

Your Wakefield



Summer 2007

The West Yorkshire Police Newspaper for the People of West Yorkshire

www.westyorkshire.police.uk

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Don't have nightmares - crime on the way down



High visibility policing: PCSOs out and about on the streets of Wakefield, providing reassurance to the public

CRIME in the Wakefield District is continuing to go down – it's official. Figures show that in January, crime had reduced in all areas in comparison with January 2006. The main achievements were:

- Robbery down by 44 per cent
- Violent crime down by five per cent
- Theft of motor vehicles down by 16 per cent
- Criminal damage down by 10 per cent
- Burglary dwellings down by 13 per cent.

Detective Chief Inspector Chris Thompson, the division's Crime Manager, said the 'massive' reductions had been achieved through a number of factors.

DCI Thompson said: "Firstly the specialist teams that we have in place are working well together. The Volume Crime Management Unit deals with volume crimes such as violence and criminal damage.

"When crimes come into the unit, they are screened to ensure the right

information has been recorded and then allocated to a Detective Sergeant. The Detective Sergeant will then allocate officers to investigate that crime who will ensure that the suspect is arrested quickly and all possible evidence is gained at an early stage.

"This ensures a single point of contact for the victim as well as having a better quality of investigation, which increases the chances of a successful outcome at court.

"Officers in the Unit have also received training on the Professionalising Investigations Programme (PIP), which is a national assessment and registration programme for all investigators, covering all aspects of criminal investigation. It is intended to improve investigative service delivery, resulting in a more professional and effective investigation.

"From a policing perspective, this is not only a way to work smarter to solve crime, it is also an opportunity to take work from frontline officers so they have

more time to devote to patrolling high crime areas."

The Divisional Crime Management Unit also has dedicated officers dealing with every single bit of information received, enabling them to build up a picture of what's happening in a particular area and direct officers to particular incidents and offenders.

There are also proactive and reactive CID teams tackling serious crimes, while the Neighbourhood Policing Teams are based within the communities, feeling the pulse of what is going on locally.

Finally, the division also works successfully with partners like the Drug Interventions Programme and has the Prolific and Priority Offender scheme in place to monitor and assist offenders when they come out of prison.

"I am determined that this trend continues in our bid to make the Wakefield District the safest place to live and work in West Yorkshire," added DCI Thompson.

Welcome



Elizabeth Preece
Divisional Commander

AS Divisional Commander for Wakefield District, I am pleased that this special edition focuses on issues directly affecting the district and of interest to our residents.

There are numerous challenges facing the district and the landscape is changing all the time. I was recently at a civic event in Castleford where a powerful video of the changes to the town over the last decade was presented – the transformation has been quite incredible.

In Wakefield, much effort by the police and our partners has gone into making the city centre a safer place to spend an evening. There are also exciting residential developments on the waterfront.

Wakefield Division is committed to the principles of neighbourhood policing. We strive to provide a high quality service to our communities through dedicating police officers and PCSOs to geographical areas, enabling them to build up knowledge of their areas and know and understand the community they are policing. The division continues to target anti-social behaviour in areas where the quality of life of the majority is spoiled by the actions of the minority.

We have recently seen many suspected drug dealers arrested, and drugs, money and assets seized. Yet this would not have been as successful without the co-operation of the public and we continue to rely on information coming in.

Thank you for your continued support.

What's going on in your neighbourhood? Punch in your postcode to find out at www.wypnpt.org

Drugs market is hit in police raids across Wakefield area

ONE of the biggest operations to arrest suspected Class A drug dealers in the Wakefield District saw 48 arrests over a four-day period.

And the messages from police are clear - drug dealing will not be tolerated but help is available for those wanting to kick the habit.

Teams of around 100 officers from the Wakefield Division, Operations Support Unit and Crime Division executed warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act at 44 addresses.

Of the 48 arrests made, 36 were for the supply of Class A drugs, with the remaining arrests for offences such as burglary and possession.

In Wakefield, 26 addresses in Belle Vue, Eastmoor, Lupset, Horbury, Normanton, Wrenthorpe, Middlestown and Kettlethorpe were targeted, resulting in 19 men and four women being arrested on suspicion of supplying Class A drugs.

In Castleford, 12 addresses in Airedale, Castleford, Glasshoughton, Ferry Fryston and Featherstone were

targeted, resulting in 10 men and three women being arrested on suspicion of supplying Class A drugs. Six warrants were also executed in Pontefract, resulting in the arrest of two men for possession.

Wakefield's Divisional Commander, Chief Superintendent Elizabeth Preece said: "Drug dealing in the district will not be tolerated and this action should send a clear message to dealers that we will track them down and arrest them. We have removed a number of suspected dealers from the streets and have clearly disrupted the drugs market.

"Our focus now will be working with our partners such as the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) to offer support to those who have had their regular supply of drugs taken away to try and encourage them into treatment.

"The local Neighbourhood Policing Teams will also be carrying out reassurance patrols in the areas where people have been arrested. We're grateful to the public for their support."



A house in Castleford is raided as part of the latest operation targeting Class A drug dealers

Joining forces to tackle anti-social behaviour

A JOINT initiative by West Yorkshire Police and Wakefield and District Housing (WDH) to tackle anti-social behaviour and criminal damage is being hailed a success.

WDH has provided additional funding for the campaign that centres on reducing nuisance crime in the housing areas covered by WDH.

