

**6.12 RESOLVED**

**6.12.1 Panel to submit a report to the Mayor setting out their agreed views and recommendations on the draft Police and Crime Plan.**

**7. Mayor’s Response to any current issues**

7.1 The Mayor updated Panel on her budget consultation which launched online on 5th December and is open until 17th January. The information from this online survey will also be informed by a series of in person consultations. Panel thanked the Mayor for taking on board some of the feedback they had offered on the budget consultation exercise.

7.2 The Mayor updated Panel on the Extra-Ordinary COM specifically considering the serious disorder Harehills disturbances. At the COM the Mayor and Deputy Mayor asked questions of the Chief Officer Team on behalf of community, which focused on incident response, young people, bail, social media, interpreters etc. The COM also covered issues such as dangerous dogs, stop and search, stalking, safeguarding and more. The Mayor thanked the Chief Constable for his engagement and helping to ensure transparency of the police force by openly addressing community concerns. The Mayor paid tribute to courage and bravery of officers on the night.

7.3 Panel expressed a need for funding of voluntary organisations working in communities and at grass roots level to ensure that women and girls in particular are taught that hate crime comments are not acceptable, and that culture change is needed.

7.4 The Mayor referred to the good work that is currently ongoing and the opportunities afforded by the Safer Communities Fund which can help community organisations. The Deputy Mayor reiterated this and pointed out that the latest round of Safer Communities Funding closes today.

7.5 The Mayor highlighted some of the work that has been done in the drive to irradicate violence against women and girls including the increase of safe spaces/rooms in bus stations and the safer travel team which has reduced incidents on bus network by 22%. It has been shown that reoffending drops by 50% with the use of Smart water for victims of DA. The #justdon’t campaign has been widely supported and has been shared by the singer Pink. The Men and Boys strategy is also an important part of the solution and work continues to implement it.

7.6 The Mayor was asked about a recent media report on the lack of support for Ask for Angela campaign and if this was something that could be reinforced.

7.7 The Deputy Mayor reassured Panel that there is a whole range of mechanisms to ensure that the staff in organisations that have signed up understand and undertake their part. The DMPC and team have gone to venues to test it out and ask about the knowledge of staff and this is an on-going piece of work that local authorities are assisting with.

7.8 The Mayor was also asked if there was any movement on asking publicans to have covers available for drinks to deter spiking. It was noted that some venues do offer them and LA licencing teams can incorporate this as part of their licencing. Panel members were encouraged to ask their councils to consider this as part of licensing agreements.

**8. Published Key Decisions**

8.1 The Published Key Decisions were noted.

**9. Agreed Actions Log**

9.1 The updated Agreed Actions Log was noted.

**10. Forward Plan**

10.1 The Forward Plan was noted.

**11. Complaints received by the Panel**

11.1 The update report was noted.

**12. Any Other Business**

12.1 There was no other business raised.

**13. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

13.1 The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be held at 10.00 am on Friday, 7th February 2024 in the Old Court Room, Town Hall, Wakefield.