**Community Outcomes Meeting (COM)**

Date: Tuesday 17 September 2024

**Present**

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| Alison Lowe – Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC)  Julie Reid – Head of Policing and Crime, WYCA | John Robins, CC, WYP  Damien Miller – ACC, WYP   Rob McCoubrey, T/ACC  ACO Katherine Johnson DSI Marie Bulmer |

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| **Also present**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Sharon Waugh, Consultation and Engagement Manager, Policing and Crime  Rachel Hannan, Consultation and Engagement Officer, Policing and Crime | David Iveson, Digital Communications Officer, Policing and Crime  Rebecca Marano, Press Officer, Policing and Crime | | |
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1. **Welcome, introductions and apologies.**

The Deputy Mayor introduced the meeting, welcomed those in attendance and provided an overview of the agenda.

1. **Notes of the previous meeting on 18 June 2024 and Matters arising.**

The notes of the previous meeting were accepted as a correct record.

1. **DMPC and Chief Constable Announcements**
2. **Serious Disorder - Harehills.** The Mayor was adding an item to the agenda for the next meeting on 26 November 2024, to discuss any lessons learnt following the serious disorder on 18 July 2024. The meeting including the discussion would be live streamed.
3. **Consultation - Police and Crime Plan.** Consultation on the Police and Crime Plan 2024 –28 was open. Once completed the plan would set out policing priorities and the direction of West Yorkshire Police over the next four years so it was vital they hear from everybody, from members of the public to partners, stakeholders, organisations and businesses. At the same time, they were seeking your views to inform the development of a new Serious Violence strategy for West Yorkshire. They wanted to hear from individuals and communities affected by serious violent crime, especially including those who felt underrepresented or unheard.

For more information on how to get involved, including links to online surveys, in person consultation and the call for evidence on Serious Violence, please visit the website www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk /policing-and-crime.

1. **MSCF Awards.** The most recent round of the Mayor’s Safer Communities Fund had awarded 68 projects, 20 addressing Clear Hold Build, totalling over £581k. This round was the first time that applications were welcomed for projects to deliver on Clear, Hold, Build priorities in three Home Office pilot areas in West Yorkshire. They looked forward to seeing all the exciting, funded projects come to life. The next grant round opened 11 November 2024.
2. **Digital Policing – Exception Paper - Access the full report** [**HERE**](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.westyorks-ca.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2F12867%2Fitem-4-digital-policing-cover-paper.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

The DMPC asked what the main challenges and risks of the future of Technology in Policing were in West Yorkshire.

ACO Hankinson said the paper demonstrated where WYP faced challenge compared to the national strategy. Firstly, there was a challenge around security of the system data. WYP underwent an annual independent security assessment which provided an action plan. Another challenge was data, how they used it and the integration of systems. Recruitment and retention of skills was another challenge, in that WYP lose skills to the private sector. Finally, the developing challenge of IT supply management for a shrinking sector regarding the large monopoly over IT systems, Microsoft’s licence cost for example came at an expense. Risks for the future included the security of the systems. WYP were subject to assessment next year and were aiming to achieve level 3 (out of 5). They also had a change in platform to the cloud environment on the horizon, which was set to be a cultural challenge within the force as well as a technical one.

DMPC asked, regarding improving the victim experience could more be said about current and future investment will better support victims.

ACO Hankinson said WYP had a huge focus on investing to make contact easier for the public and had shaved the response time off 999 and 101 calls. They had made investments into telephone statements which were working well for officers and witnesses, and they had set up Teams Rapid Video Response. There was also the growing area of Remote Response Teams. The Crime Update Function was having approx. one thousand uses per month which reduced demand in other areas. Finally, the Customer Relationship Management Submission was a function which swept the entire system for information on the victim which helped to build a better picture to support them.

DMPC said the report talked about investment and exploitation of software robotics to reduce the administrative burden which has resulted in becoming one of the leading forces in deploying and exploiting robotics and asked for elaboration.

ACO Hankinson said a small team had been set up as a pilot in November 2021. This was an external organization supporting programming jobs which did not require ‘judgement’ type roles, e.g., administrative tasks. WYP were one of the leading forces so were sharing learning and expertise across forces.