The South East Neighbourhood Policing Team has worked extended

hours to cover the periods highlighted at the times offences have been committed and has seized alcohol from underage drinkers in the hotspot areas. The team then linked with the anti-social behaviour teams and supplied names to them for follow-up visits and warnings. If the offenders are WDH tenants, details are supplied so warning letters can be forwarded. Acting Inspector Mark Bownass said:

"We have seen a clear reduction in anti-social behaviour and criminal damage thanks to this partnership approach. The support from Wakefield and District Housing has enabled us to make environments safer and cleaner for people and we look forward to this scheme continuing."

Luke Booth from WDH said: "WDH continues to work closely with the police and other agencies to help

maintain safe and confident housing communities. Our support to this operation enables the police to target resources to areas where we know people's lives are affected by anti social behaviour.

"We understand that underage drinking contributes to higher levels of nuisance behaviour and we welcome this seizure as well as the challenges made to those involved."

The net closes shut on vehicle offenders in Wakefield



Left to right: PCSO Natalie Towing, PCSO Becky Moorhouse, Acting Inspector Mark Bownass and Sergeant Victor Thimm. Kneeling: Neighbourhood Patrollers Vicky Jenkins and John Turner

VEHICLE crime was the focus of a successful police-led three-day operation in Wakefield.

Officers from the South East Neighbourhood Policing Team worked alongside Wakefield Council's Neighbourhood Patrollers, the Nuisance Vehicle Team, Automatic Number Plate Recognition Team, Court Enforcement Officers and the Tasking Team to tackle all sorts of vehicle crime. A total of 49 arrests were made for offences including non-payment of fines, theft of motor vehicles, assault, breach of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and attempted burglary.

More than 60 vehicles without tax or insurance were seized, while PCSOs delivered crime prevention leaflets.

Acting Inspector Mark Bownass said: "Driving without tax and insurance is illegal and we are pleased to have seized so many vehicles that pose a danger to law abiding members of the public.

"We are delighted with these results and criminals should be warned that we will continue to target those we suspect of committing offences."

HOW CAN I HELP?

To report an Untaxed Vehicle to Wakefield Council

Telephone: 0845 8 506 506 (24-hour phone line 7 days a week)

Online: Report an untaxed vehicle using the Report an Untaxed Vehicle Form

When reporting an untaxed vehicle you can help us by giving us as much information as possible including:-

- Exact location of the vehicle (e.g. Outside no 10 Church Road rather than just Church Road)

- Make and model of vehicle (e.g. Ford Escort)

- Colour of vehicle

- Registration Number

- If there is a tax disc displayed (date of expiry if possible)

- General condition of the vehicle

Your Annual Report



Summer 2007 The West Yorkshire Police Annual Report for the People of West Yorkshire www.westyorkshire.police.uk

Chief Constable - 'We are in *your* neighbourhood'

THE purpose of the Annual Report to the Home Secretary, and through him to Parliament, is to account for effectiveness of your Police Force. I have purposely avoided giving too many statistics, although it is pleasing to note that most of the crime types that we have to report to Parliament have been reducing in West Yorkshire over recent years. Offences like house burglary are at their lowest level for many years. There are now 59.3% less house burglaries than were experienced in 1996/97 and car crime is now at its lowest level for 10 years, with over 30,000 fewer offences being recorded - a reduction of 61%. So, if I am able to report this good news to the Government why is it that you do not always feel that your local area is getting safer? I think there are two connected reasons. In the first place, there is more incivility, nuisance and general anti-social behaviour than there used to be. These kind of problems can cause some communities to feel besieged and can make individuals feel like victims. The second reason is that the Police service, driven by central targets, has been focusing on burglaries and other crime types. This means that the Force has not always treated other local concerns as a priority. I do understand, however, that our principle duty is to do whatever we can to maintain the Queen's Peace and to work with the communities and other partners in tackling those issues that affect your quality of life.



A 'street briefing' involving Neighbourhood policing team officers in Pudsey

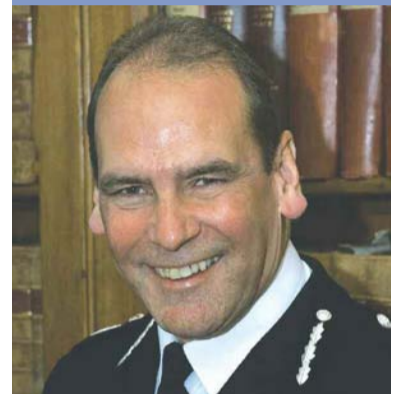
In seeking to fulfil this duty, in West Yorkshire, we have divided up the county to create 36 'neighbourhood' teams, each headed by a local Inspector (details of the Inspector in charge of your area is on the back page of this newspaper). Your neighbourhood team of police officers and Community Support Officers are charged with tackling the kinds of issues that you consider to be a priority. Let your neighbourhood Inspector know what you think - his/her telephone number and address are

provided in this publication. It is always nice to know if you think we are doing a good job, but let us know too if you think we could be doing more to help to resolve the problems that you face locally. My pledge is that I will develop and embed this neighbourhood policing approach throughout West Yorkshire. The Inspector and their team of officers will become dedicated to understanding, addressing and, most importantly, resolving local issues. West Yorkshire Police now has 760

community support officers (more than any other police force outside London) with a similar number of police officers who make up the Neighbourhood Policing Teams and who will become more visible, accessible and a familiar presence on the streets where you live. As well as tackling the serious crime, as we are doing so successfully, we want to support you and other partners locally in improving the quality of life for you and your family.

