

North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Report of the Panel Vice Chair

to David Skaith, Mayor of York and North Yorkshire, on the

Draft Police and Crime Plan 2025/29 and

Draft Fire and Rescue Plan 2025/29

Introduction

1. This report describes the views and recommendations of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel in respect of the Mayor's draft Police and Crime Plan 2025/29 and draft Fire and Rescue Plan 2025/29. It is submitted to the Mayor in accordance with the requirements of section 28(3) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) as modified through the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023 (the Order).
2. The Panel would like to thank the Deputy Mayor for attending its meeting on Thursday 16 January 2025 and for the responses which were provided by Jo Coles and the supporting officers to the questions and issues that Panel Members raised.
3. The report expresses the Panel's preparedness to support the draft plans based on the understanding that further consideration will be given by the Mayor to the specific issues and concerns articulated at the meeting and on the presumption that the plans will be developed further.

Draft Police and Crime Plan / Fire and Rescue Plan for North Yorkshire

4. The Mayor is required under the Act (as modified through the Order) to issue a Police and Crime Plan by the end of the financial year in which the Mayoral election took place; in this case by 31 March 2025. The steps which the Act requires the Mayor to take prior to issuing the plan include requirements to:
 - send the draft plan to the relevant Police, Fire and Crime Panel
 - have regard to any report or recommendations made by the Panel in relation to the draft plan
 - give the Panel a response to any such report or recommendations, and
 - publish any such response.
5. The Panel is required to review the draft plan and to make a report or recommendations on it to the Mayor.

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6. While there isn't the same legal requirement on the Mayor to produce a Fire and Rescue Plan, a draft plan has been developed in order to provide a strategic plan for the Mayor's vision and priorities for the service. The same steps will therefore be followed in the development and consideration of the Fire and Rescue Plan.
7. The Panel considered the draft Police and Crime Plan and draft Fire and Rescue Plan at its meeting on 16 January 2025.

Membership of the Panel

8. The membership of the Panel in attendance for the 16 January 2025 meeting was as follows:

City of York Council	Cllr Danny Myers (in the Chair)
North Yorkshire Council	Cllr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister
North Yorkshire Council	Cllr Tim Grogan
North Yorkshire Council	Cllr Emilie Knight
North Yorkshire Council	Cllr Heather Moorhouse
North Yorkshire Council	Cllr Steve Shaw-Wright
North Yorkshire Council	Cllr Malcolm Taylor
Fraser Forsyth	Co-opted independent member
Mags Godderidge	Co-opted independent member
Martin Walker	Co-opted independent member

Panel views

9. The Panel fully acknowledge the time constraints for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in delivering the public consultation on the plans and working to pull together two cohesive plans from that exercise in a relatively short space of time in order to meet the legal requirement to have plans in place by the end of March 2025.
10. The Panel are supportive of the aim to make the plans more accessible to a wider readership in terms of length, style and format. However, it was felt that there is a balance to be struck between providing a succinct summary and ensuring that all relevant detail is meaningfully included. In particular it was felt that the plans would benefit from more baseline metrics, where these are helpful, in order that the Mayor

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and Deputy Mayor can be confident in monitoring progress made by the services and so that the Panel are also able to effectively scrutinise the Mayor's performance.

11. It was noted in the meeting that the example of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Plan had been viewed as 'best practice' during the development exercise. It was felt by some of the Panel that the presentation of this model may enable a better balance between these principles for York and North Yorkshire in the final versions.
12. In addition, the Panel reflected that the Mayor may wish to consider including a Foreword in order to help set some context and sense of direction to both plans in terms of priorities, challenges and goals.
13. The Panel also provided some specific comments around the police and crime plan, which are outlined further below. There were no specific recommendations made in relation to the content of the draft fire and rescue plan beyond the broader points raised above, although the Panel acknowledges the challenge articulated by the Deputy Mayor of delivering a robust and visionary fire and rescue service which will require significant investment to achieve its goals.

Draft Police and Crime Plan 2025/29

14. The Panel highlighted that it would be beneficial to more explicitly state the Mayor's ambition around these in the final plan:
 - a. reducing re-offending, including provision for schemes on early prevention and restorative justice;
 - b. tackling online harm
 - c. tackling County Lines
 - d. tackling hate crime
15. Discussion highlighted the need to ensure victims' service commissioning for all-age services where feasible in relation to supporting survivors of sexual violence; both in relation to ensuring support for children who are victims and as such providing early preventative work but also recognising that trauma can be experienced by survivors many years after incidents have taken place.
16. Members were keen to highlight that consideration will need to be given to some of the kinds of metrics identified in the plan to ensure that performance is being measured in the right way. An example was provided that reference is made to increasing the satisfaction with the police of victims of domestic abuse, but not of victims of sexual violence. In addition, if child sexual exploitation cases are monitored through statutory service referrals then this may risk missing those dealt with by non-statutory services.

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17. It was helpful to hear of the commitment to looking at all-age services where possible and that under the Domestic Abuse Act, the Deputy Mayor will need to ensure services are provided to children identified as at risk of being exposed to domestic abuse. It was also helpful to hear about the Deputy Mayor's recent discussions with NHS and other partners around supporting victims.
18. It was further highlighted by the Panel that roads policing may be better placed within early intervention and prevention rather than protection.
19. The Panel welcome your constructive and considered approach to the suggestions made and your commitment to reviewing these further.

Panel Recommendation

20. The Panel is supportive of the 'direction of travel' of both of the Mayor's draft plans for 2025/29 but would welcome the Mayor's consideration of the specific points and concerns summarised in this report. We thank you in advance for this and look forward to receiving your response.

Cllr Danny Myers

Vice Chair, North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

21st January 2025