

**NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL**  
**REPORT OF THE PANEL CHAIRMAN**  
**TO PHILIP ALLOTT, NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME**  
**COMMISSIONER ON HIS**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR FIRE AND RESCUE 2020-2021**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This report describes the views of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel in respect of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner’s Annual Report for fire and rescue 2020-21. It is submitted to the Commissioner 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 2020-21**

2. In accordance with the requirements of the Act, the Commissioner issued the completed draft 2020/21 Fire and Rescue Annual Report on 13 July 2021. 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 Commissioner.

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL**

4. The membership of the Panel for the meeting held on 15 October was as follows:

Craven District Council	Cllr Patrick Mulligan
Hambleton District Council	Cllr Peter Wilkinson
Harrogate Borough Council	Cllr Michael Chambers MBE
North Yorkshire County Council	Cllr Carl Les
Ryedale District Council	Cllr Lindsay Burr MBE
Scarborough Borough Council	Cllr Carl Maw
Selby District Council	Cllr Tim Grogan
City of York Council	Cllr Keith Aspden

## **PANEL VIEWS**

5. The Panel welcomes your annual report on fire and rescue and I would like to thank you for the responses provided by yourself and colleagues to Members' questions at the meeting.
6. Consideration of the report generated some useful discussions around your plans for the service and the focus areas. The Panel welcome your aim to modernise the estate to help make the service more welcoming as an employer to a diverse range of people and especially to more female firefighters.
7. We concur with you that it is not a sustainable position for the service to continue to spend from its reserves and agree that the fire service needs to be afforded greater flexibility in the annual precept to be able to undertake the level of investment needed. We look forward to the imminent White Paper in the hope that greater flexibility will follow but, if this is not the case, Members highlighted that we would be happy to support any further dialogue between the Commissioner and central government to push for this flexibility to be afforded.
8. Similarly to the draft annual report for policing and crime, we would like to see more data incorporated into the fire and rescue report in future, to assist with more detailed scrutiny of progress against some of the objectives of the Fire and Rescue Plan.
9. We welcomed your comments around the service's role in prevention and in supporting the more vulnerable in our communities. The expansion of the Public Safety Officer pilot programme will help further in identifying and supporting vulnerable residents.

## **REVIEW BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NYCC**

10. Using his emergency delegated decision-making powers, the Chief Executive Officer reviewed the Panel's recommendation on 22 July 2021, by taking into account the background material provided and comments highlighted in the Panel meeting, and formally agreed the Panel's recommendation that the Commissioner's draft Annual Report for Fire and Rescue 2020/21 be approved.
11. The Panel is therefore happy to confirm the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel's support for your Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2020-2021 and we look

forward to working with you further on some of the issues highlighted in the meeting in the year ahead.

**CARL LES**

Chairman,  
North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

22 July 2021