Norman Bettison, Chief Constable

Welcome



Chief Constable Norman Bettison

I HAVE a statutory duty to produce a report each year for Parliament, through the Home Secretary, and for the West Yorkshire Police Authority. It seems to me that the person I should be reporting to is YOU.

It is the West Yorkshire public who pay my wages and those of the 9,700 people who make up the West Yorkshire Police. It is you whom we serve.

There are a total of 5 different reports to cover the whole of West Yorkshire. This report is specific to your local area. Please don't throw it in the bin as it contains information about what is happening in your area and the ways in which you can contact the force.

This is my first annual report as your Chief (I have a contract for the next five years). I want, during my term of office, to re-engage policing at a local level and to improve the confidence and trust in the force. Within my report you will find reference to aspects of work that West Yorkshire Police do on your behalf. Some of it is unseen, as is the case with countering the terrorist threat and dealing with serious and organised crime. You will also read about my commitment to establish a very visible and accountable style of policing in your neighbourhood.

Answering your calls...

ONE of West Yorkshire Police's growing challenges is the management of and the response to, literally millions of calls received each year. With the growth of telephone availability, particularly mobile phones, we received, last year, over 500,000 emergency (999) calls, of which 90% were answered in less than 10 seconds. In a typical 24-hour period, West Yorkshire Police receives 1,321 such calls. This is in addition to receiving over 1.9 million non-emergency calls on our 0845 6060606 number, with 90% of these calls being answered within 30 seconds.

The number of '999' calls we received rose by 15% between January and March 2007 and by 37% for non-emergency numbers over the same period. I am acutely aware that this demand does, on occasion, test our ability to respond as well as we would like. This is one of the areas of our operation that I want to focus attention on in the coming year to improve this important service. As they say in all the glossy marketing adverts, 'your call really does matter to us'. I want to ensure that that's how it feels to those who ring the police. As you will have seen elsewhere within Your Police, not all the calls we receive are genuine emergencies,

or even a matter that the police can deal with. Our 'ASK THE POLICE' website (www.askthe.police.uk) is helping to cut the number of non-urgent calls by providing the answers to frequently asked questions from the public, so officers have more time to deal with real emergencies. What I would hate to do is make us more detached and distant, but what we have found is that it's actually providing a service that people want. Many times, however, you will need a 'real person' at the end of the telephone and I am committed to improving this service as one of my priorities in the year ahead.

Serious crime - 'the really serious' challenges that we face...



Officers enter a house in Castleford during a series of high-profile raids aimed at bringing drug dealers to justice

A LOT of West Yorkshire Police resources are taken up with the prevention and investigation of serious and organised crime. A booming economy, the relaxation of borders and the increasing reach of the internet mean that this side of our job is growing. You will not see these operations (by definition most of them are covert) but it is important in reporting to you, the taxpayer, that you appreciate how your money is being spent.

Crime Division last year achieved its stretching targets of 400 criminals

arrested and charged for serious and organised crime across the force area, and exceeded its target to seize £4.5 million in assets from these professional criminals. These criminals were subsequently collectively sentenced to terms of imprisonment in excess of 750 years.

In 2006/07 Government inspectors rated our operation as good (and improving) in tackling serious and organised crime (placing West Yorkshire within the top seven forces in the country).

A total of £655,827 in assets was

confiscated, £169,020 worth of property seized, £240,670 worth of drugs recovered, and £209,125 in cash retrieved.

On one typical day last autumn an illegal immigrant was deported following a short jail sentence, a childminder jailed for 4½ years for sexually abusing young boys, a preacher jailed for 2 years for an indecent assault on a girl and 2 businessmen each jailed for 4 years for conspiracy to defraud.

The Force Homicide and Major Enquiry Team (HMET) has also contributed to a

successful year, having dealt with many varied investigations including several high profile cases. West Yorkshire Police is only one of 4 forces nationally to achieve an 'excellent' grading in the domain of major crime investigation. Notable investigations include Operation Geneva, which resulted in numerous convictions for the murder of PC Sharon Beshenivsky, and the wounding of her colleague PC Teresa Milburn. Operation Pharaoh resulted in convictions for the murder of the Huddersfield taxi driver Mohammed Parvaiz. Operation Perth saw the arrest

and charge of a man in connection with the murder of Lesley Molseed back in 1972. In total there were 44 recorded homicides in the year to April 2007, 40 of which have already been successfully detected. The detection rate in this serious crime category equates to 91%. This is in addition to dealing with other serious crime types including abductions, serious sexual assaults, arson, serious disorder and many others.

West Yorkshire has now become a significant national Centre for directing counter terrorism activity with a significant associated onus being placed on the Force to manage the tensions that exist between political and community groups.

Prior to July 2005, who would have speculated about the possibility of a suicide bomb attack with three of those responsible being neighbours of ours within West Yorkshire?

This year, we have been involved in a series of counter terrorism operations, a number of which have been well publicised. However this does not tell the whole story because much of our work in this area is, by its very nature, secret. The good news is that across our county, people from all faiths and backgrounds are standing together to tackle terrorism. By ensuring we each know how to recognise the signs and know what action to take, we can work together to prevent acts of terrorism.

I hope that you are reassured by our ability to address serious crime within West Yorkshire. These annual results are testimony to this and were achieved in the face of considerable resource commitments during the year to a number of anti-terrorist operations.

A time to look back...

IT is, thankfully, rare that you will have the need to contact West Yorkshire Police for help. That does not mean that West Yorkshire Police is not out there working for you. We are the fourth largest Force in the country, with approximately 5,700 police officers and 3,650 police staff, providing a quality service to approximately 2.1 million people living in one of five metropolitan districts.

