

Neighbourhood Policing Abstractions

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Policy Statement

Summary

This policy establishes a baseline for abstractions and provides managers with guidance and flexibility to meet operational demands.

The purpose of neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) is to focus on long term problem solving and early intervention initiatives, addressing the quality of life issues that give rise to the fear of crime by:

- The consistent presence of dedicated NPTs, engaging with communities by working with them, involving and empowering them and making sure that our NPTs are visible, accessible and familiar to that community to increase and maintain public confidence;
- Intelligence-led identification of community concerns and prompt, effective, targeted action against those concerns by focussing on them as local priorities; and
- Joint action, prevention and problem solving with the community and local partners to improve the local environment and quality of life within that community.

The principle aim of this policy is to ensure that abstractions of NPT officers are minimised, in order that public confidence in the services provided to communities continues to be enhanced.

Scope

This policy applies to all police officers and police staff.

Principles

Overview

West Yorkshire Police will:

- Define abstractions as the *“removal of officers from their neighbourhood or removal from their role of addressing priorities within their assigned neighbourhood”*.
- If abstractions are necessary, keep them at a level which does not debilitate an individual team from serving its community.
- Not abstract NPT staff unless all other options have been considered and found to be insufficient to meet the Force’s operational requirements.
- Only abstract NPT staff:
 - Where a member of the senior leadership team (SLT) or Force Chief Officer Team (COT) directs that neighbourhood resources are necessary in order to deal with a critical/major incident or to service extraordinary and significant demand within the district; or
 - When the Force is required to mobilise, in accordance with the National Mobilisation Plan, to meet a mutual aid requirement.

- Not abstract NPT supervisors where this would leave their team without effective supervision.
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**Examples of
abstractions for
guidance**

As there is difficulty in interpreting exactly what an abstraction is or is not, the following examples are given for guidance:

- NP officer policing a sporting event in another division or Force would be an abstraction.
 - NP officer working a specific event or timeframe in an area other than their neighbourhood because significant numbers of their own community are attending, e.g. a carnival/night time economy, would not normally be considered an abstraction.
 - NP officer taking statements in an adjoining division as a result of an incident within their neighbourhood would not normally be considered an abstraction.
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Additional Information

Compliance

This policy complies with the following guidance:

- APP Neighbourhood policing guidelines
 - Data Protection Act 2018
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