CC Robins said it came into effect for victims as it was making their information flow quicker and more responsive, it checked for duplication and was working on Hate Crime and Modern-Day Slavery crimes. DMPC added it had increased public satisfaction by 7%.

DMPC said diverse communities may have been concerned about advancements in technology in policing and asked what reassurances could be offered to them about WYP’s approach to the National strategy.

ACO Hankinson said they used an external ethics committee to run developments past, and they observed developments in other forces. DMPC said there was lots of expertise in that committee. CC Robins added in terms of digital policing it was an area to make vast gains for both police and victims, but there was no capital funding available. When WYP talked about investing the risk was that it was pulling resources away from front line policing. Nationally there needed to be oversight as they are expensive pieces of work and when applying for funding from the Home Office there was barely anything apart from funding for personnel. DMPC said coincidentally, the Labour Group APCC met that morning, and capital was raised as a priority for that meeting, understanding productivity reviews were putting pressure on, not always considering ethics.

**Action: DMPC will continue to raise issue of Capital Funding.**

1. **Violence Against Women & Girls - to access the full report** [**HERE**](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12868/item-5-vawg-cover-paper.docx)**.**

ACC Miller introduced the item by highlighting the continued success of the Cut It Out campaign, Mayors Women’s Safety Unit and Pol-Ed. He noted that the Safer Travel Team had seen a 10% reduction of incidents on busses.

DMPC asked, regarding the report, about the nature and number of the bitesize audits that would take place over the next 6 months.

ACC Miller said they continued to audit crimes for high standards and against victim’s needs, all in line with the Mayors Women’s Safety Unit. The priorities were rape, serious sex offences, stalking, honour-based abuse (HBA) and forced marriage. They would be looking at those crime types individually to ensure investigations were the best they could be, taking learning from them. In addition, to further professionalise approach to audits, they would speak to key partners, for example the Honour Based Abuse (HBA) steering group to ask how best to deal with that crime type. They also wanted to extend this approach further to other groups. To professionalise their approach further they planned to address how they deal with non-contact sexual offenses such as flashing. Their first audit would be on rape and sex assault, beginning next month. The findings would come back via the Protecting Vulnerable Persons Board chaired by ACC Miller in October, and this would provide an early indication of how they were adopting Operation Soteria principles.

DMPC asked what the key changes in the professionalisation and to non-contact sexual offences had been and what educational package standards of response would be provided to officers regarding non-contact offences (NCO).

ACC Miller said they looked at NCO and how they came through the organisation. The starting point was Storm. NCOs could be reported differently, so they created Storm coding, so they were identifiable as soon as the victim made contact. They were able to individually flag each offence, bringing to the attention of commanders. A reporting function was also created for NCO’s which identified patterns, which provided a focus to incorporate to daily brief to the CC. There was also new national guidance they had taken recommendations and adopted new principles from. ACC Miller said they would deliver a revised West Yorkshire Policy, launching next month. There would be an internal campaign and a new training package. They would be launching an external campaign to the public, to boost reporting. WYP planned to use the Mayors Reclaim the Night event to do this.

DMPC highlighted a well done on the number of stalking protection orders. She asked what the outcomes were so far since piloting the Stalking Screening Tool.

ACC Miller said the Stalking Screening Tool had been a challenge. The 6-month pilot was in Wakefield and Kirklees, and they were awaiting a national formal evaluation from it. There had been a national issue with funding which was causing barriers. An additional issue was with the IT system, they overcame this in the interim but ultimately it needed building in to NICHE. They didn’t want to lose the momentum of the Stalking Screening Tool, so they took the best elements of the tool, using expertise in house and created their own. They had been piloting this in Kirklees and would complete an evaluation themselves once the pilot has finished and share results. They had also been doing Dash risk assessment – to ensure all areas are covered. The work was ongoing, and if there was no movement nationally, they would launch their own tool whilst waiting for the national product to come online.

DMPC asked were there plans to conduct staff surveys to monitor changes and improvements after reporting higher than national average burnout and challenge around maintaining a work life balance?

ACC Miller said the burnout was in relation to safeguarding (SG) teams, specifically the Domestic Abuse (DA) team. The review looked at increased officers in the safeguarding department with a view of developing a new shift pattern. They were changing the 3-team pattern to a 4-team pattern. This was expensive but it would provide identified investigation days to detectives, so they were able to clear their workload. It was implemented in March across West Yorkshire, and they were about to start post-implementation review next month. They wanted to get officers in the department handling 20 cases or below which was deemed manageable. They also focused on officer and staff wellbeing and the academic research behind it. They were implementing staff surveys which would support feedback on the new shift pattern as well as general wellbeing. They key aim was maintaining 100% staffing across SG departments which was monitored through local accountability meetings. They had maintained 100% staffing. They had ensured there was a reporting mechanism if officers investigation days were getting cancelled. ACC Miller was conscious of ensuring the SG unit improved at a rate like other units too.

DMPC said at the last COM, discussions of the reductions in domestic incidents were highlighted and it was asked what the percentage decrease of domestic incidents were, and DMPC asked for more detail. WYP advised due to Home Office changes, they were unable to know until they could compare May to May, as there had been a change in crime recording. Had this change been reviewed, and what was the reasoning?

ACC Miller said there had been a 16.3% reduction. Further holistic analysis suggested a 7.8% in DA after some deviation in crime recording. The highest reduction was Leeds at 10.7% and the lowest was Wakefield at 4.7%. They were seeing the biggest reductions in malicious communications – this could have been due to changes in crime recording. They anticipated 4% reduction projected. DMPC said that was why it was important to keep funding CARA. CC Robins said DA teams were under the most pressure which had an impact on repeat offending. It was a balancing act of shifting resources around to deal with harmful and dangerous offenders.

1. **Serious Organised Crime (SOC) – access to the full report** [**HERE.**](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12869/item-6-soc-cover-paper.docx)

DSI Marie Bulmer provided an overview stating 102 mapped SOC threats across West Yorkshire which ranged in Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), acquisitive crime, human trafficking, fraud, drugs, and firearms. In terms of funding opportunities, in 2023/24 WYP seized 10 million pounds in assets obtained from criminals which they reinvested back into West Yorkshire through frontline policing and the Mayors Safer Communities Fund. In terms of Clear Hold Build (CHB) WYP had identified a location in Halifax which would be launched in October. CHB demonstrated the positive impact Working in collaboration with partners could have in an area, changing lives in communities. DSI Bulmer said SOC was everyone’s business and needed a whole system approach, across sectors and communities, and good data capturing.

DMPC said regarding firearms, the report described how over the past three years, West Yorkshire had recorded a pattern of roughly 20 firearms discharges per year with a reduction in each district for 2023-24, apart from Leeds, why this was and if DSI Bulmer could offer some reassurance people across Leeds.

DSI Bulmer said Leeds had been the single largest contributor and over the last three years had recorded between 8 and 10 discharges per year. Other districts had experienced flare ups, although theses had been temporary issues. In terms of what was driving the activity, it was hard to pull out concrete trends from the relatively infrequent and disparitive events. Behind the current situation, firearms remained inextricably linked with SOC, gangs, and drugs. The firearm incidents may not have been directly linked, but they were indirectly, with various motives. There was a shift from shotgun use to handguns and converted blank firers.

WYP met every 6 weeks in SOC management meetings and further meetings with Regional Organised Crime Unit. WYP were conducting covert and overt activity. As further reassurance WYP had a dedicated firearm prevent team investigating every reported discharge, and identified how they could develop intelligence.

They also had intelligence threat desks in each district to ensure maximisation of recovery of firearms and minimisation of threat. DCI Bulmer said the blank firearm issue had been an emerging national issue and was not unique to Leeds or West Yorkshire. Currently WYP were doing better than South Yorkshire with the discharge rate and recovery of weapons. WYP also have significantly fewer discharges than Greater Manchester and West Midlands. Nationally, there had been a decrease in firearm activity and WYP have been ahead of that trend. WYP has stabilised in discharge since 2021.

DMPC asked for an update on your progress on the recommendations from the peer review of the response to organised immigration crime, and any early feedback from the HMICFRS inspection of April this year.

