

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

10 October 2023

SUBJECT: Business Crime – Exception paper

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

1. The attached report outlines the work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of Business Crime.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the report to scrutinise WYP.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 21-24

3. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of 'The Voice of West Yorkshire'. Face to face and online consultation and engagement ran from 1 September 2021- 30 November 2021; The Voice of West Yorkshire is one a of two key documents which supports the Police and Crime Plan 2021 -24.
4. Equality, Diversity, and inclusion is a key cross cutting theme which runs throughout the Police and Crime Plan. The mark left by the COVID-19 pandemic has created further inequality within West Yorkshire. The impact of COVID-19 has disproportionately affected different areas and people. The Plan states that it seeks to redress some of the impact of the pandemic, whether this is the economic impact on the high street (e.g. through tackling business crime and ensuring prosperity through providing a clean, safe and green environment), or directly supporting those individuals whose vulnerability has increased during the pandemic, which has masked particular crimes, violence and abuse.
5. The Police and Crime Plan also states that West Yorkshire Police will continue to work with the Business Crime Group to support and develop a co-ordinated approach to reducing high street crime. The Business Crime Group is a police led partnership promoting crime prevention for businesses and retailers.

KEY INFORMATION

6. Mayoral/DMPC and VRP activity to date includes:
 - Working with businesses in the Night Time Economy to provide safe places for Women and Girls
 - Encouraging the take up of the 'ask Angela' scheme, working with businesses to provide safe spaces for the vulnerable
 - Bringing together the Combatting drugs partnerships in the area to ensure those vulnerable to drug gangs are able to access services to

take them away from addiction and from committing crimes such as shoplifting and theft to feed the drug habit.

- Working with WYP to promote 'clear, hold, build' areas where the community can work with local officers to clear organised crime gangs from an area to hold these areas and then give funding to build resources in the area to keep crime gangs out. Businesses then have a better area to work in.
- Looking at the recommendations from the Manchester Arena Enquiry and Martyn's Law, working with business to be ready when the bill (which is currently in draft) is enacted
- Working with West Yorkshire Police to understand and monitor the cyber attacks on businesses.

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

- Working in all local authorities to enact the Serious Violence Duty which looks at the areas of violent crime, particularly combatting these in the town centres.
- Working with businesses to promote the Ask Angela Scheme
- Ensuring the Combatting Drugs Partnership target the most vulnerable drug users to take them away from committing crime
- Working with businesses to be ready for Martyn's Law.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

- The impact of COVID-19 has disproportionately affected different areas and people. The Plan seeks to redress some of the impact of the pandemic, e.g. through tackling business crime.

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constables report – Business Crime](#)