

Thursday 20 August 2026

Our ref: 260820

Councillor Danny Myers
Chair
North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Dear Danny,

Draft Annual Reports for Policing and Crime and Fire and Rescue 2025/26

Thank you for your letter setting out the views of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel following its consideration of my draft Annual Reports for Policing and Crime and Fire and Rescue 2025/26. I am grateful to Panel members for their careful review and for the constructive feedback provided on both reports.

I welcome the Panel's support for the reports and appreciate the positive comments regarding the progress being made across policing, community safety and fire and rescue services. I would also like to recognise the significant contribution made by my Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime, Jo Coles over the past year. Her leadership, dedication and commitment to improving services for our communities have helped drive positive change across North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and I am grateful for all that she is helping to achieve in support of our shared priorities and keeping people safe across our county.

I would also like to thank the staff across the Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate. Their work, often behind the scenes, plays a vital role in supporting our partners, improving services and delivering better outcomes for residents across York and North Yorkshire.

I am particularly proud of the continued reduction in crime across York and North Yorkshire. With crime reducing by around 9.5% over the past two years, this represents more than a statistic; it means fewer people becoming victims of crime and more communities feeling safe and secure. While there is always more to do, this progress reflects the collective efforts of North Yorkshire Police, partners and local communities working together to prevent crime and support those affected by it.

The observations and recommendations made by the Panel are helpful and will be carefully considered as we finalise the reports. We will take the comments on board ahead of publication and review where further refinement of the narrative, presentation and supporting information may help to strengthen the reports and provide additional clarity for the public.

Thank you again for the Panel's ongoing support, challenge and scrutiny. I look forward to continuing to work constructively with the Panel over the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



DAVID SKAITH
MAYOR OF YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE