



planning assumptions.

## **The Mayor's Draft Fire Budget 2026/27 and Fire and Rescue Precept Proposal**

- 8a Panel Scrutiny of the Fire Precept Proposal (Pages 37 - 38)**  
Guidance note from the Principal Scrutiny Officer on the legal position and timing in relation to the Panel's role.
- 8b Draft 2026/27 Fire Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan Proposal (Pages 39 - 74)**  
Report from the Mayor for consideration by the Panel, which proposes an allocation of the Mayor's general budget for fire and rescue services. For the Panel to review and make recommendations prior to decision-making by the Combined Authority on 6 February.
- 9. Closed Session**  
For the Panel to discuss and agree its recommendations regarding the proposed precept proposal, as considered at item 8(b).
- 10. Members' Questions**
- 11. Shared services collaboration between policing and fire and rescue (formerly EnableNY) (Pages 75 - 86)**  
Update report from the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire regarding delivery of shared services.
- 12. Community Risk Management Plan for fire and rescue (Pages 87 - 90)**  
Report from the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime updating Panel on the outcomes of the consultation on the CRMP and subsequent decision-making.
- 13. Progress on Issues Raised by the Panel (Pages 91 - 104)**  
Update report from the Panel Secretariat.
- 14. Work Programme (Pages 105 - 110)**  
Report by the Panel Secretariat.
- 15. Any other items**  
Any other items which the Chair agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.
- 16. Date of Next Meeting**  
Thursday, 5 February 2026 at 10:30am (Policing Precept) – County Hall, Northallerton.

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting as observers for all those items taken in open session. You may be interested in [subscribing to updates](#) about this or any other North Yorkshire Council committee.

Recording is allowed at Council, committee and sub-committee meetings which are open to the public. Please give due regard to the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at public meetings. We ask that any recording is clearly visible to anyone at the meeting and that it is non-disruptive.

Anyone wishing to record is asked to contact the Principal Scrutiny Officer (details below) prior to the start of the meeting.

**Contact Details**

For enquiries relating to this agenda and meeting please contact:

Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer

E-mail: [nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk)

Tel: 01609 532750

Website: [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton

Tuesday, 13 January 2026

This page is intentionally left blank

## North Yorkshire Council

### North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Minutes of the meeting held at West Offices, York on Wednesday, 8 October 2025, commencing at 10.30 am.

Councillors Peter Wilkinson in the Chair (North Yorkshire Council); Danny Myers ((Vice Chair) City of York Council), Chris Aldred (North Yorkshire Council), Tim Grogan (North Yorkshire Council), Heather Moorhouse (North Yorkshire Council), Michael Pavlovic (City of York Council), Greg White (North Yorkshire Council) and Steve Shaw-Wright (North Yorkshire Council).

Community Co-opted Members: Fraser Forsyth, Mags Godderidge and Martin Walker.

Jo Coles (Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime).

Officers from the Policing, Fire and Crime Team (YNYCA): Rachel Antonelli (Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer), Mark Ayres (Interim Director, Public Confidence), Amanda Wilkinson (Head of Partnerships and Commissioning).

Officers present: Will Baines (Senior Scrutiny Officer).

Apologies: Councillors Lindsay Burr MBE, David Chance and Emilie Knight.

---

#### Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

---

#### 104 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lindsay Burr MBE, David Chance and Emilie Knight. It was noted that Councillor Greg White was attending as a substitute for Councillor David Chance.

#### 105 Declarations of Interest

Martin Walker notified that he is a Trustee of IDAS; a charity which receives funding from the Deputy Mayor's office.

Mags Godderidge notified that she is CEO of Survive, which receives funding for its work from the Deputy Mayor. Furthermore, in relation to item 8, she is part of the Act on IICSA group, campaigning for the implementation of the recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Childhood Sexual Abuse.

#### 106 Minutes of the Panel Meeting held on 7 July 2025

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2025, having been printed and circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### 107 Progress on Issues Raised by the Panel

Considered

The report of the Panel Secretariat updating on progress made against issues raised by the Panel at previous meetings.

In relation to point 1 of the issues log, a Panel member sought reassurance that all aspects of the law following the Supreme Court ruling are being adhered to, not just the National Police Chiefs Council guidance. The Deputy Mayor highlighted that the Estates team for police, fire and crime have recently audited the estate to ensure that any changes needed to comply with the law have been implemented, for example on toilet access and signage. It was also confirmed that any future refurbishment work or upgrades will ensure accessibility for everybody.

### **Resolved**

That the report is noted.

## **108 Public Questions or Statements to the Panel**

The Panel were advised that no questions or statements had been received.

## **109 Members' Questions**

In response to a question received about anti-social behaviour reports, how successful the police detects those involved and how the crimes reported are followed up, the Deputy Mayor set out the work to carefully monitor data on offences committed and how this is publicised through the online public meetings. It was cautioned that anti-social behaviour data can be difficult to draw accurate trends on, as it is not always labelled as such in the reporting system and there are concerns of underreporting in communities. In terms of resolving anti-social behaviour complaints, Community Resolution Orders are increasingly used to enable victims of low level crime and anti-social behaviour to have a greater say in any outcomes. It was further noted that North Yorkshire Police have been undertaking 'Safer Streets' work and hotspot policing over the summer, as a result of additional funding from central government. 45 areas were identified as hotspots, receiving extra resources through 6,622 additional hours and 14,337 extra high profile policing patrols over the summer. This has led to a 13% overall reduction in reports from those targeted hotspot areas. Some examples include:

- Thirsk Market Place - 50% reduction
- Skipton Road, Harrogate - 50% reduction
- Sycamore Avenue, Old Malton - nearly 60% reduction
- Trafalgar Square, Scarborough - over 60% reduction
- Haxby, York - 76% reduction

The Deputy Mayor also highlighted the impact of a public space protection order in Scarborough town centre over the summer, that has assisted officers in prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in that high footfall area. Proactive work is also underway to make it easier for members of the public to report anti-social behaviour concerns more easily. The recent increase in neighbourhood policing officers will also help tackle anti-social behaviour across the region. Work is also underway to link the data together with the early intervention and prevention information through the commissioning partnerships.

Following concerns raised by town and parish councils, the Deputy Mayor flagged that she had attended Sherburn-in-Elmet Town Council in the summer, with the

Neighbourhood Policing team also going out to meet with them. In response to a supplementary question setting out details of a particular incident, it was agreed for the committee member to share details with the Deputy Mayor in writing to follow this up.

Linked to this issue, a member raised an incident of alleged threatening behaviour related to PROW access in a rural area of the region, and the need for the Rural Taskforce to be alive to the increasing frequency of these incidents occurring. The Deputy Mayor suggested the new measures from the Crime and Policing Bill, currently going through the House of Lords, in particular the proposed ways of dealing with anti-social behaviour, may be an area of interest for the Panel in the future.

A further question was raised on the growth of youth gangs, particularly in York, concerning violence and two wheeled crime. It was asked how the police are taking a strategic approach to this increase in gang activity, as well as how the Panel can be reassured that a process is in place to address this. In response, the Deputy Mayor explained that the joint work of the neighbourhood policing teams, together with the schools teams and the local authorities through the youth justice teams is all tied in together, along with the commissioned services to ensure there is a partnership approach. The work of the police, fire and rescue service to respond to particular arson incidents was highlighted, and the spread of these across multiple areas of the city. Work is going on to reach out through schools to highlight to young people the risks involved and the possible criminal implications of arson.

On illegal bikes, police are progressing a number of specific operations on this, with a number of e-bikes already seized. New measures in the Crime and Policing Bill should enable officers to seize bikes that are used illegally. In crimes such as these, the reporting is crucial to help identify and respond to any data trends early as they emerge.

In response to a question on how the flying of flags on lampposts and painted on roundabouts impacts on the strategic aim of the Deputy Mayor to make people feel safe and be safe in York and North Yorkshire, it was noted in response that it is a complicated situation, as it sits between the responsibilities of the local authority and the police. Flags are seen as symbols of national pride by some, whereas others see them differently as signs of intimidation. The Deputy Mayor felt that people are entitled to fly flags on personal property or on vehicles, but they can't be used as a green light to behave differently towards people in their communities.

The Deputy Mayor emphasised that she has been closely monitoring reports of intimidation and hate crime that have been received, but the anecdotal information isn't currently reflected in the data presented to the Hate Crime Partnership meetings. Quarterly data from July to September 2025 showed 387 hate crime reports were recorded across the force area, of which 149 were in York, which was actually a slight drop on the data from the previous quarter. Over a longer period of time, the data shows a big increase in hate crime incidents across the whole patch since 2020, of which approximately 60% is believed to be racially motivated. The Deputy Mayor expressed concern about the effect this may have on communities and wider public sector workers, particularly the Police and Fire and Rescue workers who are subject to hate crime and intimidation. If people don't feel safe, then they should have the confidence to report what happened through the various means, such as by calling 101 and they now have the option of reporting street-based harassment anonymously through the new 'Start Safe, Stay Safe' app. The Deputy Mayor reiterated that reporting any incidents is important to help build a picture of what is happening out there in communities.

The Deputy Mayor noted there is a significant challenge for the Hate Crime Partnership to

ensure that incidents in communities are picked up in real time, to make sure people feel safe. After attending an event at the synagogue in Harrogate on Saturday, whilst sad that a police presence is required at times outside mosques and synagogues, it is key that the police are engaging with our places of worship across the region. Any schools that have concerns are welcome to make contact with the Neighbourhood Policing teams to discuss how they can help. Recent examples include visits to the primary school in Stokesley to talk about restorative justice. The Chair also suggested that Town and Parish Councils be used as a conduit to relay and share information to raise awareness in local communities.

Finally, the therapeutic work taking place at the Acer House Victims' Centre was queried, such as the number of cases where therapeutic treatments has been offered and whether it was subsequently accepted and rejected. It was also asked about if other policing areas use the facility. In response, it was shared that since the opening in March up to the end of September 2025:

- 65 victims over the age of 16 and 4 young victims aged 13 to 15 had undergone a forensic medical examination at Acer House
- 19 victims over the age of 16 and 3 young victims had undergone forensic medical examination at another SARC site in Yorkshire and the Humber.
- 8 victims under the age of 12 had a non-recent examination at Acer House.
- 7 victims under the age of 12 had undergone a forensic medical examination in West Yorkshire.
- 213 Video-Recorded Interviews had been offered at Acer House. The video recording suites have been operational since February 2025.
- It was important to note that partnerships exist at other sites to the North and the West of the region to allow victims a choice of facility.

The information was welcomed, but the lack of data regarding therapeutic treatments to better support victims as part of their recovery and healing was of concern. Further detailed information on this was to be provided by the Deputy Mayor.

It was further emphasised that contact with the police is not required in order to attend Acer House following any incident, this can be done easily by directly contacting the centre, to enable forensic evidence to be gathered without delay.

Following this, the item was brought to a close.

**110**

### **Verbal Update from the Deputy Mayor on the recent Langdale Moor Fire**

In introducing this item, the Chair recognised the unprecedented nature of the wildfire at Langdale Moor over the summer. The work of the multi agency response, from the fire and rescue services, the partner agencies, contractors, game keepers and the local farming community was commended for their huge efforts to tackle this unprecedented event to bring the fire under control and prevent it from spreading.

The Deputy Mayor provided a verbal update, noting the recent Online Public Meeting held on this topic back in September. A timeline of events was set out, with the fire service first notified of the fire at Langdale Moor on the 11<sup>th</sup> August. The response to the fire was complicated because of the very dry summer and the high winds, coupled with the location of the fire on an old army range, with unexploded ordinance on the site. This unique location meant that the usual tactics to respond to a wildfire couldn't be used.

A major incident was declared on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August and it remained significant, but the fire was contained up to the 25<sup>th</sup> August, with the Deputy Mayor

making a visit to the affected site during this period. It was noted that a request to access the Bellwin scheme of emergency financial support from government to local authorities had been made early on in the incident.

Unfortunately the situation escalated as the fire jumped one of the fire breaks, becoming a much larger incident and spreading extremely quickly across the moorland. Evacuations had taken place of nearby holiday parks. National resilience assets were called in on 27<sup>th</sup> August, to ensure the North Yorkshire crews and service personnel were able to have some respite from tackling the wildfire.

The situation was contained again by the 29<sup>th</sup> August, but the affected area was now a much larger land area. The Deputy Mayor visited the site again on the 30<sup>th</sup> August, speaking to firefighters about the unique circumstances of this wildfire, for example the threats to infrastructure, the wildlife and the different geography of the North Yorkshire Moors compared to more urban incidents.

The Fire and Rescue service was praised for their incredible response, along with the farming community and other partners. It was noted the wildfire still remains an active incident and is still being monitored. An investigation is underway and ongoing, and will be reported on in due course.

Following this verbal update, Panel members asked if given the unprecedented resource had focused on the wildfire situation as a major incident, whether this had affected the response times and appliance availability for incidents elsewhere in the county. The Deputy Mayor explained that this was a concern of the service, leading to the request for operational support from other fire and rescue services to provide ongoing cover in other parts of York and North Yorkshire.

It was highlighted that volunteer firefighters in North Yorkshire and elsewhere had stepped up to provide strong support. Response time data which will cover the duration of the incident will be available in November to be scrutinised to see what effect it has had. It was agreed to send the performance data pack to Panel members when it becomes available.

In relation to a question on the impact of the incident on the finances of the Fire and Rescue service, it was noted that the unprecedented precept increase earlier this year had helped to shore up reserves and provide a much needed buffer to provide long term resilience for the service. Bellwin support was applied for early and the wider costs of the incident will be made public when they are finalised. Panel members would be kept informed of the finance reports as they become available.

Ensuring that the fire equipment and appliances meets the current and future needs of the service would form part of the review of the response to the wildfire. It was noted that the Mayor and the Combined Authority are looking at the land management and recovery work and how to look after the environment for the long-term and help minimise the future fire risks.

Further questions were raised regarding the approach of the service to munitions fires and how the wildfire incident has informed thinking for the future would be responded to in writing. Reassurance also was sought on the timeline for the post implementation review and how the recommendations that come out of it would be monitored. The national resilience of the fire and rescue service was also touched on, given the changes in the climate experienced in recent years. If the situation arose where four or five wildfires were to start at the same time, is there the capacity to provide adequate cover across the country.

**Resolved**

The Panel notes the verbal update received.

## 111 **Protecting Vulnerable People**

Considered

In introducing the report, the Deputy Mayor emphasised the commitment of both herself and the Mayor to protect vulnerable people across York and North Yorkshire to have access to the support and services they need. The work of the Commissioning team was highlighted, particularly during a period of transition for the Combined Authority. Commissioned services received 52,500 referrals during 2024/25 for 23,000 individuals, with a service satisfaction rating of over 90% achieved consistently across 26 key services. As examples, the eight perpetrator programmes have been enhanced as part of early intervention and prevention work to address root causes, as well as vulnerable people's services and the community engagement / safety services that are now up and running.

Attention was drawn by the Deputy Mayor to the new services commissioned, such as preventative perpetrator programmes, for those without a previous history of offending seeking to avoid problems escalating. There is also an accommodation focus around domestic abuse, with an audit of accommodation provision for domestic abuse survivors undertaken and gaps in provision identified. A similar programme is underway in York through the operators Changing Lives to support vulnerable women facing homelessness.

It was noted the Mayor is launching a 'Moving Forward' campaign, including a Movement, Activity and Sport fund to support projects designed specifically for Women and Girls, as well as early intervention in anti-social behaviour and crime.

Following this introduction, questions from Panel members included the performance and monitoring arrangements in place for the Acer House Victims' Centre, which would be shared in writing with Panel members. The provision of services for adult survivors of child sexual abuse in Scarborough was queried, as well as what the wider strategy is to protect children in the county from sexual harm and how to support them. In response, the Deputy Mayor explained the work to reach out to health partners to ensure the two victims centres are trauma-informed. Ensuring these pathways are open to enable support for child victims of sexual abuse in all commissioned services was also seen as an important part of this area of work. The Deputy Mayor noted a recent open day in Scarborough had seen good attendance from health partners to help provide reassurance of the working relationships built up with the operators Changing Lives and facilitate any referrals.

Further questions were asked about the Operation Encompass safeguarding initiative and the allocations awarded for 2025/26 from the Community Safety Serious Violence Fund would be responded to in writing. It was also asked what support is given to adults and child victims in respect of therapeutic intervention whilst a criminal investigation is ongoing, and if there is data on the current time lag between an investigation ending and when any court proceedings are completed. The Deputy Mayor responded that this should be considered by the Local Criminal Justice Partnership Board and she would report back to Panel. There was a further question raised about whether data is held for the region on the number of children under the age of 12 that are waiting for court and how long the delays are in these cases. This issue is to be progressed through Local Criminal Justice Partnership.

Finally, the proactive work of fire prevention officers to fit safety alarms where vulnerable people live to ensure accommodation is safe was praised.

## **Resolved**

That Panel notes the report.

### **112 Tackling Online Fraud and Cyber Crime**

#### **Considered**

In introducing the report, the Deputy Mayor emphasised that the statistics show that cyber crime and online fraud is an issue for all age groups. The Economic Crime Unit within North Yorkshire Police is a dedicated team working in a fast moving area of work where partnership working is essential. A recent meeting with the North Yorkshire Youth Commission highlighted this issue and officers have committed to working more closely with the Commission on this.

