



# Corporate Performance, Delivery & Scrutiny Board

# Priority 4: Improve Victim Care August 2016

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BE SAFE FEEL SAFE





**Develop and implement services that support the victims journey** 

- 1. Implement Supporting Victims in North Yorkshire 'one stop shop' for access to information and support
- 7. Integrate Witness Care with the Supporting Victims Unit
- 8. Integrate key partners with Supporting Victims e.g. Citizens Advice
- 12. Develop and agree an approach to maximise the use of technology to support the victim journey





# Integrating Supporting Victims (SV), Witness Care Unit (WCU) & other key agencies:

- 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 SV team TUPE'D from Victim Support to North Yorkshire Police (NYP)
- SV team, WCU, Remedi & IDAS co-located enabling integration & joint working; Citizens Advice, Witness Service (CAWS) co-location agreed and further services considered for co-location / agile working
- Multi-agency workshops including SV, WCU, CAWS identified areas to streamline victim processes:
  - Needs Assessment
  - Information Sharing
  - Special Measures early identification & recording
  - Victim Personal Statements maximising uptake
  - Specialist support services improved knowledge
- Head of Commissioning & Head of Criminal Justice developing integration proposal to take to Executive Group (EG) September 2016





### Use of technology to support victim journey:

- Supporting Victims website regular review to maintain relevance/accuracy
- National victim website, Victims' Information Service if North Yorkshire victims access they are automatically transferred to Supporting Victims
- New NYP website launched with victim focused content; victim reference on each page, could be more visible
- Information for Victims of Crime Booklet (IfVoCB)— developed & launched April, consolidates victim collateral, including Victim Contact Agreement; officers engaged; next: monitor & report re. Victims Code compliance
- **Live Links** video conferencing for witnesses to give evidence at court remotely; resourcing opportunities being explored to support solution development & implementation
- **Track My Crime** functionality within NICHE; gives victims remote access to information on their reported crime; module now available for implementation; next: proposal to be taken to EG September 2016





Deliver Restorative Justice that meets the needs of the victim

- 3. Develop an approach to embedding Restorative Practice across North Yorkshire
- 10. Review and agree a cultural change approach to 'getting it right first time for victims' re: College of Policing, Code of Ethics speeding up justice
- 13. Develop & agree a force wide coordinated approach to giving victims a voice in continuous improvement of services across the victim journey





# 'Getting it right first time for victims' – speeding up justice & giving victims a voice in continuous improvement

- Victim Investigative Journey training programme to enhance professional practice & ensure victim centred investigative & case quality process; some aspects already developed & delivered
- Victim's Right to Review information on Supporting Victims website & in IFVOC booklet, on WCU letters
- Victim Complaints previously developed information re. rights and entitlements and how to complain for SV (& NYP) website and IfVoC Booklet; next: given emerging national change in responsibilities to PCCs need to ensure information is relevant/accurate
- Victim Personal Statement (VPS) Information within IfVoC Booklet; corporate compliance framework developed to measure offer in line with Victims Code; 4 check points: case quality review team, WCU, support services feedback questionnaire, audit process





# **Deliver improved services to victims**

- 6. Develop & implement a measure to assess the extent to which repeat victimisation is tackled through the IDVA and IVA contract specifically in relation to Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime, Other vulnerable victims
- 11. Develop and agree a force wide coordinated approach to measure victim satisfaction and confidence across the victim journey





# Extent to which repeat victimisation is tackled through support services for Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime, and other vulnerable victims

• Independent Victim Advisor (IVA) service pilot – will track repeat victimisation; next: approach to be rolled out to other services

### Measuring victim satisfaction & confidence across the victim journey

- Victim Journey:
  - Previous local victim journey mapping refreshed to include newly commissioned support services; next: review areas for streamlining
  - Nationally Ministry of Justice submitting previously collated piece of work to Ministers; including North Yorkshire updates & good practice
- Victim Satisfaction on the back of an independent review of support services for victims in 2015 a Feedback Questionnaire has been developed & is being piloted with a dip sample of victims; all victims with email addresses will be given the opportunity to participate





All staff fully engaged and meet the requirements of Victims' Code

- 2. Develop a compliance methodology for NYP to measure compliance with the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (Victims' Code)
- 9. Review & agree an approach to addressing needs within European Directive Articles relating to victims





- **Victims Code updated Nov. 15** aligned to European Directive Articles requirements from Nov. 15; key changes:
  - Written acknowledgments to all crime victims required following police report; Expanded categories beyond National Crime Recording Standards e.g. bringing driving offences into scope; Victims Right to Review code entitlement; and Access to Interpreter / Translation services code entitlement
- Internal Audit re. operational compliance with Victims Code; 5 recommendations:
  - Dip sampling compliance; Victim Contact Agreement consistent use; More than one method of victim contact to be obtained; Ensure Niche documents details of victim contact & information provided; and Review onward referral process & recording re. support & safeguarding
- Following internal audit, audit & compliance dept. conducted reality check with staff & officers & recommendations made – action plan created
- Resource constraints in relation to addressing recommendations re. business/change analyst & business as usual resource as per Head of Criminal Justice resource request





Demonstrate improvements in transparency and use of non-court based disposals

- 4. Embed the learning from the Out of Court Disposals Panel within NYP policies and procedures & workforce practice
- 5. Develop & implement a measure to assess the accessibility & responsiveness of Community Trigger





### Out of Court Disposals Scrutiny Panel:

- to scrutinise compliance with national guidance re. out of court disposal decisions including community resolution disposals, cautions, conditional cautions
- Independent chair, multi-agency members (including 2 Magistrates)
- Quarterly panels held, reflective learning feedback loop to officers / staff
- Victim representation agreed; 2 members of public representing victims;
   have attended their first panel
- Panel themes & outputs published & in public domain via Annual Report on PCC website; positive review with recommendations re. victim info. sharing

# Community Trigger implemented Oct. 14

- Managed via local delivery teams under Community Safety Partnerships
- Data set / evaluation being undertaken
- 5 triggers instigated; 1 Ryedale, 1 Harrogate, 3 York