

**NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL**  
**REPORT OF THE PANEL CHAIRMAN**  
**TO JULIA MULLIGAN, NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME**  
**COMMISSIONER ON HER**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR FIRE AND RESCUE 2019-2020**

**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 2019-20. 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 2019-20**

2. In accordance with the requirements of the Act, the Commissioner issued the completed draft 2019/20 Fire and Rescue Annual Report on 6 October 2020. 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 Richard Foster
Hambleton District Council	Cllr Peter Wilkinson
Harrogate Borough Council	Cllr Michael Chambers MBE
North Yorkshire County Council	Cllr Carl Les
Richmondshire District Council	Cllr Helen Grant
Selby District Council	Cllr Tim Grogan
City of York Council	Cllr Keith Aspden
City of York Council	Cllr Ashley Mason

Santokh Singh Sidhu

Community Co-opted

Paula Stott

Community Co-opted

## **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 performance monitoring and obtaining further information to the Panel around the progress of collaborative initiatives. While the draft report read well, the Panel found it difficult to fully review the success of some of the priorities set out in last year's Fire and Rescue Plan due to a need for further detail around targets or baseline assessments. The Panel would like to receive further detail to assist us in effective scrutiny of performance against the priorities of Fire and Rescue Plan and also around the savings generated through the Enable programme. We welcome the offer of further information being provided to Panel around some of this in due course.
7. Members welcomed the initiatives cited in the report to ensure greater diversity of the workforce and the acknowledgment that further work is needed over the course of the next few years to fully bring about the kind of shift that is required.
8. The Panel would also welcome further detail around evaluation of the Public Safety Officer pilot and evaluation of the prevention and education work with young people, in due course.
9. The Panel expressed concern at the significant number of incidents attended which were recorded as 'false alarms'. However, it was noted in the course of discussion that the fire and rescue service has done a lot of work to try to minimise the numbers of false alarms occurring. It was also noted that ultimately it is preferable to respond to an alarm where it is unclear whether it is a false alarm or not, than risk not attending to a potential incident.
10. Overall, Members feel that your report provides a helpful overview of the key issues and achievements and as such I am happy to confirm the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel's support for your Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2019-2020.

## **CARL LES**

Chairman, North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

20<sup>th</sup> October 2020