DCI Bulmer said they had conducted a peer review in relation to this, and an action plan was produced. The majority was ensuring awareness on all levels, which had been implemented across the force and DCI Bulmer was satisfied it had been implemented well. In terms of the HMICFRS inspection, WYP were happy with the feedback. The inspectors liked the training and operational activity. The report was expected to be published this month. DCI Bulmer said the only caveat was the report was a thematic threat report, so it was not just West Yorkshire based, but overall was very positive when debriefing with the inspectors.

DMPC said the report described some positive results against serious violence and ASB, supported by the Home Office’s ‘Hotspot Response Fund’.  She asked for further details on; the 20% fall in ASB in hotspot areas over the last year; The ‘behaviour change’ campaign linked to the hotspot areas; and the type of early intervention and engagement work taking place in these areas.

DCI Bulmer said it was an area to celebrate. It was too early to understand the holistic impact and results would prevail at the end of the year. Serious Violent Crime and ASB hotspots showed it was interlinked. In quarter one, an additional 20 officers working under these objectives, and 14000 hours were dedicated to hotspot places. 234 hotspots were now actively managed. Because they were able to track the hours spent there, they were able to evidence the impact it had made. In the first quarter there was also a 20% reduction than previous years.

There was a 22% rection in nuisance incidents, 11% reduction in ASB crimes. The patrols have seen significant improvement in the control areas. This is as well as new ASB campaigns going live, running for 6 months under randomised control trial to focus on four key areas, building trust and confidence, increasing reporting, moving offenders away from offending and increased patrols.

DMPC said the report mentioned the work through Operation Jemlock to intercept illegally imported weapons purchased online, with 90 positive outcomes in the last year.  What type of weapons were being imported this way, and what action was taking place nationally to disrupt the online sale of weapons.

DCI Bulmer said there was a wide range imported online, coming from various countries and websites. Many of them were legal to sell on in private, but illegal to possess in public. Changes in legislation mean its now also illegal to own in private.

The remaining loophole of zombie style combat knives which would be closed that month. The force has a dedicated work stream called Jemlock which works with inland border command in border force, which takes proactive action in West Yorkshire. The last operation saw mapping of online retailers and there was one identified in West Yorkshire, who are now no longer trading. Nationally, significant work being carried out by the national police chief council for knife crime, who have been instrumental. Weapons imported overseas is difficult to map, but they are trying to track to build the intelligence picture.

**Action: DMPC said when the office received the HMICFRS report she would meet with the inspector just to pull out any learning for West Yorkshire.**

1. **Drugs and Alcohol – access to the full report** [**HERE.**](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12870/item-7-drugs-and-alcohol-cover-paper.docx)

DCI Bulmer introduced the paper by saying since January this year there had been 4000+ reported drug and alcohol offenses throughout all 5 districts. The Combatting Drugs Partnerships Meeting was looking at breaking supply chains and looking at recovery systems, which are making significant progress.

DMPC asked on page 2 of the report it mentioned there was an expectation that new ‘trigger offences’ for drug testing on arrest were expected before the call of the general election. Which offences were expected to be included, and what impact would there be for the police and partners if this policy is returned to in the new parliament.

DCI Bulmer said the Home Office didn’t specify new information which would be included but it would be realistic to envisage it would have been around DA and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). Should the parliament take these, there would be a net increase of work for police and partners albeit it would reduce the need of authority which is needed now. The pilot from previous funding did see a relationship with alcohol and cocaine the system in DA arrests.

DMPC said the drug supply offences looked to be a much higher rate than recent years. Based on the first six months of 2024, the number of these offences looked likely to be the highest since 2019 by the close of the year. Could you provide background to this increase.

DCI Bulmer said optional activity is a direct contributor to the increases. It demonstrates the productivity of the team that are targeting the SOC criminals. Including that was also drugs offences, which has seen a real drive in West Yorkshire of the police activity, which had led to those positive outcomes.

DMPC said on page 8, partners had reported back on the successful response to June’s contaminated Spice incident in Bradford; could you say more about your reflections and learning points on the collaboration to reduce harm. DCI Bulmer said the threat of opioids was an evolving landscape. Through the Combatting Drugs Partnership, a plan had been put in place to prepare for and respond to issues. The incident in Bradford triggered the implementation of their Local Resilience Plan, that was the first time a plan had been actioned. As a result, it brought together all key partners where harm reduction, outreach work and testing were actioned as well as identifying and arresting suppliers. The findings noted the speed and efficiency of the plan response, especially with it happening over a weekend.

