

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE PANEL CHAIR
TO DAVID SKAITH, MAYOR OF YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE
ON THE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FIRE AND RESCUE 2025-2026

INTRODUCTION

1. This report describes the views of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel in respect of the Mayor's draft Annual Report for Fire and Rescue for North Yorkshire 2025-2026. It is submitted to the Mayor in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 5 of Schedule A2 to the Fire and Rescue Act 2004 ("the Act").

DRAFT FIRE AND RESCUE ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

2. In accordance with the requirements of the Act, the Mayor issued the completed draft 2025/26 Fire and Rescue Annual Report on 8 July 2026. The Panel is required to arrange a public meeting as soon as practicable after the report is sent to it.
3. The Panel is required to review the report and, if it wishes, make a report or recommendations on it to the Mayor.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL

4. Those members of the Panel present at County Hall for the discussions at the 16 July meeting were as follows:

Cllr Chris Aldred	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr David Chance	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Kevin Foster	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Tim Grogan	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Janet Jefferson	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Steve Shaw-Wright	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Peter Wilkinson	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Danny Myers	City of York Council

Cllr Emilie Knight

City of York Council

Mags Godderidge

Community Co-opted

Caroline O'Neill

Community Co-opted

PANEL VIEWS

5. There was a helpful discussion regarding the style and content of the draft report and also around the outcomes outlined. We would be grateful for your consideration of the points raised.
6. Panel members considered that the flow and content of the draft report is very accessible but principally commended that it is informative overall as a document which helps to draw out for the public the level of progress attained by the Mayor in delivering against the Fire and Rescue Plan. This is due to the inclusion of figures (rather than a reliance on percentages) and comparative data, which enable the reader to get a sense of impact.
7. Clearly there is more narrative to be developed within the Foreword and the Panel felt it would be helpful to see the service leadership commended for the improvements and achievements of the last year.
8. Members welcomed in particular the inclusion of data (page 21) regarding fire engine availability as this is an aspect around which the Panel are keen to seek assurance from the Deputy Mayor going forward in relation to service resilience.
9. There were other aspects raised in the discussion by Panel members which did not pertain to developing the content of the draft Annual Report but which will be detailed further in the meeting minutes and/or may be aspects to which the Panel reverts in future meetings, including:
 - a) Thanks conveyed by some Members for the fire service response to recent fire incidents and arson attacks in the York and Scarborough areas and regarding the subsequent investigation of an incident in Scarborough; and
 - b) Acknowledgement that the On-Call firefighter recruitment has progressed well but that the team are urged to review the level of communications developed in order to support recruitment and public education initiatives.
10. On the basis that further consideration will be given to the above comments, I am happy to confirm the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel's support for the Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2025-26.

CLLR DANNY MYERS

Interim Chair,
North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

21 July 2026