

ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE BOARD

24th March 2026

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)/ Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Presented by: ACC Richard NORTH

1. Police and Crime Plan

1.1 To provide the Commissioner with a report on progress towards the key performance indicators (KPI) in the West Midlands Police (WMP) and Crime Plan 2025-2029 relating to Violence against Women and Girls and CSE.

1.2 In reference to the Police and Crime Plan specifically:

The Preventing and Tackling Violence, Prevention and Rehabilitation, and Preventing and Reducing Neighbourhood Crime chapters of the Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029 (PCP) contains the following commitments with associated KPIs:

- Ensure effective prevention of and enforcement against online child sexual abuse, such as online sexual extortion and the sharing and storage of abusive images, including those generated by artificial intelligence.
- WMP will work closely with the West Midlands Regional Organised Crime Unit and the National Crime Agency and other partners to address these (online child sexual abuse, such as online sexual extortion and the sharing and storage of abusive images) threats.
- Sexual Harm Prevention Orders and Sexual Risk Orders used to address online crimes, including child abuse, child pornography, and revenge pornography.
- WMP to focus on bringing child sexual abuse and exploitation offenders to justice, while safeguarding and supporting victims.
- Continued implementation of Operation Soteria
- Support action by police and partners to prevent and reduce spiking, upskirting and other harms in the night-time economy.
- Work with police and partners to safeguard sex workers.

- WMP will support the national mission to halve VAWG in a decade
- Positive outcome rates for VAWG crimes to increase
- Police and partners will tackle all forms of VAWG, including hidden harms such as female genital mutilation, so called 'honour-based' abuse, forced marriage, coercive control and stalking, ensuring criminals are brought to justice and victims and survivors receive the care and support they need.

2. Action ref 147: Ensure effective prevention of and enforcement against online child sexual abuse, such as online sexual extortion and the sharing and storage of abusive images, including those generated by artificial intelligence (AI).

- 2.1 Online Child Sexual Exploitation Team (OCSET) are a dedicated team which focus solely on addressing this area of offending. In 2025 the department received over 2300 referrals into the team which were developed into over 500 warrants or arrests. As of the 28 January 2026 the department is managing 315 open investigations, 236 in the pre-charge phase and a further 225 in the post charge phase. The department has a further 141 cases in intelligence development. Enforcement occurs daily and is tracked via the child performance meeting, the monthly (Public Protection Unit) PPU performance meeting and has a standing agenda item in the Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) chaired performance day.
- 2.2 WMP do not necessarily differentiate those offences where AI has been used, we understand that this will be a growing trend and OCSET will report on a monthly basis the number of cases they are dealing with. There is no separate legislation as AI created Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) is covered by existing legislation around possession of indecent images of children (IIOC).
- 2.3 There has been a significant increase in demand being placed on the OCSET department due to the linked increase of referrals being received by the National Crime Agency (NCA). This has been carefully tracked and evidenced over the past two years and in April 2025 resulted in a temporary uplift in staff to create an additional fourth team. This increase in demand will continue into 2026 and beyond and a permanent uplift of 1 Sergeant and 6 Constables has been agreed and will be recruited early 2026. Additional work is also being undertaken to review how the department deal with under 18 offenders to assist us in identifying concerning behaviour earlier. A Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF) is submitted for all OCSET investigations to ensure a partner

agency response to such cases. Partnership and preventative activity can then be delivered by joint children services activity following these referrals.

3. Action ref 148: WMP will work closely with the West Midlands Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) and the NCA and other partners to address these (online child sexual abuse, such as online sexual extortion and the sharing and storage of abusive images) threats.