Messaging and action were prompt, they also adjusted deal with of complexity of dealing with hazardous substances. On reflection, it was much better having plan in place, and everyone could formulate and respond quickly.

DMPC asked on page 8, the pilot programme for officers carrying Naloxone had commenced – could you give any early feedback on officers’ use of the treatment in cases of overdose.

DCI Bulmer was pleased it was now in place, it went live on 5 August in Leeds and Wakefield. A full report will take place in December. It was early to make observations, however DCI Burton, Director of Intelligence, had been consulting with colleagues on any areas of concern. DCI Bulmer wanted to thank WYCA and partners for providing support and assistance of training. The evaluation is expected to be concluded in January 2025. Nothing of note has been reported back at this time.

DMPC said on page 8 it was a concern to hear about the potential for vapes being used to deliver synthetic cannabis or even opiates – particularly when considering the reports that the vapes are being found at schools and colleges.  Could you give us an update on the local and national intelligence on the prevalence of this issue.

DCI Bulmer said they had been getting lots of information from partners and schools in relation to vapes being an issue. However, the volume didn’t seem to match the concern, so they were pushing for further reporting so they could gain better knowledge. They were looking at finding vendors which were reported to have sold to children to take proactive action. They were also using testing strips to find illicit substances in vapes which was an innovative approach. They were also running awareness and education sessions in schools. DCI Bulmer said hopefully the more intel around suppliers they could get, the more targeted enforcement action they could take. Generally, this issue was an emerging threat nationally, and the scope was still unclear therefore there was a drive nationally to continue to build the picture.

**Actions:**

**DPMC said she would continue to speak to the Home Secretary for additional funding to meet the additional need created from trigger offences.**

**DMPC to continue to raise vapes in Combatting Drugs Partnership.**

1. **Road Safety - access to the full report** [**HERE.**](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12871/item-8-road-safety-cover-paper.docx)

ACC Rob McCoubrey introduced the paper. There have been some slight reductions in overall casualties and deaths, although still nowhere near our ambitions. We continue to focus on fatal 5 and other good innovative practice.

DMPC said the data on E-Bikes, standing scooters and electric motorcycles showed a significant upward trend - what were WYP doing to tackle this issue specifically - This was a particular additional issue on pavements too. ACC McCoubrey said it was a significant issue for all forces in big cities across country, including us.

Work had been undertaken, including raising awareness in officers, providing further guidance on how to deal with this issue, upskilling packages, looking at legislation, the road traffic act, and powers under no insurance and licence offences. They had also been utilising their off-road bike teams to help. They had been using targeted operations in Leeds and Bradford, and a focus on using Neighbourhood Policing Teams, which has seen an increase in seizures. This was also all supported in terms of Vision Zero and the activity across that partnership. WYP were also working with their corporate communications team to raise awareness. DMPC said she recently visited off road team they were very passionate and dedicated. She reported they weren’t always able to pursue offenders, due to quality of bikes and tyres. DMPC said improved bikes would really enhance this policing, recognising funding was an issue, spending money in different ways may improve outcomes.

DMPC said page 6 referred to the development of a Power BI Dashboard to support analysis and deployment - what is the timeframe for this Dashboard?

ACC McCoubrey said the timeframe was three months from now for it to go live. That would draw in department of transport data too.

DMPC said One Life Lost was now a module on Pol-Ed - what other road safety modules were present and what was the take up on the modules at schools.

ACC McCoubrey said the road safety module was very popular and had good take up across Pol-Ed. The module was completed in two halves, the first was up to 16 years, and the second was additional work after that for young drivers. There were 14 lessons under road safety with excellent uptake with approx. 20 thousand children having received the learning. There was the large assembly type learning for the drink and drug driving for 16 years and over, and from 2024 they want to expand the offer to police ops staff around One Life Lost which will be available for schools to bid in for.

CC Robins clarified Pol-Ed was always designed for teachers to be ran by teachers. It showed the power of being designed this way, by not taking up officer time, being led by trained and trusted adults, in an Ofsted approved way. There were 14 lessons and an assembly, and reiterated the figures that since 2023 alone, 20 thousand people had received positive intervention without a police officer involved. CC Robins wanted to send thanks to teachers and highlighted the importance of the future behaviour change which was going to be seen across West Yorkshire through these numbers.

