**Agenda Item No. 7**

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING**

**29 July 2025**

**SUBJECT: Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR)**

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| **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE**1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of supporting the Strategic Policing Requirement.
2. This cover paper highlights the importance of the report topic in respect of the Police and Crime plan and also includes the delivery of the Mayor and her office. Together the West Yorkshire Police (WYP) report and the cover paper provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of work underway in respect of supporting the Strategic Policing Requirement.
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| **RECOMMENDATION**1. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the WYP report to scrutinise the Force response in respect of the Strategic Policing Requirement.
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| **POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 24-28**1. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of ‘The Voice of West Yorkshire’. The Voice of West Yorkshire represents the views of over 6,500 respondents and includes the views of children and young people. It is part of a series of documents which includes a summary needs assessment. You can review the documents here: [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/the-police-and-crime-plan/)
2. The plan sets out that the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) is the Home Secretary’s view of what the current national threats are, and the national policing capabilities needed to counter those threats.
3. The seven threats are:
* Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)
* Terrorism
* Serious and Organised Crime (SOC)
* A National Cyber Incident
* Child Sexual Abuse
* Public Disorder/Civil Emergencies.

*Note: WYP provide separate detailed reports on VAWG, SOC and Child Safeguarding.*A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priories impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:[eqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.westyorks-ca.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2F4tijlbky%2Feqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.westyorks-ca.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2Fd5hcfsqw%2Feqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) |
| **KEY INFORMATION**1. The Mayor in her role as Police and Crime Commissioner must have regard to the SPR as follows:

Key themes* **Statutory Duty**: PCCs must have regard to the SPR when issuing or amending their Police and Crime Plans and provide an assurance statement within their Annual Reports.
* **National Threats**: The SPR outlines key national threats, requiring cross-boundary policing responses beyond local force areas.
* **Balancing Local and National Priorities**: PCCs must align their local policing priorities with national security and public safety requirements.
* **Governance and Accountability**: The SPR strengthens oversight by setting expectations on how PCCs and Chief Constables should collaborate to meet national policing responsibilities.
* **Evolution of the SPR**: The SPR 2023 revision includes an additional national threat—Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)—and expanded guidance on governance, standards, and capacity requirements.

**Highlighted requirements*** PCCs’ Responsibilities: PCCs must ensure their Police and Crime Plans reflect the SPR and assess whether their force has the necessary resources to meet national policing demands.
* Annual Reports: PCCs must provide assurance statements outlining how they have had regard to the SPR and its influence on their strategic direction.
* Holding Chief Constables to Account: PCCs must scrutinize how Chief Constables implement SPR obligations and maintain operational readiness.
* National Collaboration: PCCs work with the Home Office, National Police Chiefs’ Council (NPCC), and other agencies to ensure policing is prepared for national-level threats.

**National Threats Covered in the SPR*** Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) – Recognized as a national threat requiring a strategic policing response.
* Terrorism – Forces must be prepared to prevent and respond to terrorist threats.
* Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) – Includes drugs, fraud, and organised immigration crime.
* National Cyber Incidents – Forces must have cybercrime units and resilience plans.
* Child Sexual Abuse – Strengthened approaches to safeguarding and prosecution.
* Public Disorder – Maintaining national mobilization capabilities.
* Civil Emergencies – Ensuring resilience to large-scale emergencies and natural disasters.

**Impact and outcomes*** PCCs have strengthened governance mechanisms to align with the latest SPR guidance.
* Forces are adapting operational plans to address new and evolving national threats.
* The introduction of VAWG as a national priority has enhanced cross-agency collaboration and enforcement measures.
* Enhanced accountability and transparency in how forces implement national policing responsibilities.
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| **PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION**Partnership working runs through all that the Policing & Crime team undertakes. This work underpins the Mayor’s Police & Crime Plan 2024 - 2028. As part of this work there are regular updates to the Police and Crime Panel which holds the Mayor to account for her policing and crime work as the Police & Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire. The priority of Keeping People Safe went to the Panel in March 2025. More recently the Safer Places and Thriving Communities priority went to the July panel meeting.<https://www.westyorkshire-pcp.gov.uk/meetings>These papers include all the work that we do alongside our partners under these priorities. West Yorkshire Police maintain operational independence. A number of these areas relate to operational policing. In order to provide the Mayor with reassurance that West Yorkshire Police are providing an efficient and effective police service a governance framework is in place where the Mayor holds the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of policing services. This COM meeting forms part of that framework. **Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)**With partners, the WY VRP define serious violence as:“Violence and serious violence include specific crime types where there is the use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community.”The specific crime types included in West Yorkshire include homicide, knife crime, personal robbery, gun crime, violence against women and girls, **organised crime**, sexual exploitation, and domestic abuse.The definition focusses on geographic areas of criminality and specific groups where serious violence, or its threat or impact, is evident; this is children, young adults, women and girls, public places, the night-time economy, gangs, **and organised crime groups.**The VRP submitted a new budget and delivery plan for 25/26 to the Home Office based on the funding value of £4.34m (matched to 2024-25). Of this £2.38m has been allocated for commissioned community-based interventions which is over 50% of the overall budget. A significant level of the VRP’s work is targeted at preventing serious violence in communities and denying organised crime the space to thrive. For 2025-26 a programme of 15 core VRP funded interventions are or will be delivered across West Yorkshire. These interventions include:* A&E Navigator services in 4 hospital trust areas
* Education Inclusion mentoring programmes (Quarter 1)
* Focussed Deterrence (Police and Youth Workers operating together to identify those involved in or at risk of becoming involved in crime) in each of the 5 districts
* Virtual Decisions – knife crime and gangs education package delivered through ‘virtual reality’
* Support for Parents through the Ivison Trust (whose children have been affected by exploitation)
* Prevention Partnership Panels – part of the Government's Youth Futures Programme.2 Home Office funded pilots in Leeds and Wakefield and 2 VRP funded in Bradford and Kirklees.

These have been complemented by locally agreed interventions led by Community Safety Partnerships as part of localities funding from the VRP.The VRP are interconnected with the enforcement work against knife crime and serious violence under Op. Jemlock which aligns with WYP’s response to SOC through their Programme Precision project.Staff within the VRP have and are currently working locally with police and partners in Clear Hold Build areas across West Yorkshire.**Serious Violence Legal Duty (SVD):** The VRP continue to coordinate the West Yorkshire partnership response, providing intelligence, capacity and capability to duty holders, and with oversight still provided through the West Yorkshire Serious Violence Reduction Executive Strategic Steering Group. This duty exists to ensure councils, and local services work together to share information and identify activities to prevent and reduce serious violence. In addition, the VRP host a partnership data dashboard which collates a variety of data from partners to allow an informed and detailed understanding of where, when, how and who is involved in serious violence. This data is used annually to produce the West Yorkshire Strategic Needs Assessment, which in combination with the VRP’s Influential Factors report provides insights to why serious violence occurs in West Yorkshire. These documents then inform the Violence Reduction Response Strategy. More detail about the work of the Violence Reduction Partnership can be found here:[West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/west-yorkshire-violence-reduction-partnership/)[Strategic Needs Assessment/Response Strategy/Influential Factors](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policing-and-crime/west-yorkshire-violence-reduction-partnership/needs-assessment-response-strategy/)[VRP Annual Report 2023-24](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12890/vrp-annual-report-2023-24-final.pdf) |
| **EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION** A detailed Equality Impact Assessment which looked at how the themes and priories impacted communities was completed for the 2024-28 plan, you can read it here:[eqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.westyorks-ca.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2F4tijlbky%2Feqia-stage-1-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)[eqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.westyorks-ca.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2Fd5hcfsqw%2Feqia-stage-2-pc-plan-final-web-version.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK) |
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| **ATTACHMENT**[Chief Constable’s report](https://theauthorityv13-auth.azurewebsites.net/media/4ceddk5j/item-7-com-paper-strategic-policing-requirement-july-2025.docx)  |