- 3.1 OCSET work closely with the NCA and receive the majority of their referrals from them to then develop and enforce against. Meetings are regularly held with the NCA to discuss demand and issues around referrals. As a group of OCSET leaders there is a twice a year meeting held for continuous professional development (CPD) and discussion on new and emerging case types, these are opened by the OCSET National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) lead. OCSET are also represented at quarterly regional meetings with the heads and OCSET leads for WMP, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Mercia which promotes joint working. Work is ongoing with a new ROCU led group which oversees and co-ordinates our response to the growth in COM Network jobs.
- 3.2 In the last three months WMP OCSET officers have visited counterparts in Great Manchester Police (GMP) and West Mercia to share expertise and compare approaches.
- 3.3 Operation Snowburst is an example of work where WMP actioned before Christmas 2025 to arrest and seize items from a 17-year-old offender linked to an ongoing West Mercia online COM network investigation. WMP officers were able to develop the intel, obtain and enforce the warrant within a week and worked with West Mercia officers who worked out WMP buildings to interview the suspect about all matters. This investigation is ongoing and we are looking to identify offences which may have taken place in the West Midlands area.
- 3.4 In relation to WMP employees, Appearance, Words, Activity and behaviour, Relationship Dynamics and Environment (AWARE) training has been delivered across the workforce to ensure that children and their experiences are placed front and centre of all investigations, not just specifically child abuse investigations. Bespoke Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (CSAE) training is delivered to front-line staff by PPU senior leadership team (SLT) and forms part of the OP EXCELLENCE training.

3.5 In relation to the CASEY report into CSE, WMP had already implemented many aspects of the report. Investigations within the PPU are always focused on the needs and best interests of the child CSAE victims. Ongoing CPD reflects this with work around AWARE principles, language matters, and new training to extend OP Soteria Principles and best practice into the child abuse arena. Internal audits have taken place to identify best practice, areas of concern such as victim blaming language so that we continue to review our effectiveness in this area of policing. Front-line group CSAE training has been delivered, with additional training planned. Group-CSAE case studies form part of CPD and are a specific focus in our upcoming communications week (Feb 26). Through Operation Beaconport we will be looking to onboard specialists who will provide bespoke victim support to this type of criminality.

4. Action ref 149: Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPO) and Sexual Risk Orders (SRO) used to address online crimes, including child abuse, child pornography, and revenge pornography.

4.1 Sex Offender Managers (SOMs) manage SHPOs granted through the Courts. SOMS will be involved with the varying of SHPOs to make them more relevant to a set of circumstances as they evolve, managing compliance with a SHPO and in some cases applying for a SHPO where this has not been done on conviction. Compliance with SROs will generally be managed by other areas within WMP as part of their investigation and/or management on an individual rather than SOMs because they will not necessarily be a registered sex offender (RSO).

4.2 Benchmarking has been carried out in terms of other forces regionally and forces within our Most Similar Group (MSG) with regards to live SROs which indicates we are not an outlier in terms of volume and comparable in our MSG. This looks like:

West Mids – 29

GMP – 23

Merseyside – 16

Thames Valley – 21

West Yorkshire – 13

West Mercia – 29

Warwickshire – 8

Staffordshire - 6

- 4.3 The SOMs lead is working with other relevant DCIs in refreshing the knowledge around the legislation and process related to SHPOs and SROs to ensure where there are those individuals who pose a sexual risk, our staff are robustly applying and securing the relevant order. SOMS staff are always available to help, support and advise. Information is available on the SOMS intranet page to support all other questions and learning.
- 4.4 Compliance with these orders is documented and tracked through VISOR. All granted SHPOs and SROs are on the Police National Computer (PNC) linked to the relevant individual so that should they get stopped and a check conducted their conditions will be readily available for action as appropriate.
- 4.5 In terms of compliance, every single individual with a SHPO is classed as an RSO and is subject to full Part 2 Notification requirements for the duration of the order. This means they are MAPPA Category 1 offenders managed by SOMs. Victim engagement will continue with the original OIC but SOMs, where necessary will link in with other forces to support victim engagement and support.
- 4.6 SOMs are expected to police the conditions of the order effectively and robustly. They will become aware of breaches by policing adherence to the conditions of the order during visits and overseeing notification requirements all of which are recorded on VISOR as part of the case management process. All breaches of SHPOs are crime recorded and will be dealt with dependent upon the nature of the breach and the circumstances in terms of a most suitable outcome which is reviewed and authorised by the SOM Sergeant, Inspector or Chief Inspector dependent upon the outcome being sought. This is often as per the public interest test and the likely sanction by a court. If it is felt necessary the SOM will contact the Court to seek an amendment/addition to the SHPO if pertinent to what surmounted to the breach. This may also result in an approach to Probation to seek a recall if necessary.