The physical area, of 2,000 square kilometres or 780 square miles, contains the West Yorkshire conurbation and a network of motorway and trunk roads that allow easy access to and from other population centres. In a typical day in West Yorkshire, officers respond to 1,214 '999' calls, attend 1,367 incidents, deal with 709 new crimes, make 375 arrests, investigate 9 sudden deaths, attend 20 road traffic incidents and patrol a distance of 24,585 miles.

It is a tribute to all of my colleagues,

officers and staff, who were so ably led by my sadly missed predecessor, Colin Cramphorn (pictured right), that West Yorkshire Police has effectively managed this significant demand over the last 365 days.

In this last year the Force has been recognised as being one of the most improved, with 9,200 fewer reported crimes than in the previous year, whilst the detection rates and the actual number of detections increased. Both the Home Office and Her Majesty's Inspectorate acknowledged West Yorkshire Police to be one of the most improved police forces in the country, placing it above other similar Metropolitan Forces.

You can be reassured that West Yorkshire Police is doing, and will continue to do all it can, within the boundaries of the law and the available resources to deliver an efficient and effective service to the people of West Yorkshire.

My priorities for the next 12 months are to embed Neighbourhood Policing



Sadly missed: Former Chief Constable Colin Cramphorn (right) on patrol with officers in Leeds

to work more closely with local communities and to be accountable to local people. We will also strive to protect people and communities from the harm caused by serious and organised crime. I want to create a workforce that operates as a team,

but is flexible and diverse enough to meet the future challenges of policing in the 21st century. The overarching focus is on improving public confidence and satisfaction in policing and the services we provide.

I am proud to be your Chief

Constable, and I'm committed to providing a police service that fits your local needs and gives you a say in how it works and what it achieves. I am looking forward to making further progress in the year ahead.

Your Policing Summary



West Yorkshire Police Authority

Working with you ... to improve local policing

Eventful year in the region

IN our Policing Plan for 2006/07 we made commitments to deliver a number of policing improvements, including reducing crime. Comparing what has been achieved with the targets set, the results are mixed. Overall, recorded crime in West Yorkshire has reduced again by just over 3.5 per cent (or 9,212 fewer crimes) compared to 2005/06. Particular areas of success include:

- Violent crime reduced by 9.4 per cent (5,061 fewer crimes)
 - Theft of vehicle reduced by 9.4 per cent (986 fewer crimes)
 - Criminal damage reduced by 2.6 per cent (1,553 fewer crimes)
 - Overall detection rate increased to 25.7 per cent
 - Met targets for speed of answering 999 calls and calls for assistance
 - Victim satisfaction improved by nearly six per cent
 - Exceeded target for the percentage of domestic violence incidents where an arrest is made
 - Exceeded target for testing appropriate arrestees for drugs.
- Disappointingly, there have been

increases in some crime types and other areas where targets have not been met:

- Robbery increased by 24.4 per cent (617 more crimes)
 - House burglary increased by 8.3 per cent (1,381 more crimes)
 - Theft from vehicles increased by 8.9 per cent (2,009 more crimes)
 - Some 36.8 per cent of residents in West Yorkshire say anti-social behaviour has got worse, compared to the target of 33 per cent
 - Reduction of 21.8 per cent since 2003/04 compared to a target of 25 per cent for the British Crime Survey Comparator Crimes
 - Missed target for offences brought to justice by 700 offences.
- Sneak-in burglaries, where doors and windows are left open, account for about a third of the burglary figures recorded. The theft of satellite navigation systems which have been left on view in cars is contributing to the increase in reported theft from vehicles.

To see the full out-turn against the 2006/07 Policing Plan, see our Annual Report at www.wypa.org



The Chair of the Police Authority, Coun Mark Burns-Williamson, introduces HM The Queen to the Vice-Chair, Coun Clive Richardson, at the official opening of Bradford's newest police station, Trafalgar House, on May 24

Looking ahead to 2007/08

Every year, our Policing Plan sets the direction for West Yorkshire Police - based on the priorities set by the Government and the views of the people who live and work in West Yorkshire. Thousands of you have helped the Police Authority to set the targets for the Force for the year 2007/08.

This table lists the key changes the Authority is seeking to bring about

Our Priorities for 2007/08:

Strategic Priority	Objectives
Working in partnership to create safer communities	To reduce anti-social behaviour so that people see an improvement in their local area. To work jointly with other police forces in the region to improve the way roads are policed and serious and organised crime is dealt with. To strengthen capacity to prevent and investigate counter-terrorism.
Reduce crime and bring more offences to justice	To reduce crime, especially robbery, burglary, vehicle crime, violent crime, criminal damage, life threatening crime and gun crime. To identify offenders and deal with more offences through the criminal justice system. To improve the protection of vulnerable people.
Improve public confidence and satisfaction	To increase confidence in local policing. To improve the satisfaction levels of victims of crime. To narrow the gap between the detection rates for violent offences committed against those from different ethnic backgrounds.
Making the best use of our assets	To recruit more female and minority ethnic police officers and staff so that the workforce better reflects the population of West Yorkshire. To reduce working days lost to sickness absence amongst police officers and police staff.