DMPC said the update on Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) was positive, but there was no mention of Vision Zero – she asked how was ANPR being used to support Vision Zero.

ACC McCoubrey said it was an oversight that Vision Zero wasn’t mentioned in the report as it is fundamentally a part of ANPR, which sits at the heart of Vision Zero. It was a proactive tool. The hot lists used in West Yorkshire had resulted in practice being picked up around the country, especially around unsafe vehicles.

Research also conducted work around this data regarding the Fatal Five, as well as further research work around dangerous speeds.

DMPC asked if ANPR had the technology to identify ghost plates as there was good work going on identify them and act.

ACC McCoubrey said ANPR technology was quite robust, and they were continuing to invest in the technology to continue tracking those crimes. They were constantly reviewing the tech and techniques to stay advanced, as West Yorkshire Police are at the forefront nationally.

DMPC said in the Bradford update it stated that proposals for a Vision Zero Board were taken to the Community Safety Partnerships in March; what was the current position on this. The name shown as leading had since left Bradford Council.

ACC McCoubrey said the paper submitted to Bradford council suggested combining the pre-existing Op Steerside Board and the new Road Safety Board to undertake the ambitions of the Vision Zero Board, which will sit as a subgroup to the CSP. There were governance issues to work through in Bradford due to elected officials etc, but they were hopeful this could be overcome.

**Actions:**

**ACC McCoubrey to look into off road bike investment with ACO Johnson.**

**DMPC will continue to monitor the progress of the formation of the board in Bradford.**

1. **Use Of Force (UOF) – access to the full report** [**HERE.**](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12872/item-9-use-of-force-cover-paper.docx)

DMPC saidwe knew interactions involving UOF were filmed and shared quickly across social media platforms, and that this could impact trust and confidence in West Yorkshire, irrespective of where the incident had taken place. Could you offer further reassurance about UOF across West Yorkshire. ACC McCoubrey said viral sharing of incidents on the internet was something they always had to consider. They had robust ways of monitoring social media, especially picking things up happening within west Yorkshire. There was a process for this which worked well, including reviewing UOF; considering what initial comms to put out to the public; reviewing body worn footage; and taking quick and robust action if there appeared to be an inappropriate UOF.

Scrutiny brought by the Independent Advisory Group’s (IAG’s) was key to this function too. DMPC shared a recent experience of attending an IAG for UOF on a child, and whilst the detail deemed a positive overall interaction, a UOF form was not completed by the officer, and this left the IAG disappointed. CC Robins said that is exactly what the IAGs were for. He added about one-third of stop and search involved handcuffing and that did not mean they were all inappropriate, only on occasion. They believed that figure was consistent with other forces who also measured it, and there were other forces who did not know their own statistics. They were also looking at a piece of work to refresh officers on use of handcuffing. They were also looking to improve the use of forms when UOF was used.

DMPC asked if they could say more about how UOF may differ (or appear to differ) when officers are carrying firearms.

ACC McCoubrey said firearms officers were very highly trained and had good skills given the nature of the role. There was risk involved with those officers, regarding their weapons, and because of this they did have different tactics. There was different dynamics involved due to the kit they must retain and protect. DMPC said the public may not always appreciate the risk involved with firearms officers – if there was a gun involved, they had to ensure the person doesn’t reach for it. In addition to that, different measures may be taken when there was intelligence that a member of the public had a weapon. CC Robins said in terms of UOF across West Yorkshire, firearms officers had limited access to their hands and arms, as they were trained to have them placed on their weapons, so this mitigated a lot of UOF.

When comparing individuals own UOF, there was far less disproportionality with firearms officers, meaning UOF used against people of colour was less than that of a non-firearm officer. They were so highly trained against mitigating the threat, their threat minimisation process was wholly focused on psychical threat, which mitigated unconscious bias. DMPC said there is some learning there for training; to focus on the risk not the bias. DMPC said she would take that learning back to the OPCC.

DMPC said on page 4 of the report it stated that you have enhanced scrutiny of the police use of force and increased transparency so the public could be reassured and confident in your work, could you say more about this and about any changes to policy and training resulting from relevant feedback.