5. Action ref 256: WMP to focus on bringing child sexual abuse and exploitation offenders to justice, while safeguarding and supporting victims.

- 5.1 All activity is driven by the child protection strategy 2025-2028. This strategy sets out the 4P plan (Pursue, prevent, prepare, protect) approach, for pursue to relentlessly

pursue those who harm children and young people to for protect to keep children and young people safe).

This is further underpinned with a 4P CSAE plan, supported by a CSAE threat desk, to drive activity at a Force CSAE meeting.

- 5.2 We have amended many of our systems to enhance our capture of compliance to the victim code of practice (VCOP), the voice of the child (VOTC), our reporting to partners through the child MARF process and finally in capturing our missing debriefs to better safeguard and support those at risk.
- 5.3 Our CSE and group based CSE outcomes continue to improve, with a 22%+ outcome rate within 25/26. This is a significant improvement on 24/25 performance which was under 10%.
- 5.4 In January 2026 WMP delivered training to 40 child officers in Pre-Interview Planning and Preparation Assessment (PIPPA) – this is an NCA designed programme that allows for officers to produce a bespoke understanding of the child’s specific needs and inform a meaningful support strategy and interview plan. This in turn is hoped to allow less delays in speaking to child victims whilst awaiting an intermediary which will reduce their trauma, investigation timeline and ultimately bring offenders to justice quicker.

6. Action ref 43: Continued implementation of Operation Soteria

- 6.1 Soteria has evolved within the Force as the National Operating Model (NOM) has been introduced and the various products embedded. This adaption is reflected in the Op Soteria Transformation plan, which is renewed annually and reflects the feedback on progress to date from the Operation Soteria Joint Unit (OSJU) at the College of Policing (CoP).
- 6.2 WMP must ensure the renewed Transformation Plan is approved WMP Strategic Lead ACC Crime by end of April 2026, having been extended by the OSJU. The transformation plan will then be discussed with OSJU when they conduct their Force visit in 2026. The plan is based on an assessment of identified areas for improvement from the annual self-assessment, which is provided to the Force by OSJU.

- 6.3 In December 2025, the Home Secretary announced that all forces must establish Specialist Rape and Sexual Offences Teams by the end of this parliament (Summer 2029). Guidance on this requirement has been shared, under a strict non-sharing policy, with ACC Safeguarding Portfolio leads, and DAC Helen Millichap briefing ACCs on 19 December regarding the expectations. This will require an evolution of OP Soteria and approach and WMP will adapt to this accordingly.
- 6.4 Furthermore, it is expected that any project plan to deliver this requirement should be merged/aligned with the Op Soteria Transformation Plan; hence the move of the original approval date.
- 6.5 There is also a level of internal governance in the form of the Operation Soteria Operations Board which has oversight of the WMP implementation of Operation Soteria within Force from each of the Soteria Pillar Leads and is chaired by the D/Superintendent for Soteria. During the meeting the NOM implementation plan and the progress of the Transformation plan are tracked. There is a clear project plan, with a dedicated project manager to track progress, which is calculated on a percentage of completion.
- 6.6 Operation Soteria, its principles and the NOM products have been widely shared across the whole force and are readily accessible on the Force Intranet site. Internal communications have been provided to support this, refresh messaging and direct staff to the Soteria materials.
- 6.7 A bespoke frontline officer training programme has been created which includes the NOM Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) products within a supported learning environment and a SOLO (Sexual Offences Liaison Officer) course. The course is delivered by Learning and Development trained staff and actively supported by RASSO SLT members. The SOLO element of the course includes elements delivered by the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Clinic) and forensics. Five courses have taken place with a further 11 sessions booked up until the end of the spring with the intention of delivering the programme to all front-line staff.
- 6.8 Further support mechanisms have been put in place to cement the learning and support officers as they grow in confidence in the role, with a SOLO Support group chat which gives access to other trained officers, RASSO supervisors and Learning and Development staff; SARC drop-in sessions and aide memoirs.