Performance vs other forces

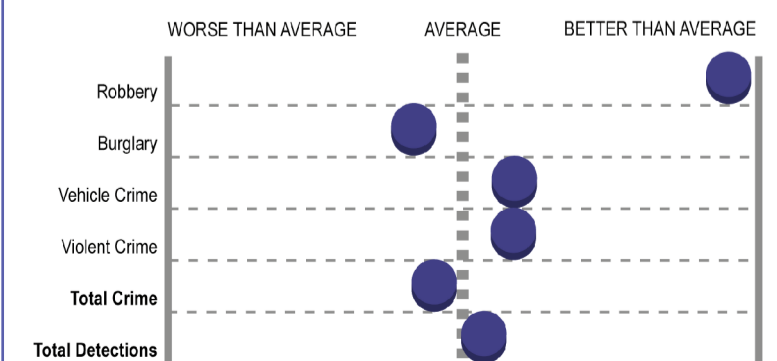
West Yorkshire Police's performance is best compared against that of forces that share similar characteristics - West Midlands, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, South Yorkshire and Northumbria.

The vertical dotted line in the chart below represents the average level of crimes across all six forces. The large dot shows whether the level of crime in West Yorkshire is the same as,

better than, or worse than the average for the forces in our group. Overleaf there are similar diagrams that show how policing in each district compares to their most similar areas.

Each area now has its own local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), managed by an Inspector. The role of the team is to work with local people, councillors and other partners to tackle local crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour problems.

WEST YORKSHIRE

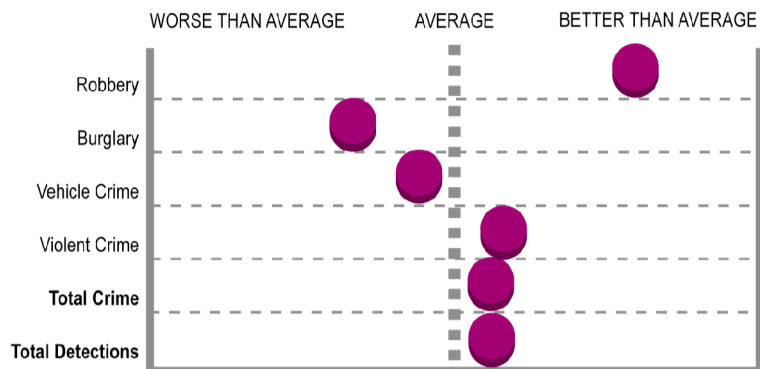


PERFORMANCE AND PLANS

BRADFORD

Compared with similar policing areas

Performance Summary
2006/07 compared with 2005/6

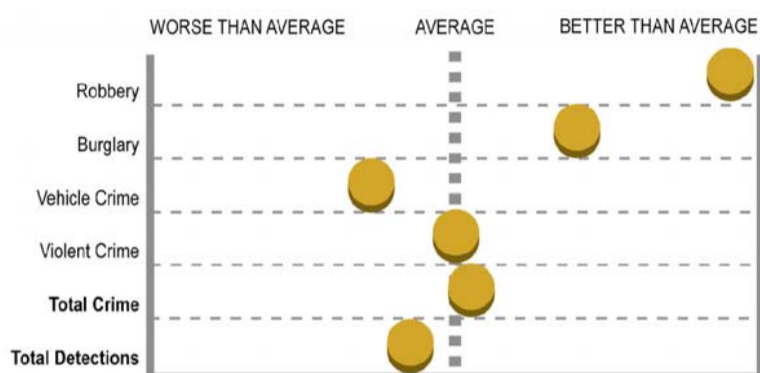


- Robbery up by 19 %
- House Burglary up by 10%
- Vehicle Crime up by 4%
- Violent Crime down by 14%
- Overall Crime down by 3%
- Total detection rate up by 0.5%

CALDERDALE

Compared with similar policing areas

Performance Summary
2006/7 compared with 2005/6

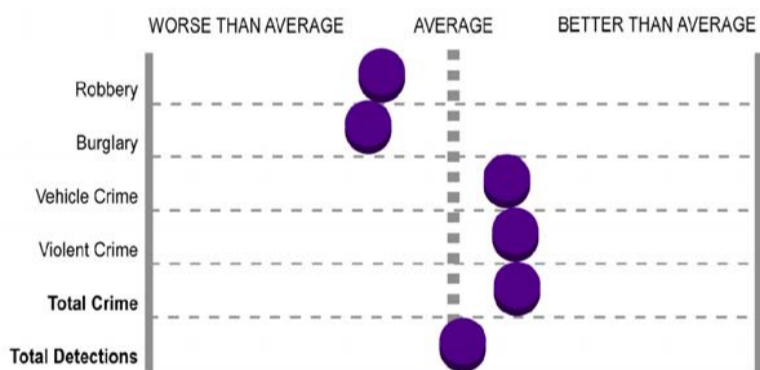


- Robbery up by 27%
- House Burglary up by 20%
- Vehicle Crime up by 28%
- Violent Crime down by 25%
- Overall Crime down by 4%
- Total detection rate up by 1.6%

KIRKLEES

Compared with similar policing areas

Performance Summary
2006/7 compared with 2005/6

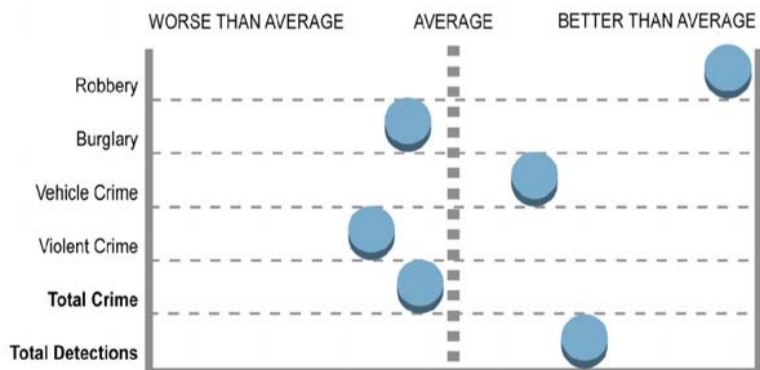


- Robbery up by 53%
- House Burglary up by 18%
- Vehicle Crime up by 3%
- Violent Crime down by 6%
- Overall Crime down by 1%
- Total detection rate up by 1.5%