ACC McCoubrey said increased understanding of UOF was led by senior leadership who had placed real focus on it. There was a gold group running and they were looking at internal governance. In terms of training, they had doubled what officers receive.

The training was called PPST (Personal and Public Safety Training) which was scenario based academic learning on both safety towards the public and officers. He added the policy around taser use had come from specialist practitioner and SLT level too. This included the removal of officers permits if they were unhappy with their usage, In addition to several other ongoing improvements. DMPC asked if you were withdrawing permits, were you reflecting that back into the training? ACC McCoubrey said yes, the taser steering group was where they fed this information. DMPC said the training should focus on attitudinal training as well.

DMPC said pages 4 & 5 talked about compliance with use of force reporting, and she welcomed all the work on this to date. Please explain how you were moving your internal accountability from encourage and explain to educate and enforce and what this meant in practical terms.

ACC McCoubrey said as mentioned already there were different layers of reviews, scrutiny, and training. He said along with the force wide acknowledgement of using force appropriately and not going beyond and using them inappropriately, he was also trying to engage supervisors regularly to implement in their 1 to 1s. In terms of process, if there were complaints made that would feature in Prfessional Standards Health Checks which would result in professional feedback.

In terms of dip sampling, student officers would get feedback on their body worn cameras on their UOF. It is multilayered but it is clear now in the force that people will have to justify their UOF and that is resulting in officers being on development plans.

DMPC said in respect of theUse of Force in Custody (June to June reporting year – tactics used - could you explain the overall increase from 4565 to 5207 and what percentage were children, the increase in handcuffing from 2094 to 4578 and what percentage of children and finally the Prone/Face down hold and what percentage were children.

ACC McCoubrey said there was a positive in seeing increased numbers in terms of more custody records, as that demonstrated more arrests therefore delivering criminal justice outcomes for victims. When looking at the figures, they were Comparable year on year at 9.2% of cases through custody in 2022/23. It was 9.9% in subsequent years. There were just more people through the system. In terms of UOF on juveniles, it was 7.08% in 2023/24. The custody rate of juveniles was 7.4%, so a marginally lower figure. That also translated to handcuffs at a 7.16% use on juveniles, and a 7.14% use of other restraint of juveniles in custody. It was lower than UOF on adults.

CC Robins said there were 5207 juveniles arrested, and 369 had UOF, for either their own safety or the safety of others, which was 7%. This was compared to 9% of the whole population.

DMPC asked how reliable the handcuff data was, as she was aware it could be doubly recorded.

ACC McCoubrey said they were likely over-recording use of handcuffs now, and they had been pushing it for the right reasons but there was now work to do on the reporting form so they could remove it. DMPC said she was informed it was already removed in the PEEL feedback. DMPC said she looked forward to seeing a big reduction in the data in a years’ time. DMPC said the Prone restraint had almost doubled, so that was another area to be aware of, as deaths can follow from this restraint.

DMPC said pages 7 & 8 talked more about Use of Force Reviews, which included the numbers of reviews required, the outcomes and the average time taken to complete. Whilst she welcomed there were no reviews based on areas of significant concern or serious injuries – how sure were you that the information was accurate and how can we be fully reassured that this had not happened, rather than an issue with officers not recording/people coming forward with a complaint.

ACC McCoubrey said they wanted to be able to review every single one but that was impossible due to the volume. They were fortunate in 2024 the body worn camera made for high level of objective data which meant high levels of compliance, and good objective data was important to assess UOF. There was a well-documented process of people coming into custody and if there were any injuries they would be recorded.

The review process had seen none have resulted in serious concern or serious injury. 33% of these did result in learning and further action taken because of the review. CC Robins said officers caught not recording were disciplined accordingly, and because of this they were in a wholly better place. DMPC said she saw the data compliance was very high, and it was great for the public they feel they can rely on the footage.

**10. Future Agenda Items**

* Hate Crime
* Safeguarding - Adult
* Neighbourhood policing & ASB
* Stop & Search
* Exception Paper – Dangerous Dogs
* Harehills Disorder.

**11.Any Other Business**

There were none

**12. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, 26 November 2024 14:30-16:30