

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE PANEL CHAIR
TO ZOË METCALFE, NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER ON HER
ANNUAL REPORT FOR POLICING AND CRIME 2022-2023

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 Policing and Crime for North Yorkshire 2022-2023. It is submitted to the Commissioner in accordance with the requirements of section 28(4) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (“the Act”).
2. The Panel would like to thank you for remotely attending its meeting on Thursday, 20 July 2023 to present your draft Annual Report and for answering Members’ questions.

DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR POLICING AND CRIME 2022-23

3. In accordance with Section 12(2) of the Act, the Commissioner issued the completed draft 2022/23 Policing and Crime Annual Report on 10 July 2023. The Panel is required to arrange a public meeting as soon as practicable after the report is sent to it.
4. 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

5. Those members of the Panel present at County Hall, Northallerton for the discussions at the 20 July meeting were as follows:

CLlr Chris Aldred	North Yorkshire Council
CLlr Lindsay Burr	North Yorkshire Council
CLlr Tim Grogan	North Yorkshire Council
CLlr Carl Les	North Yorkshire Council
CLlr Rich Maw	North Yorkshire Council

Cllr Heather Moorhouse	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Peter Wilkinson	North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Emilie Knight	City of York Council
Cllr Michael Pavlovic	City of York Council
Fraser Forsyth	Community Co-opted
Mags Godderidge	Community Co-opted

PANEL VIEWS

6. The Panel would like to thank you and your senior officers, along with the Chief Constable, for the helpful responses provided to Members' questions during the meeting.
7. The Panel felt that overall the draft report reads very well; it is accessible in terms of language and content to communities and contains many positive examples of where progress has been made against the Police and Crime Plan. There was a useful discussion around a range of observations and comments from the Panel for your further consideration in relation to the draft report, which are outlined below.
 - a) Members suggested that it may help to bring the progress updates in the report to life more if additional case studies could be incorporated across the draft. For example the section on the 'Right Care, Right Person model' could benefit from outlining how a call was directed away from the Control Room through triage and dealt with effectively. On a related note, it was felt that the section around the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy (page 7) could have provided examples of the positive work undertaken, such as the 16 Days of Action in 2022.
 - b) It was highlighted that there are a couple of issues which Members felt were either notable omissions or which needed greater profile within the draft. These were hate crime and County Lines (and tackling pervasive drug crime more broadly).
 - c) Members commended the use of the police property fund (page 16) and an observation was that this could have been given greater profile due to its positive impact, which you may wish to consider in future.
 - d) It is helpful to have the data on complaints resolved by the Complaints and Recognition Team (page 6) but Members felt it might also be useful to

understand how long on average it has taken to resolve complaints, if this data can also be made available.

- e) It was highlighted that the section on domestic abuse and the force's improvements in safeguarding would benefit from more specific illustration to bring out what is being done and how things have been improved.
 - f) In addition, the Panel observed that only 50% of respondents to the public trust and confidence survey either agreed or strongly agreed that they had been fairly treated in their dealings with the police. Having discussed with you how the Chief Constable is held to account for performance in this respect, it was helpful to hear that you continue to have a dialogue with the Chief Constable on this area. However, we would note that both the Panel and public would benefit from further information on how this is happening and your level of reassurance of improvement over the coming months.
 - g) In terms of more specific content suggestions, it was highlighted that the Supporting Victims service is actually available by phone from 8am to 7pm over the phone (and not 9am to 5pm as indicated on page 15) and that the reference to the Adult Sexual Assault Referral service also needs to more specifically include mention that a similar service is available to children. Members also sought clarity on the percentages included on page 5 in relation to outcomes of the public trust and confidence survey. It was helpful to receive the clarification that this is due to respondents being able to choose more than one option as a response, but this could perhaps be clearer for public purposes.
8. In addition, Members raised a few other points and requests stemming from the content of the draft report, which we wished to be noted for future consideration and/or to pick up further with your office in due course. For completeness these have been noted below.
- a) Members noted the response rate to the public trust and confidence survey – in particular that only 677 responses were fully completed - and queried whether the approach to the survey could be reviewed to encourage a greater number of responses.
 - b) The Panel would find it helpful to receive further data in due course in relation to the Initial Enquiry Team at North Yorkshire Police in terms of the proportions of calls handled and directed away from the main Force Control Room.

- c) Some Members wished to note that engagement with PCSOs at parish council level could be rather patchy and that they would welcome further engagement, although other Members felt that relationships at a local level were working effectively. We are grateful to the Chief Constable for her commitment to ensuring that parish councils have attendance at least once a year from a PCSO or similar representative.
9. Overall, Members feel that the report provides a helpful overview of the key issues and achievements over the past year and, on the basis that further consideration will be given to the above comments and suggestions, I am happy to confirm the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel's support for your Policing and Crime Annual Report 2022-23.

CLLR CARL LES

Chair,
North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

25 July 2023