7. Action ref 46: Support action by police and partners to prevent and reduce spiking, upskirting and other harms in the night-time economy

- 7.1 Engagement with Night-time economy venues, primarily licensed premises, is led by the Local Policing Area Neighbourhood Teams and their Police Alcohol Licensing Officers (PALOs).
- 7.2 The Ask for Angela scheme is well-embedded across venues in the night-time economy and anti-spiking measures are available in many venues. In Birmingham, the Ask for Angela scheme is now being rolled out across hotels by the City Centre Neighbourhood Team.
- 7.3 There is a spiking lead, an LPA DCI, who runs Operation Argon, the force's response to spiking incidents. The DCI has a network of SPOCs across the force and this is an area that has seen significant corporate communications support and proactive operational activity.
- 7.4 Where incidences of Spiking or Upskirting are reported the PALOs will speak to the venue to understand how it happened, to debrief the incident and gather learning. The venue will be required to provide CCTV and support criminal investigations where incidences do occur and then a tailored response is agreed with the venue to mitigate it happening again.
- 7.5 In terms of partnership work, on NTE deployments, there will be a street briefing on Friday and Saturday evenings held jointly between police, venues and street-wardens. This is police-led and would provide an opportunity to share intelligence regarding offenders of note, suspicious vehicles and detail of recent incidents. All NTE officers are briefed on the Op Vigilant principles.
- 7.6 PALOs and NHTs work with the Security Industry Authority (SIA) to conduct compliance checks with venues ensuring door staff are operating in accordance with their SIA accreditation. Regular operations also take place with Trading Standards with a focus on immigration enforcement / right to work.

7.7 Op Courageous has taken place throughout the busy festive period in Birmingham City Centre targeting hotspot areas for VAWG and serious youth violence, this has included regular licensing checks for compliance with door staff and venues.

8. Action ref 47: Work with police and partners to safeguard sex workers.

8.1 Sex workers who report incidents of harm or exploitation will be supported through the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). This will mean victims are taken to a supported safe location out of the area. They are provided with supports workers for such issues as accommodation, money, access to legal advice and any mental health counselling that may be requested or required.

8.2 Support is also given through the relevant local authority, as well as the Salvation Army, which can also be available for those not wanting police involvement. Other support can be available from charities, in WMP we are well supported by National Ugly Mugs. This is a charity that provides a digital reporting and alerting platform to improve the safety and protection of sex workers from violence and abuse.

8.3 Operation Plazari is a collaboration between front-line proactive officers and specialist safeguarding partners. This is an intelligence-led policing operation which initiates intensive partner agency support to secure the safety of the West Midlands' most at-risk individuals. There is focus on the identification and arrest of seriously high-harm risk offenders. By pooling data from police and safeguarding agencies, Operation Plazari targets the predators who pose the greatest lethal threat to sex workers. This collaborative approach ensures that combined intelligence is used to track and remove violent offenders who specifically target vulnerable women.

8.4 Sandstar 1 is a Wolverhampton pilot initiative targeting indoor sex work locations to safeguard sex workers from harm, exploitation and to avoid unnecessary criminalisation. Officers attend visits alongside staff from Black Country Women's Aid (BCWA), who will act as professional witnesses in any future court proceedings. If a worker is identified as an immigration overstayer, officers will seek to avoid arrest wherever possible. Case details will be passed to immigration for them to manage. This is an agreement between WMP and Immigration.