WAKEFIELD

Compared with similar policing areas

Performance Summary
2006/7 compared with 2005/6

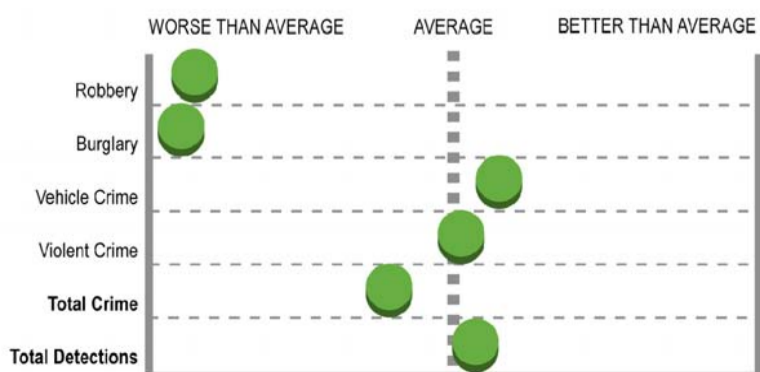


- Robbery down by 10%
- House Burglary down by 7%
- Vehicle Crime down by 6%
- Violent Crime down by 7%
- Overall Crime down by 6%
- Total detection rate up by 3.8%

LEEDS

Compared with similar policing areas

Performance Summary
2006/7 compared with 2005/6



- Robbery up by 25%
- House Burglary up by 8%
- Vehicle Crime up by 1%
- Violent Crime down by 4%
- Overall Crime down by 4%
- Total detection rate down by 0.1%

Going back to school!



Back Row (from left to right): Nasia Theodorou, Jessica Rudge, Amy Davies, Amy Cawthra; Front Row Billy Tonks, Robyn Walton, PC Russ Noon, Ryan Lilleyman, Marcus Pereira)

WEST Yorkshire Police Authority is going back to high school for a second year to talk to young people about the police's use of stop/search powers. The authority, which oversees policing on behalf of the public, spent the last school year talking to groups of students across the county about the police's use of stop/search and search.

They learned that many young people were not aware of their rights, the importance of being offered a paper record of the encounter or how they should respond.

So to tackle the issue the authority's Consultation Officers, Sharon Waugh and Samantha Dean have worked with students from Airedale High School, Castleford and Five Towns Neighbourhood Policing Team Officer PC Russ Noon to put together a DVD which will form the centrepiece of a session designed to inform young people about their rights and responsibilities regarding the police use of stop/search powers.

'...For the second year running, there has been an excellent response from schools and visits are currently scheduled until June...'

Coun Clive Richardson, Chair of the Authority's Community Engagement Committee, said "The DVD will be taken to secondary schools across the county by the consultation staff as well as forming part of teaching pack which will allow schools to deliver the information themselves as part of Personal, Health and Social Education (PHSE) lessons. For the second year running there has been an excellent response from schools and visits are currently scheduled until June."

Since 1 April 2005, police officers have been required to make a record of all occasions when they stop people and ask them to account for their actions, behaviour, presence in an area or possessions.

This was one of the recommendations that came out of the Macpherson Report investigating the death of Stephen Lawrence in 1993. People stopped are entitled to be given a copy of the record there and then, so that they know the reason why they were stopped.

The purpose of the record is to make the use of this power more transparent and to ensure that police officers do not stop people just because of the colour of their skin, their nationality, age, and so forth.

IMPORTANT

Policing Document Enclosed

ALL householders should watch out for an envelope marked 'Important Policing Document Enclosed' coming through the letterbox.

Each envelope contains an invitation to tell the Chair of the Police Authority what you think about the policing of your area – what's going well and what still needs to improve.

By completing and returning a short questionnaire you'll be helping us assess the current level of satisfaction with local policing and whether the changes we are introducing are making a difference.

So, please, if you are selected to take part in the survey take a few minutes to give us your views – and help us to make the changes you want to see.

Contacting West Yorkshire Police - is it really an emergency?

THE Communications Division of West Yorkshire Police is the first point of contact for all callers making requests to the police - either the 999 emergency or the 0845 6060606 non-emergency telephone lines.

Last year, this amounted to half a million 999 calls and 1.9 million 0845 6060606 calls.

Standards are set nationally on how forces should answer these calls - there is a target of 90 per cent within 10 seconds for 999 calls and 90 per cent within 30 seconds for the 0845 number. Last year West Yorkshire Police achieved 90 per cent for its emergency service provision and 86.2 per cent for non-emergency calls.

Misuse of the telephone system puts genuine callers with real emergencies in jeopardy. Their call is not answered promptly and the necessary emergency service provision is delayed. In some cases, this can result in loss or injury to the victim.

West Yorkshire Police is asking that callers use the 999 system only in emergency situations. Examples might include:

- where a road traffic accident has just occurred with persons injured
- where persons are seen to be breaking into a house
- where there is a fight taking place at that moment.