Following this introduction, a query was raised on the cyber crime and online fraud dashboard data referenced in the report at section 3.4 and what the heading 'Other Fraud' related to and whether it can be broken down further.

It was also asked if more can be done to promote the contact details required if someone is scammed, for example the organisation Action Fraud. In response, the fast pace of change with cyber and online crime meant it was difficult to make marketing campaigns timely to the current threats, but this would be looked into. The issue of whether the scale of younger people falling victim to sex-tortion online blackmail is known about. The Deputy Mayor would take this request away to investigate further.

Following this, the report was warmly welcomed by the Chair. He highlighted the education of local communities as a key part of raising awareness of fraud and cyber crime scams, that can have life changing consequences for those affected by them. He advocated using the existing networks available, for example through the existing crime reports presented to Town and Parish Councils, as a way to help spread the word on ways to avoid online fraud and cyber crime.

#### **Resolved**

That the Panel note the report.

### **113 Development Update of the NYFRS Community Risk Management Plan 2025-2029**

#### **Considered**

The Deputy Mayor spoke to provide an update to Panel on the Community Risk Management Plan 2025/29 for the Fire and Rescue Service. The public consultation on this had closed on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. The Deputy Mayor paid tribute to Fiona Kinnear, Fire & Rescue Authority Manager for her work over the summer to oversee the consultation, alongside all of the work required to support the Langdale Moor wildfire response for the Fire and Rescue service.

The consultation data had been segmented out to show the feedback received before the wildfire incident started and then after it began. 802 consultation responses were received, which was seen as a good response rate. Panel members were advised a change proposal was included as part of the consultation, to extend the Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) attendance policy from 12 hours to 24 hours a day i.e. no attendance to AFAs at commercial premises where no one sleeps, unless a

fire is confirmed. Following the end of the consultation, the Deputy Mayor had raised concerns with this proposal because of its potential impact on rural response times and was seeking further reassurances from the service.

On a second proposal to replace one of the two water bowsers, this proposal was also being looked at again to ensure the service would have the ability to commission adequate additional water bowsers in the case of another major incident in any part of the region. For example, during the Langdale wildfire incident 12 bowsers were in use. The service was looking again to be able to provide assurances to the public around what commissioning will be for water bowsers going forwards if it is needed. Further clarification will be put in the public domain on this in due course.

The availability of on-call firefighters in rural areas was queried, noting that is a national challenge rather than a specific one for York and North Yorkshire. In response, the Deputy Mayor noted that overall on call fire engine availability for Q1 was 62%. Newly appointed staff have helped to alleviate the situation, with more recruits joining in the near future to support the service. The Combined Authority are working to improve the facilities for on call firefighters to allow them to work from the fire station, such as improvements to wifi, and working with employers to incentivise them to be flexible in releasing on-call firefighters when they are required.

A further concern was raised regarding commercial premises close to residential properties and whether the proposal to extend the AFA attendance policy could be an issue in urban areas. The Deputy Mayor was confident in reply that the Fire Service have taken full account of this potential scenario when bringing forward its proposals.

### **Resolved**

That Panel note the development update report.

## **114 Work Programme**

Considered

The work programme was introduced by the Senior Scrutiny Officer.

A query was raised about a forthcoming work programme item on neighbourhood policing and whether the process of communicating with complainants to update them on their case could be improved, such as in circumstances where the case officer changes or an investigation is discontinued. It was agreed to take the point raised into account when considering the issue at a future meeting.

### **Resolved**

That Panel note the work programme.

## **115 Any other items**

There were no items of other business.

In closing, the Chair put on record his thanks on behalf of the Panel to the three Co-opted independent members: Fraser Forsyth, Mags Godderidge and Martin Walker as this would be the last meeting of their term of membership.

The meeting concluded at 1.00 pm.  
WB

This page is intentionally left blank

## North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

21 January 2026

### Appointment of co-opted independent members

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To recommend the co-optation of Fraser Forsyth, Mags Godderidge and Caroline O'Neill as independent members of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel.

#### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires that at least two members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel are co-opted by the Panel. The aim in co-opting members is to support the Panel by bringing “a unique set of expertise, ensuring that the necessary skills and knowledge are available for a panel to discharge its scrutiny function effectively”.<sup>1</sup>
- 2.2 Co-opted members are independent, that is they are not:
- a member of the staff of the Mayor/Deputy Mayor for North Yorkshire;
  - employees of North Yorkshire Police (operational or civilian) or North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service;
  - a Member of Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales or the Scottish Parliament; or
  - a member of a local authority which is covered by the North Yorkshire Police force area.
- 2.3 The period of appointment for co-opted, independent members is four years (renewable up to a maximum of two terms/eight years). The term of the current co-opted members ends on 21 January 2026. It is therefore incumbent on the Panel to appoint a minimum of two members in this capacity to serve on the Panel from 21 January 2026. As Members will be aware, the Panel requested that a third co-option be enabled by the Home Office in 2021 in order to bring a wider diversity of experience to the Panel and as such there are three vacancies to which a co-opted member should be appointed.