8.5 No visits to indoor sex work locations are undertaken unless the staff have received training from NCA and BCWA. This training covers relevant law/legislation, victim

trauma, victim blaming language and understanding and applying a locally adopted Red, Amber, Green (RAG) status. This helps us to identify and inform the risk and suspects involved. To date 125 locations are shown as being active across WMP.

- 8.6 WMP work directly with Marinus Analytics - The organisation who manage ASW and Viva Street, they identify risky adverts and refer to WMP ROCU for review who in turn allocates cases to the relevant Sandstar team.
- 8.7 Home Office funding has been gained for employing a Romanian speaking officer and a Mandarin speaking officer, for both officers to engage with the females on initial visits to build trust and confidence with those located. These two languages relate to the detailed understanding that we have of indoor sex worker locations across WMP. Whereby 50% are Romanian females and Chinese approximately 20%.

9. Action ref 34: WMP will support the national mission to halve VAWG in a decade

- 9.1 West Midlands Police has an existing Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy for 2024-2027 covering the response to the 11 strands of VAWG, each with its own lead officer (Superintendent or Chief Inspector) and delivery plan:
- rape and serious sexual offences
 - domestic abuse
 - stalking and harassment
 - so-called honour-based abuse
 - female genital mutilation
 - forced marriage
 - sexual harassment
 - child sexual exploitation
 - child sexual abuse
 - sex work and prostitution
 - modern slavery and human trafficking
- 9.2 An interim review is being conducted of the current WMP Strategy, to ensure WMP's missions align to the Government Strategy, with a clear focus on prevention and reduction of VAWG offences and a refreshed delivery plan will be drafted to support this.

- 9.3 The current strategy is structured around a 4P approach designed to:
- Prepare: To prepare Policing to effectively identify, respond to, and reduce VAWG
 - Protect: To protect individuals and communities from VAWG
 - Pursue: To relentlessly pursue VAWG perpetrators and pursue the right outcome for each victim
 - Prevent: To prevent people from committing VAWG
- 9.4 The focus of the operational activity around the strategy so far has been in three key areas, Creating Safer Public Spaces, Tackling Perpetrators and Improving Public Confidence.
- 9.5 Some examples of recent relevant operational activity supporting this include:
- Force wide participation in the Home Office-led 'Winter of Action' Campaign which included a focus on tackling VAWG and saw a range of operational activity across all LPAs throughout December 2025 and January 2026. This is being debriefed and learning will support the plans for the delivery of a similar initiative in the summer.
 - Operation Vigilant – This operation was designed by Thames Valley Police and elements of the approach have been implemented throughout Night Time Economy (NTE) operations during December. The operation utilises a combination of hi-visibility and plain clothes resources (similar to a CT focused Op Servator deployment) to identify and tackle predatory behaviour and to offer support to those in the NTE who may be vulnerable. The force is waiting to hear the result of a bid for Home Office funding to extend this operational activity for the rest of the financial year. The operation will then be debriefed with a plan to build the approach into all NTE operations going forward.
 - Operation Plazari – As described above
- 9.6 In terms of improving public confidence, the HearHer Network has recently been established by Women in Policing, the first event in July 2025 saw approximately 60 women and girls from across the force come together to share their experiences and

to shape the force response to VAWG. A second event took place in November with a focus on the safety of women and girls and a third event is planned for March 2026. The aims of the group are to support the police to create new policies and procedures that affect women and girls, to educate frontline officers on how to better interact with women and girls and to share the lived experiences of women and girls. VAWG features regularly in force Corporate Communications campaigns.