Examples of when it would be more appropriate to report a matter using the

0845 6060606 system might include:

- where a road traffic accident has occurred previously and you are wishing to obtain advice
- where a burglary has occurred and the offenders are no longer present
- where someone has previously been assaulted but the the caller is now safe at home.

West Yorkshire Police is also a champion of Neighbourhood Policing, where local officers are specifically tasked with resolving local issues.

All Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) have regular contact points in the community where you can meet them face-to-face, plus regular telephone contact points.

To contact your own NPT, see the contact listings on the back page of this publication.

Examples of 999 misuse are numerous - among the more bizarre was someone in Wakefield who rang to report a cockerel was running about near a local garage!

Did you know that...

IN 2006, West Yorkshire Police answered:

- Over 437,000 999 calls in less than 10 seconds
- 93 per cent of all calls in less than 30 seconds
- On a typical day, West Yorkshire Police responds to 1,321 emergency 999 calls



Patrolling officers in Wood Street, Wakefield. But do you know how to contact us correctly?

Crime Prevention

How can I protect myself and my property?

SHED AND GARAGE CRIME

Prevent thieves targeting your shed or garage by making sure the building is sturdy, has a quality lock and secure windows. Postcode all property such as cycles, lawnmowers, hedge trimmers and garden furniture.

SATELLITE NAVIGATION SYSTEMS

Stop expensive in-car satellite navigation systems being taken. If you do have a portable satellite navigation system, please remove the system and the holder from the car all together when you are not driving. Do not leave it in your glove compartment - it is the first place thieves look.

CAR CRIME

When leaving your car, always make sure it is locked and valuables are out of sight in the boot or take them with you. Don't leave possessions on display and remove the car stereo if possible.

IDENTITY FRAUD

Prevent identity fraud by using only secure websites for online shopping (they have https in the address when you access them) and look for the padlock symbol, set your browser to maximum security level, don't give out your card details just to register with a site, look out for emails requesting personal information, even if they appear to come from organisations you know and trust - they are always scams. Householders are urged to shred bills and correspondence which have names and addresses on and look after PINs.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Help to prevent criminal damage and anti-social behaviour by making sure you know where your children are and that they are not involved in drug or solvent abuse. Anyone with information about criminal damage are urged to contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

For more crime prevention tips from West Yorkshire Police, contact your local Crime Prevention Officer (see contacts page) or visit:

- www.westyorkshire.police.uk
- www.crimereduction.gov.uk

West Yorkshire Police Authority - have your say

WEST Yorkshire Police Authority is holding a public meeting on Thursday 27 September 2007, to consult people in Wakefield about policing activity in their area.

The venue is yet to be confirmed, but will start at 7pm.

Telephone or text your details to 01924 294022, or e-mail ed@wypa.pnn.police.uk if you want to register your interest in this event.

Wakefield area policing news - just 'click'

WEST Yorkshire Police has launched a new-look website where residents can view updates from their local police - and sign up for free automatic e-mail updates direct from their neighbourhood officers.

Web Communications Manager Patrick Brooke said the bright new Force site - www.westyorkshire.police.uk - contained lots of new features, while recognising 'accessibility' requirements ensuring it is easy to use.

"There is a direct link from the home page to our Neighbourhood Policing Team section where residents can punch in their postcode to view a page of local information, capturing local incidents, arrests and dates of forthcoming 'surgery' meetings," he said.

"To keep on top of local issues and incidents, we invite the public to sign



Logging on: West Yorkshire Police has launched its new-look website

up to receive automatic emailed updates direct from their local teams, along with press releases etc.

"Subscribers manage their own log-in, their email addresses are confidential and not used for any other purpose.

"At the moment, subscribers who take part in a quick online survey to help us improve the site have the option of being entered into a prize draw to win

a monthly £100 shopping voucher prize."

Also featured on the new site are the latest www.999TV.org police videos introducing the roles of local officers.

These include Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Andrea Gill and Sgt Darren Norgate, both of Wakefield Division.

How can I contact West Yorkshire Police?

You can contact the police any time by calling:

■ 999 in an emergency where there is a danger to life or a crime in progress

■ 0845 6060606 for non-emergencies.

WAKEFIELD DIVISION
Divisional Commander – Chief Superintendent Elizabeth Preece

Wood Street - Divisional Headquarters
Wakefield
WF1 2HJ
Open 24 hours - 7 days a week
Full disabled access
01924 293259

Pontefract Sessions House Yard
Pontefract
WF8 1BN

Open 7am to midnight - 7 days a week
Full disabled access
01977 601059

Castleford Jessop Street
Castleford
WF10 1DQ

Monday to Thursday - 8am to 6pm
- (Closed 12.30pm-1.30pm)
Full disabled access
01924 206216

South Kirkby Stockingate
South Kirkby

Monday to Saturday - 8.30am to 4.30pm - (Closed 12 noon-1pm)
Full disabled access
01977 601077

For more information and full contact details of your Neighbourhood Policing Teams, including regular and forthcoming opportunities to meet local officers, please visit: www.wypnpt.org

If you have any information about crimes that have been committed, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Your call is free and you may get a reward. You can also visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org



How can I contact *my* local NPT Team?



