



Newsletter

July

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Strong message of unity and hope to all the communities of West Yorkshire

There were two separate incidents of concern involving West Yorkshire residents overseas last month and there is obviously shock particularly for the families caught up and for the local communities. It is during times like this that people pull together and show strength in adversity. The ability and willingness of people in West Yorkshire to do this is one of the area's great strengths. It is also important to recognise that now is not the time for knee-jerk reactions. We need long-term solutions to long-term problems. That is why I have been developing for some time an online safeguarding platform called Community Voices that will provide a safeguarding internet tool for people within local communities who are credible voices in those communities who are working to protect people against online hazards. The scheme will assist members of the public who want to help make a difference tackling a range of safeguarding issues and seeks to educate and keep safer those young and potentially vulnerable and impressionable members of society by challenging what they see on-line and providing the credible information to assess the right or wrong.

£1.5m funding to crack unsolved murder and rape cases

I have announced £1.592m worth of funding to employ extra staff to help crack historical unsolved murder and rape cases. Victims of crime are at the heart of everything I do, I regularly speak personally to families who have lost loved ones or victims who themselves have suffered horrific crimes but never seen anyone brought to account for what happened. There are still people out there, in our communities, enjoying their liberty, who are responsible for terrible crimes. They present a real threat of further harm and need bringing to justice. [Find out more](#)



Child Sexual Exploitation summit

I held another West Yorkshire-wide summit on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) last month bringing together safeguarding leads and partners from the county. Child Sexual exploitation and sexual abuse are abhorrent crimes and a problem that everyone has a collective responsibility to tackle. Dealing with it is a priority and this meeting was about bringing people around the table to see what is being done and what more can be done - we cannot and must not work in isolation when dealing with these issues. [Find out more](#)



Youth Advisory Group meeting

I met with my Youth Advisory Group (YAG) in Wakefield last month. In a lively meeting the group asked about radicalisation, the incident at Dixon Kings Academy and the impact budget cuts are having on policing. The young people are able to express their views and comments which steer future decisions, policy and engagement with young people. The group also had an input on stop and search and learnt about their rights and what they would expect to happen if they were stop and searched. The YAG currently has 64 members from all across West Yorkshire. There are a minimum of 4 meetings a year and the location moves to a different district each time to give all members equal opportunity to attend. The group also undertake visits, may attend consultation events and engage regularly outside of formal meetings. [Find out more](#)