- 9.7 Governance for VAWG is primarily delivered through the Vulnerability Improvement Board (Chaired by ACC Crime) and the VAWG Steering Group (Chaired by a Superintendent from the Public Protection Unit (PPU)) with a Safer Spaces sub-group (chaired by a Local Policing Area Chief Inspector). However, due to the wide scope of VAWG it is also discussed in other strategic boards such as Crime Governance Board, and the Force Performance Panel and within Local Policing Area performance structures.
- 9.8 Due to the majority of the lead officers for VAWG strands being based within the PPU, performance for these strands is primarily scrutinised within the PPU departmental monthly performance and Service Improvement Meetings, then reporting into Force Performance Panel and the department's Quarterly Performance Review.
- 9.9 A VAWG Business Insights Application is being commissioned in order to allow Local Policing leaders an ability to understand the nature of VAWG offences in their area, allowing them to focus resources on specific problem areas and problem types. LPAs have also been supported with the production of LPA VAWG Problem Profiles.
- 9.10 A VAWG Problem Profile was produced in 2025 (to compliment those already produced for other strands of vulnerability such as Domestic Abuse, RASSO and Child Abuse). This problem profile focused on a number of key areas including:
- Misogynistic behaviour
 - VAWG in the NTE (including spiking offences)
 - Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
 - Sex Work
 - Honour Based Abuse (HBA)
 - Forced Marriage
 - Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
 - Police Officer / Staff on duty assaults and abuse

9.11 The Problem Profile made a number of recommendations to improve the force’s response to tackling VAWG. These are being tracked via the VAWG Steering Group. It also identified emerging threats and made recommendations to assist the force in preparing to tackle them, including:

- VAWG in Football
- Artificial Intelligence, Deepfakes and Virtual Reality
- Internet enabled VAWG and misogyny
- Transgender Community
- Justice system delays

9.12 The problem profile highlighted the trajectory of VAWG offences with reported offences reducing since a peak during the Covid pandemic. The figure below provides a forecast of the volumes of VAWG offences (including DA) up to mid-2026 and shows that the volume of reports is expected to continue to reduce (medium confidence forecast):



9.13 It is recognised by WMP that tackling VAWG requires a whole force (and partnership) approach. VAWG is an operational priority in the WMP control strategy for 2024 to 2026 and the existing VAWG strategy cuts across all departments in the force, not solely PPU. VAWG based tactical priorities feature regularly in Force Tasking.

- 9.14 All LPAs and force departments have a VAWG pledge which was set out in the strategy and all departments provide updates on activity they are undertaking to meet their pledges. At the end of the performance year a VAWG Impact Report will be produced to highlight what the force has done to deliver the strategy in the previous year.
- 9.15 As well as the VAWG strand leads, the VAWG Steering Group has representation from departments across the force to ensure tackling VAWG is a whole-force priority, including; PPU, Local Policing, Professional Standards, Criminal Justice Services, Corporate Communications and representatives from the OPCC, the White Ribbon Lead, Women in Policing and Corporate Development.

10. Action ref 38: Positive outcome rates for VAWG crimes to increase

- 10.1 Operation Vanguard was launched to improve the standards across all investigations, including VAWG investigations, with a focus on improving victim care, compliance with the Victims Code of Practice and management of investigations. VAWG offences form part of the Operation Vanguard monthly Quality Assurance Thematic Testing (QATT) regime completed by the force to monitor investigative standards.
- 10.2 The PPU has a rigorous audit regime with monthly audits taking place across the force reviewing the entirety of an investigation from report to outcome across a number of VAWG strands, including; RASSO, Domestic Abuse, Child Abuse, Sex Offender Management and Missing People. Regular thematic audits are also conducted. All learning from these audits is captured, subject of review and appropriate action taken to remedy any issues and to share good practice to improve investigation standards across the force.
- 10.3 Some specific examples of performance improvement for VAWG include in Domestic Abuse which has seen the force's highest levels of positive outcomes, driven in part by the increasing arrest rates for DA offenders, a reduction in outstanding suspects and an increased number of evidence-led prosecutions. There is force wide management of this through the monthly DA Operations Board. Improvements have also been seen in RASSO positive outcomes with the implementation of Operation Soteria and a victim centred approach to RASSO investigations.

11. Action ref 39: Police and partners will tackle all forms of VAWG, including hidden harms such as female genital mutilation, so called ‘honour-based’ abuse, forced marriage, coercive control and stalking, ensuring criminals are brought to justice and victims and survivors receive the care and support they need.

- 11.1 Many of the VAWG areas of business are dealt with by the Public Protection Unit and we have a Superintendent who leads specifically on the activity that is taking place for vulnerability and is our VAWG lead. Monthly performance takes place within the Domestic Abuse (DA) portfolio to better understand, show visibility and risk manage for Honour-based abuse (HBA) and forced marriage (FM). DA will also monitor and progress coercive control investigation and has a dedicated support to stalking. The Child portfolio will lead on female genital mutilation (FGM).
- 11.2 Cases as listed above will be given key words or flags to ensure that they have visibility in investigation management, where the particular crime type isn't explicit to its particular nature. A DA profile is expected imminently which the ambition is to have ethnicity data overlaid with local authority data to better understand demographics and the police response. Stalking cases can be taken to a stalking triage through the dedicated stalking team who will support cases through to SPO Application.
- 11.3 Specialist safeguarding officers will review all high-risk cases and support activity for appropriate support through a multi-agency approach, an independent domestic violence advisor (IDVA) or through the multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) meeting process. VCOP will be updated within CONNECT and an investigation dashboard highlights performance and compliance with these updates.
- 11.4 Operation Sandfield is a Gold group that has been created to help coordinate and ensure the response from WMP to a number of key investigations that have had Sikh Women being targeted. WMP have heavily supported for example Sikh Women's Aid in a publicly held and live streamed information event in November 2025 that was a key step in working with the Sikh Community to help restore trust and confidence. This event also helped to highlight a safety guide book which may also be something that would help support those with concerns.

ANNEX ONE

Table 1. Showing the individual commitments from the Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029 - Preventing and Tackling Violence; Prevention and Rehabilitation; Preventing and Reducing Neighbourhood Crime chapters that are the responsibility of West Midlands Police to deliver. RAG ratings as assigned through internal OPCC processes

Individual Commitment <i>(in the order listed above)</i>	Q2 25/26 Deliverable Rating
Action References below:	
147 - Ensure effective prevention of and enforcement against online child sexual abuse, such as online sexual extortion and the sharing and storage of abusive images, including those generated by artificial intelligence.	Green
148 - WMP will work closely with the West Midlands Regional Organised Crime Unit and the National Crime Agency and other partners to address these (online child sexual abuse, such as online sexual extortion and the sharing and storage of abusive images) threats.	Green
149 - Sexual Harm Prevention Orders and Sexual Risk Orders used to address online crimes, including child abuse, child pornography, and revenge pornography.	Green
256 - WMP to focus on bringing child sexual abuse and exploitation offenders to justice, while safeguarding and supporting victims.	Amber
43 - Continued implementation of Operation Soteria	Green
46 - Support action by police and partners to prevent and reduce spiking, upskirting and other harms in the night-time economy	Green
47 - Work with police and partners to safeguard sex workers.	Green
34 - WMP will support the national mission to halve VAWG in a decade	Green
38 - Positive outcome rates for VAWG crimes to increase	Green
39 - Police and partners will tackle all forms of VAWG, including hidden harms such as female genital mutilation, so called 'honour-based' abuse, forced marriage, coercive control and stalking, ensuring criminals are brought to justice and victims and survivors receive the care and support they need.	Green

Table 2. Showing the RAG rating definitions used in table 1 above

RAG Rating Key

On track – can be delivered by lead

Not on track – requires support from SMT lead to resolve

Not on track – requires support from wider SMT to resolve

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