Inspector Karen Bailes

Wakefield

Areas covered:

Team A: Outwood, Stanley, Wrenthorpe, Kettlethorpe, Calder Grove, Painthorpe, Sandal, Walton, Agbrigg, Belle Vue, Portobello, Crofton, College Grove & Eastmoor

Team B: Ossett, Gawthorpe, Horbury, Middlestown, Overton, Netherpton, Lupset, Thornes, Flanshaw, Peacock, Darnley & Alverthorpe

Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector – Karen Bailes

Contacts:

01924 293856 (Ossett base)

01924 293857 (Team A is led by Sergeant Jason Jowett and Team B is led by Sergeant Andrew Strafford). These numbers are for NON-urgent, NON-emergency calls only

01924 294518 (messages only)

E-mail: wakefield.npt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

WakeCityTownsNPT@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk (Wakefield City Centre Team)



Inspector David Peach

City and Towns

Areas covered:

Wakefield City Centre North, Wakefield City Centre South, Castleford Town Centre North, Castleford Town Centre South, Pontefract Town Centre North, Pontefract Town Centre South.

Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector - David Peach

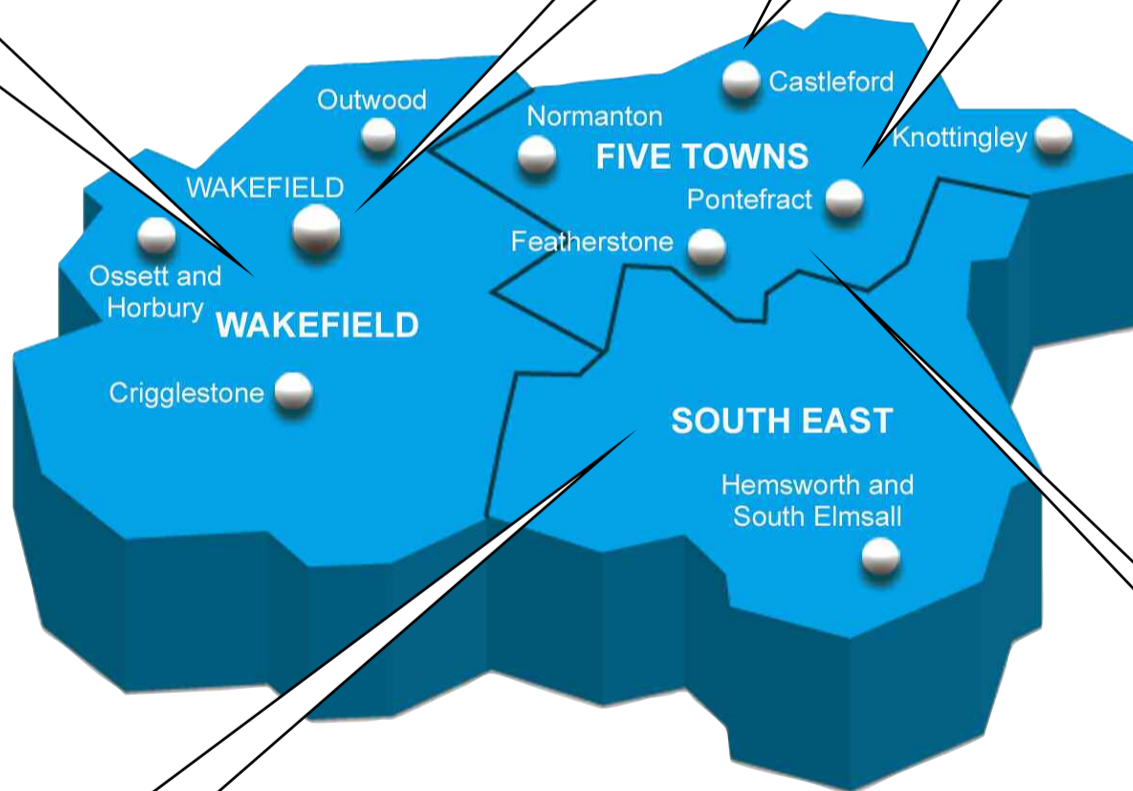
Contacts:

Call the Wakefield City Centre Teams on 01924 293472

E-mail: wakecitytownsnpt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Call the Castleford and Pontefract Town Centre Teams on 01924 206214

E-mail: cascitytownsnpt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk



Inspector Dave Westwood

South East

Areas covered:

South Kirkby, Hemsworth, South Elmsall, Ackworth, Havercroft, South Hiendley, Ryhill, Fitzwilliam, Kinsley, Upton, Thorpe Audlin, Wentbridge, Darrington, North Elmsall, East Hardwick, Badsworth

Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector: Dave Westwood

Contacts:

01977 601044 (South East NPT base). This number is for NON-urgent, NON-emergency calls only

01924 292518 (to leave a message only)

01977 601077 (South Kirkby Police Station)

E-mail: southeast.npt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk



Inspector Richard Jones

Five Towns

Areas covered:

Castleford, Pontefract, Knottingley, Featherstone, Normanton, Airedale, Ferry Fryston, Cutsyke, Whitwood, Streethouse, Sharlston, Ferrybridge

Neighbourhood Policing Team Head Supervisor – Inspector Richard Jones (01924 206236)

District contacts:

01924 206234 : Sgt Haley (Castleford) & Sgt Shipley (Normanton/Featherstone)

01924 206232 : Sgt Roberts (Pontefract, Knottingley & Ferrybridge)

E-mail: 5towns.npt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Have you received the correct edition? If you have received the wrong regional edition, please call 01924 292099 or email your.police@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk and we will send you the regional version you require for either Leeds, Calderdale, Bradford, Kirklees or Wakefield.

What do you think of Your Wakefield and Your Annual Report? Please e-mail us at your.police@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk