**Agenda Item No. 6**

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING**

**29 July 2025**

**SUBJECT: Safeguarding - Adult**

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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 Adult Safeguarding. 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 to support Adult Safeguarding. 3. The most recent report in respect of child safeguarding can be found here – insert link. |
| **RECOMMENDATION**   1. That the Mayor/DMPC uses the report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Adult Safeguarding. |
| **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/)      1. Child and Adult Safeguarding – Safeguarding is mentioned in the 24-28 Police and Crime Plan under Priority 1 – Keeping People Safe and also under the cross cutting theme of reducing vulnerability. 2. During the Mayor’s first term the Reducing Vulnerability Strategy was launched. The priorities are:  * Child Sexual Abuse, Exploitation, and Neglect * Transitional Safeguarding * Child Criminal Exploitation * Adults at Risk  1. There are key police and community safety measures which support child and adult safeguarding in the plan especially in relation to mental health incidents, missing persons, looked after children or children in need (CIN) and Child Protection.     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. Adult safeguarding refers to the police’s work alongside other key partners to protect adults who are at risk of harm. Vulnerability may be a factor because of issues such as disability, mental ill health, substance misuse, or social isolation, but safeguarding adults also encompasses topics within the safety of women and girls agenda, and also the victims of fraud.   This paper covers the following topics within adult safeguarding:   * Domestic Abuse, Stalking and the Women’s Safety Unit * Missing persons (Incl. mental health safeguarding) * Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking (incl. ‘Cuckooing’ and Domestic Servitude) * So-called Honor-based Abuse * Fraud * Homelessness   Through West Yorkshire Police and the WYCA Policing & Crime Team, the Mayor supports a range of activity to help safeguard adults within our communities, for example:   * Over the past twelve months, the Mayor and DMPC have supported a number of initiatives with links to adult safeguarding, including: * Appearing at the keynote speaker at the 7th International Conference of Missing Children and Adults, hosted in Leeds by Leeds Trinity University. * Working with the police and local authority partners to secure West Yorkshire’s ‘Appropriate Adult’ service, which protects the rights, entitlements, and welfare of vulnerable people who are under arrest. * Lending support to the Safe and Found Online project, which provides an online resource for the carers of those at risk of going missing, to post information which can help emergency services to quickly locate a person should they go missing. * West Yorkshire Police have recently reached an impressive milestone of 500 registered Herbert Protocol profiles - this accounts for over 50% of the total number registered across the 11 UK police services using the programme. * Launching a cross-regional conference at Huddersfield University on the adult safeguarding issue of ‘cuckooing’. Cuckooing is linked to the modern slavery theme, and commonly involves drugs gangs befriending, and then occupying the property of a vulnerable person. In addition, this year the Mayor has helped to fund a public awareness video on cuckooing via the Mayor’s Safer Communities Fund. * Drugs and substance misusers can be some of the most vulnerable members of our communities. The DMPC has led on developing a pilot programme for WYP officers to carry the overdose-reversal medicine, Naloxone. This work is supported by the WY Combating Drugs Partnership Strategic Board, with is chaired by the DMPC. * Linked to the objectives of the Police Race Action Plan, West Yorkshire Police have also collaborated with the Black Police Association to examine the approach to missing occurrences involving people who are black or of black heritage.  These cases have been scrutinised to identify areas for improvement in the service provided to the missing person and their family, and to understand whether there is any evidence of unconscious bias from officers dealing with the investigation. * West Yorkshire Police has also engaged with an Independent Scrutiny and Advisory Group and a new Black Heritage Advisory Staff Group, to examine the approach to missing cases involving people who are Black or of Black heritage.   The Policing and Crime Team’s approach to safeguarding is described in our ‘Reducing Vulnerability’ strategy. This strategy now reflects safeguarding’s position as a cross-cutting theme across all priorities in the new Police & Crime Plan: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12266/reducing-vulnerability-strategy-1.pdf>  **Mayor’s Safer Communities Fund**   * The Mayor’s Safer Communities Fund continues to deliver projects to support safeguarding. You can find out more about the successful projects here (Mayor’s Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority (westyorks-ca.gov.uk)   Notable projects linked to adult safeguarding include:   * The Wakefield Hospice has introduced ReUnite fobs which allow passers-by who come across lost or confused people to scan a code using a smartphone. This then displays the person’s name along with up to two emergency contact numbers. * Nip It In the Bud is a free mental health and well-being support service located in Leeds city centre. It provides a safe drop-in space where young people can talk confidentially with professional youth workers and counsellors. * In Bradford, The Bridge Project's Talk-Trace-Turnaround project works with young people and teachers about how neglect, exclusion, and undiagnosed Special Educational Needs informed their journey to substance use; and, * Through the MSCF, we have supported Leeds Trinity University’s project to support the families of ‘cold cases’ and long-term missing persons. |
| **PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION**  Safeguarding children requires collaborative working between a number of key partners. The current guidance on working practices for multi-agency working in safeguarding places special responsibilities on the Chief Constable, Local Authority Chief Executive Officers, and the Chief Executive of the Integrated Care Board, to work together as lead safeguarding partners in West Yorkshire.  As detailed above, a range of mechanisms are utilised by the Mayor/DMPC to support effective partnership working in relation to Child Safeguarding. Notable areas of work for Policing & Crime include our co-ordination of the West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership, numerous interventions with young people through the WY Violence Reduction Partnership, and membership of WYP’s Out of Court Resolution Scrutiny panel, which encompasses youth justice outcomes.  **Violence Reduction Partership (VRP)**  The landscape to tackling the causes as well as impact of serious violence is complex and addressing trauma, adversity and the root causes is a cross-agency response. Our Response Strategy, the work of the VRP and partners, strongly aligns and connects to the Police and Crime Plan, West Yorkshire Plan to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and work of the West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership, district Community Safety Strategies, Health and Wellbeing, Safeguarding Plans and emerging Drug and Alcohol Plans. We continue to drive greater connectivity to maximise the collective approach and opportunities to reducing serious violence and enabling sustainable approaches.  We work closely with each local Community Safety Partnership as key partners in the prioritisation, coordination, and delivery at place and as such the conduit for named partners under the Serious Violence Duty to deliver at place. These local arrangements are ideally placed to identify, engage, and respond to locally evidenced based need and collaborate with Health and Wellbeing Boards, Safeguarding and Children’s Partnerships in their response.  Intervention delivery during 2024-25 funded through core VRP monies and additional Serious Violence Duty monies engaged with 1234 individuals aged 25 and over. |
| **EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION**  Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility and is most effective in partnership. It is known that minority groups and marginalised individuals can face specific safeguarding challenges and be at increased risk to abuse and exploitation.  It is important that all safeguarding policies, strategies, delivery, and discussion is inclusive and ensures all services and support are accessible for all. Recognising and embracing diversity and being inclusive are the core foundations and key principles of safeguarding. This includes the people delivering the services as well as those receiving them. |
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| **ATTACHMENT**  [Chief Constable’s report – Adult Safeguarding.](https://theauthorityv13-auth.azurewebsites.net/media/wltkdqnc/item-6-com-paper-adult-safeguarding-july-2025.docx) |