#### 3.0 Recruitment and selection process

- 3.1 The Panel's Arrangements state:

“The Panel shall put in place arrangements to ensure that appointments of co-opted Members are undertaken following public advertisement in accordance with the following principles:

- a. The appointment will be made on merit of candidates whose skills, experience and qualities are considered best to ensure the effective functioning of the Panel;

---

<sup>1</sup> “Police, fire and crime panels: independent member recruitment guidance”; Home Office (June 2023)

- b. The selection process must be fair, objective, impartial and consistently applied to all candidates who will be assessed against the same pre-determined criteria; and
  - c. The selection process will be conducted transparently with information about the requirements for the appointment and the process being publicly advertised and made available with a view to attracting a strong and diverse field of suitable candidates.
- 3.2 The Panel agreed in February 2025 that a number of its Members would form a task group to oversee the recruitment exercise and selection process; specifically to:
  - (a) review the application pack material and recommend changes where appropriate;
  - (b) oversee the arrangements for recruitment;
  - (c) agree the shortlisting of applicants;
  - (d) interview all shortlisted applicants; and
  - (e) agree three applicants be recommended to the panel for co-option.
- 3.3 The following members comprised the membership of the task group:

Councillors: Tim Grogan, Heather Moorhouse, Emilie Knight, Danny Myers, Steve Shaw-Wright and Peter Wilkinson.
- 3.4 The group agreed that a light-touch skills audit would be undertaken of councillor members on the Panel to identify whether any particular skills or areas of knowledge could be strengthened through co-option. The exercise didn't highlight specific 'gap' areas of concern but the group agreed it would be helpful to continue to seek experience from a range of backgrounds including legal, finance/business, health, criminal justice, voluntary sector, victims' services and commissioning.
- 3.5 As a result, the group agreed a wide range of channels through which to direct promotion of the vacancies. The vacancies were advertised extensively in early September 2025 via council recruitment pages and news releases, the voluntary and community sector, health networks, community safety and safeguarding contacts, the Policing, Fire and Crime Team (MCA), parish and town councils, National Park Authorities and schools, to name a few. An application pack with background information on the role and responsibilities was also made available from the Panel's website.
- 3.6 The recruitment generated a number of enquiries. In total, 21 applications were received. One of these was withdrawn before the closing date. An additional application was also made after the closing date and as such rejected, particularly in view of the high number of applications already received within the advertised timeframe. This was just slightly higher than the number of applications received in 2021 and applications came from a wide and strong field; a number of senior-level professionals or retired professionals from backgrounds in law, the voluntary sector, probation, health, policing/criminal justice to name a few. Enquiries made to neighbouring Panels suggests that the approach taken to promotion of the opportunities had been very effective as Panels can sometimes struggle to attract a significant number of applicants and/or from a strong field.
- 3.7 Following shortlisting by the task group, eight candidates were invited to interview (four male, four female; three living or working in York and five living or working in North Yorkshire). The task group agreed that four Members would conduct the interviews in early November, namely Councillors Wilkinson, Grogan, Myers and Knight.

- 3.8 The interview was an opportunity to find out more about each candidate and give them opportunity to ask more about the role, framed around a number of set interview questions intended to draw out motivation, knowledge and strengths against the core competency areas. Based on the assessment of both the interview performance and the application forms submitted, the interviewing panel decided to recommend three people for appointment.
- Fraser Forsyth
  - Mags Godderidge
  - Caroline O'Neill
- 3.9 Fraser Forsyth and Mags Godderidge are already well-known to Panel members and partners, having served on the Panel since autumn 2021. Fraser was formerly a councillor and group leader on Aberdeen City Council, during which time he held a number of roles including Vice Convenor of the Grampian Joint Police Board. In his professional life he has spent many years working within mental health, alcohol addiction support and criminal justice. He is currently employed by His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service working with offenders released early on licence to a hostel setting. He is also a volunteer tour guide in York.
- 3.10 Mags Godderidge has been the CEO of Survive for the last five years; a charity which supports survivors of rape and sexual assault. Prior to this, Mags was a lead investigator at the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) and has spent a number of years working at a senior level in the VCS around mental health support and counselling services, including as manager of the Nightline charity. Mags holds a number of other volunteer roles within her local community and in York and is also a volunteer on the 'Act on IICSA' working group campaigning for implementation of the recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA).
- 3.11 Caroline O'Neill has recently retired from working for Community First Yorkshire; an organisation which provides support and advocacy for rural communities, voluntary and community organisations, parish councils, and social enterprises in North Yorkshire. In her eight years there, Caroline has held a number of senior roles around partnerships, community support and policy and her career in the voluntary sector spans 13 years, with roles previously at North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations. Prior to this, Caroline worked briefly at North Yorkshire County Council in education strategy and investment and for an extensive period at the Learning and Skills Council and NY Training and Enterprise Council, among other roles.
- 3.12 The interview panel felt that in combination, the three proposed appointees will bring a diverse range of experience encompassing mental health/counselling, probation, VCS, victim services and local authority roles. The Panel is invited to formally agree the appointment of the appointees for a four-year term to January 2030. Clearly there are likely to be changes in that time to scrutiny arrangements as a result of the planned White Paper on Police Reform (expected early 2026), which may carry implications for these co-opted appointments. However, it's important to ensure continuity of appointments at this stage so that the Panel and scrutiny can continue to function effectively.
- 3.13 Following the interview process, the Chair has been in contact with the outgoing co-opted member, Martin Walker, to convey the Panel's gratitude for his contribution and commitment over the last four years, supporting the Panel in its scrutiny of two Commissioners and transitioning arrangements with the introduction of the Mayoral

framework. A formal letter of thanks has also been provided to Martin from the Chair and also on behalf of the wider Panel.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from this report. Co-opted members receive a small allowance in recognition of their value to the Panel and this will continue at least into 2026/27, subject to any future review by the NYC Independent Remuneration Panel. The Home Office grant awarded annually to North Yorkshire Council for supporting the Panel already provides for three co-opted appointees.

#### **5.0 Legal Implications**

5.1 The Panel must legally have at least two independent co-opted members but as outlined at 2.3, the Home Office has consented to the North Yorkshire Panel having three appointments and they have confirmed that this consent continues regardless of the named appointees as the purpose is to enable greater complementarity of skills.

5.2 The implementation of the White Paper on Police Reform in 2026 and government plans to abolish Panels by May 2028 may potentially impact upon the tenure of co-opted members appointed now but this is as yet unknown and further guidance will be provided once it becomes available.

#### **6.0 Equalities Implications**

6.1 An Equalities Monitoring Form was used as part of the application process but removed from applications prior to shortlisting to ensure anonymity and was not used as part of the shortlisting process. However, Panel members may find it helpful to note that of the applications received and processed, 65% identified as male, 35% identified as female; 89% identified as “White: English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British” and 72% of applicants were aged between 50 and 74. One applicant identified as having a disability.

6.2 The promotion of the appointments was planned to ensure a wide reach across voluntary and community sector contacts in North Yorkshire and York along with councils, health trusts, probation service and other public bodies. The process was also made as accessible as possible to all. The application pack and form were offered in alternative formats and the Panel’s supporting officer was available to speak to interested parties ahead of the closing date. Candidates were asked about any particular needs prior to interview so that arrangements could be made as required.

#### **7.0 Climate Change Implications**

7.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Recommendations**

8.1 That the Panel co-opts Fraser Forsyth, Mags Godderidge and Caroline O’Neill as independent members, to serve until the Panel’s meeting in January 2030.

**Background Documents:**

["Police, fire and crime panels: independent member recruitment guidance"; Home Office \(June 2023\)](#)

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
13 January 2026

Report Author: Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer  
nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

# Provisional Police Settlement and Setting the Police Precept 2026-27

Page 21

21<sup>st</sup> January 2026



# Provisional Policing Settlement 2026-27

- Published on 18th December
- The announcement only contained partial information
- The financial information was only provided for 1 year (2026/27)
- More information on funding and Grants is expected this month alongside a Policing White Paper

# Policing Settlement 2026-27

- Up to £18.3 billion for 'police forces' in 2026/27
- Available funding to 'PCCs' will increase by up to an additional £746m in 2026/27, assuming full take up of local flexibility to increase council tax by the maximum amount.
- £15 precept flexibility for all PCCs, or equivalent, for 26/27. All options are still being considered in North Yorkshire with formal proposals to be brought to the February meeting.
- Government Funding increase of 3.3% (on average). Lowest 2.3% to Highest 4.3%
- North Yorkshire only received a 2.8% increase. Equates to around £600k lower than the average position
- Overall national increase of funding to PCCs (after Precept) - in cash terms - of 4.2% - North Yorkshire was calculated by the Government to be 4.2% also, due to the stronger local funding position

# Policing Settlement 2026-27

- The additional £746m available to PCCs is broken down as follows:
- £382m increase in Core Grant (although £205m is needed just for the extra costs of the 25/26 pay award
- Up to £364m additional funding from council tax precept, based on current forecasts and assuming all 'PCCs' maximise their precept flexibility. The Government is enabling PCCs to increase precept by up to £15 (versus £14 for last year) for a Band D equivalent property.

# Precept

- Each £1 equates to a 0.31% increase, and therefore a £14 increase would equate to an increase of 4.36%
- Whereas a £15 increase in North Yorkshire would be the equivalent of a 4.67% increase.
- Underlying Tax Base growth of 1.02% is expected but this is not yet formally agreed.
- Including the forecast position on the councils Collection Funds then the increase in core funding, in comparison to 2026/27 is expected to be around 4%.
- While this may seem like a reasonable increase, 1.4% of this increase is needed simply to fund the full year costs of last years pay award.
- This leaves only 2.6% to cover inflation that is currently 3.5% and pay awards that are forecast to be 3%!!!!
- Clearly this will be impossible to meet and will require very difficult decisions. Especially given that there are pressures beyond 'just' inflation.

# Impact of each £1 Precept Increase

- Current Council Tax/Precept Levels:
- Band D: £320.86 – £6.15 per week
- Each £1 increase of the Police precept equates to around 2 pence per week for a Band D property
- Impact of a £14 increase in 2026/27 would be an additional 27 pence per week for a Band D property
- Whereas a £15 increase in 2026/27 would be an additional 29 pence per week for a Band D property
- Each £1 generates around £327k in additional income

# Impact of a £15 Precept Increase

Overall Government and Local Revenue Funding	2026/27	2025/26	(Increase)/Reduction	Year on Year Change
	£000s	£000s	£000s	%age
<b>Government Funding</b>				
Police Grant	(59,905)	(57,579)	(2,326)	4.0%
RSG/National Non Domestic Rate	(35,884)	(34,490)	(1,393)	4.0%
Council Tax Freeze Grant	(2,152)	(2,152)	0	0.0%
Council Tax Support Grant	(5,746)	(5,746)	0	0.0%
Police Pensions Grant	(4,622)	(4,622)	0	0.0%
National Insurance Grant	(2,856)	(2,856)	0	0.0%
Police Officer Uplift Grant (Core)	(3,407)	(3,407)	0	0.0%
Police Officer Uplift Grant (Additional)	(1,035)	(1,528)	492	-32.2%
Neighbourhood Policing Grant	(1,947)	(1,947)	0	0.0%
<b>Government Funding Changes</b>	<b>(117,553)</b>	<b>(114,326)</b>	<b>(3,227)</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
<b>Impact of a £15, 4.67% Band D Precept increase</b>				
Net Surplus on Collection Funds	(202)	(612)	410	
Council Tax Requirement	(110,005)	(104,033)	(5,972)	5.7%
<b>Total Local Funding</b>	<b>(110,207)</b>	<b>(104,645)</b>	<b>(5,562)</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>Total Government + Local Funding</b>	<b>(227,760)</b>	<b>(218,971)</b>	<b>(8,789)</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

# Within the Settlement it appears.....

- While Core Government funding has increased by 4.0% this is about 0.5% lower than needed – this **creates a pressure of £450-500k**
- The Government funding to support the recruitment of 29 additional Police Officers in North Yorkshire has been reduced/removed. – initial estimate is a **reduction totalling £500k**
- The funding for Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee has been frozen at £1.9m which is now **£900k too low** simply to fully fund the 32 Police Officers and 20 PCSOs that are being delivered in 2025/26.
- No additional funding to continue to invest in Neighbourhood Policing has been announced yet.
- Over £20m of Specific Grants have been frozen and therefore in real terms **reduced in value by around £700k.**

Page 28

**The Provisional Settlement has created a financial pressure, in relation to funding**

**of £2.6m**

# Not included within the Provisional Settlement .....

- There has been no confirmation that the following funding will continue:
- Serious Violence Duty Unit Funding of £260k
- Anti-Social Behaviour Hotspot Funding £1,000k
- There has been no direction on Police Officer Maintenance Target
- There has been no direction on Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee requirements or additional funding.

# Where does this leave us .....

- If there is a £15 increase in the Band D precept, then:
- There is still a significant gap within our financial plans (of around £2.6m) which we are working to address
- Any increase below £15 would increase this gap by £327k for each £1 lower
- The lower-than-expected financial settlement provides a challenging financial position as it simply doesn't provide enough to cover inflation.
- It is possible that cuts will be required simply to balance the 2026/27 budget

# Capital

- There is a Capital 'Ask' of £40m for the 4 years from 2026/27 onwards
- Capital is very challenging as no Capital Funding is provided from the Government. The organisation continues to only borrow to fund Estates expenditure, and the expectation is around £5.2m, or 13%, of the programme will be funded from additional borrowing.

<b>Capital Financing and Expenditure</b>					
	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
<b>Capital and Project Plans</b>					
ICT	5,708	2,185	2,432	6,764	<b>17,089</b>
Fleet	2,716	3,398	3,289	3,289	<b>12,692</b>
Estates	2,527	519	458	450	<b>3,954</b>
Other Rolling Programmes and Schemes	674	512	671	266	<b>2,123</b>
Other Schemes	73	40	0	0	<b>113</b>
Control		2,075	2,075		<b>4,150</b>
<b>Total Agreed Programme</b>	<b>11,698</b>	<b>8,729</b>	<b>8,926</b>	<b>10,769</b>	<b>40,122</b>

# Precept Consultation

- A full report will accompany the formal precept report at the February Panel Meeting
- The consultation closed on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 with the following high-level results

Increase options	%
Up to £12 a year	34%
Up to £14 a year	18%
Up to £16 a year	15%
Up to £18 a year	32%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total answering</b>	<b>2585</b>

# Future Funding and Planning Assumptions

- Precept increases of £15 per annum throughout future years of the plan.
- Government Grant increases of: 2.4% in 27/28, 1.0% in 28/29 and 2% per annum thereafter.
- Tax Base increases of 1 to 1.3% per year
- Pay Awards are 3%, (26/27), 2.5% in 27/28 and 2% thereafter.

# Reserves

- General Reserves are projected to be around £6m to £7m throughout the plan.
- This will be around 3% of Core Grant plus Precept.
- Overall Reserves are expected to reduce by:
  - 2025/26 - £4.8m
  - 2026/27 - £3.8m
- At which point they will be around £12-13m.
- The reductions are aligned to the delivery of the Capital Programme

# Conclusion

- A challenging Provisional Financial Settlement
- North Yorkshire has a lower-than-average increase in Government funding
- The Settlement creates an unexpected gap of around £2.6m which is being worked on
- Cuts are possibly required simply to balance the budget
- An increase of around £15 in the Policing Precept has very good support from the respondents to our survey
- Any increase below this will add to the financial pressures referred to in this briefing.
- Full proposal on the Policing Precept will be formally proposed to the February meeting of this Panel.

This page is intentionally left blank

## North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

21 January 2026

### Panel Scrutiny of the Mayor's Draft Fire Precept Proposal 2026/27

#### **1.0 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 To outline the process and timescales for the Panel's scrutiny of the Mayor's 2026/27 precept proposal for fire and rescue, including the draft 2026/27 fire budget and MTFP proposal.

2.0 Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and Part 2 of the Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012 set out the statutory process for scrutiny of the Mayor's Council Tax precept proposals. The guidance note below sets out the key provisions and timescales from the governing legislation.

3.0 The Mayor must notify the Panel of their proposed precepts for both policing and fire and rescue by 1 February.

4.0 As Panel members will be aware, it is the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) which now has jurisdiction over the final recommendations to be made regarding the Mayor's fire budget and Council Tax precept proposal for the fire and rescue service. As such, the Panel no longer has a right of veto in relation to the fire and rescue precept proposal but must still provide a report to the Mayor with any recommendations regarding the precept to be issued, by 8 February each year.

5.0 It was agreed following a review of the process undertaken with the new Mayor last year that the Panel requires adequate time to consider its recommendations and provide its report to the Mayor. As such, it has been agreed that the Panel will henceforth consider the draft fire budget and precept proposal in January so that sufficient time can be afforded for the provision of the Panel's report and for the Mayor and MCA Members to be able to take this into account for their meeting on 6 February.

6.0 In relation to the policing precept proposal, the Panel legally remains the key body which makes a formal recommendation on the proposal and for which it still carries a power of veto. Panel will henceforth consider the precept proposal separately in early February, once the details of the national settlements for policing are also determined.

#### **7.0 Financial Implications**

7.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Legal Implications**

8.1 There are no significant legal implications arising from this report.

#### **9.0 Equalities Implications**

9.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

#### **10.0 Climate Change Implications**

10.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

**11.0 Recommendation**

11.1 The Panel is asked to note the report.

**Background Documents:** None

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
13 January 2026

Report Author: Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer.  
nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk

## POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	21 <sup>st</sup> January 2026
Report Title	The Draft 2026/27 Fire Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Proposal

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Police, Fire and Crime Team at [info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk](mailto:info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk).

### 1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform panel members of the proposed budget for North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) for 2026/27 and the updated medium term financial plan.
- 1.2 The precept proposals for NYFRS for 2026/27 will form part of the Mayoral general budget and precept proposals report, which will be reported to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA) on 6th February 2026.
- 1.3 Legislation requires that before the date on which the Combined Authority determines whether to approve my annual budget in relation to the following financial year; and at a time which permits the Police, Fire and Crime Panel a reasonable amount of time to review the proposed allocation of budget before the Combined Authority makes its determination:

That I must notify the Police, Fire and Crime Panel of my proposed allocation of the draft budget for fire and rescue functions, including the proposed allocation of the element of the general precept attributable to fire and rescue functions, in relation to the following financial year.

### 2 Recommendations

The Panel is asked to:

- 2.1 Review the proposed allocation of budget to North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service for 2026/27.
- 2.2 Note and comment on my proposal to set the Band D Fire Element of the Mayoral General Precept within the City of York and North Yorkshire for 2026/27 at £116.62. This is an increase of £9.60, or 80 pence per month, over the 2025/26 level.
- 2.3 Note that in setting out this proposed allocation of budget I have considered the responses from the public including the 3 precepting principles which I considered when setting the precept were:
  - Minimum Burden on Local Taxpayers
  - Public Services that keep people safe and give value for money
  - Delivering on local public priorities

- 2.4 I have additionally written to the Chief Fire Officer seeking assurances around value for money delivery from NYFRS and the impact the different options from the precept consultation would have and in view of my Mayoral Principles to inform my decision. The response I have received has been included in the balance of the weight of the decision taken about the final precept amount.
- 2.5 Note that I have also considered the challenging financial settlement that was received for the Fire Service as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement for both 2026/27 and the following 2 financial years. I have made representations to Ministers about this separately and that the Combined Authority has responded more widely on the local government funding consultation. This will include the need for the Government to better consider the impact of climate change and the threat to life this poses to the public and specifically to fire fighters and the need for great national resilience to respond to this growing risk.
- 2.6 Note that the proposal today aims to protect the precept decision from last year that injected significant funding into North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service; to put the Service on a secure and sustainable financial footing, it also underpins both the Community Risk Management Plan and the Fire and Rescue Plan and upholds the Mayoral principles as set out in the public consultation.
- 2.7 Note that I have consulted with the public specifically in relation to the Fire Element of my precept proposal and have received significant support from the public for an increase in the funding to be provided to the Fire Service, with 57% of the 2,637 people who responded willing to pay up to an extra £10 more (or higher) towards their Fire Precept, and the proposed precept increase is 40 pence, or 4%, lower than this.

### **3 Reasons**

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to inform panel members of the proposed budget for North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) for 2026/27 and the updated medium term financial plan.
- 3.2 The following information provides details supporting the NYFRS Revenue and Capital Budgets, setting out the overall financial context, the pressures from both a pay and non-pay perspective and the financial plans of the Service for both 2026/27 and beyond.

#### **Current Financial Position and Context**

- 3.3 Local Government Finance Settlement 2026/27
- 3.4 On 17 December 2025, Minister of State for Local Government and Homelessness, Alison McGovern MP announced the Provisional Local Government Settlement in a Written Ministerial Statement alongside the publication of the provisional local government finance report 2026 to 2027 and supporting settlement documents
- 3.5 The Settlement, for the first time in a decade, is a multi-year settlement and covers the next three financial years. This supports greater certainty around future government funding, allowing for greater context in longer-term financial planning and decision making around precepting.
- 3.6 It is important to note that many smaller grants have not been announced as part of the Provisional Settlement and are announced separately. The Government is expected to announce a series of Fire and Rescue grants in January and February 2026.
- 3.7 Headlines
- 3.8 The 2018 Hudson Review included a recommendation that the Final Local Government Finance Settlement should be announced no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January each year, and the Provisional Settlement around 5<sup>th</sup> December the year prior. However, the government has not achieved this target in any year since. Instead, in recent years the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has published policy statements containing

information about the Government's plans for the upcoming settlement, without containing the settlement allocations for individual authorities.

- 3.9 In line with this, on 20 November 2025, Minister of State Alison McGovern announced the publication of the Government's 2026-27 to 2028-29 Local Government Finance Policy Statement in a Written Ministerial Statement, marking the start of the Settlement process. Alongside the Policy Statement, the Government published its response to the Fair Funding Review 2.0 consultation and the Business Rates Reset Delivery document.
- 3.10 Whilst Policy Statements provide useful indications, they do not answer all the questions about methodologies and how big some top-slices or transfers might be and so the Fire Service had to wait until the 17<sup>th</sup> December to fully understand what the financial allocations would be for 2026/27.
- 3.11 The provisional Settlement went on to confirm much of the policy statement and provided the following headlines:
- Precept Referendum Thresholds – A £5 limit for standalone fire and rescue authorities (FRAs) will apply.
  - Confirmed there would be no limits for Mayoral Combined Authorities
  - For standalone Fire and Rescue Authorities, "we will provide a funding floor which protects their 2025-26 income in real-terms across the multi-year Settlement."
  - Commitment to review Fire Funding Formula ahead of next Spending Review,
- 3.12 The New Funding Formula
- 3.13 In 2026-27 the new formula is implemented on a one-thirds basis. With any changes as a result of the new funding formula, whether this results in additional funding or reductions in funding, being phased in over the 3-year settlement period.
- 3.14 For FRAs as a whole, council tax income is forecasted to rise by 22% over the 3-year period, while non-Council Tax Core Spending Power rises by just 4.1%.
- 3.15 However, individual FRAs see very differing changes in their non-council tax Core Spending Power, ranging from:
- A **24% reduction** for Hereford and Worcester (which sees a GDP Deflator (6.25%) rise in Core Spending Power including council tax across the 3 years)
- to
- A **24% increase** in Avon (which sees a 23% increase in Core Spending Power including Council Tax across the 3 years)
- 3.16 Of the 31 Standalone Fire and Rescue Authority's (which includes North Yorkshire) **19 will see reductions in Government Funding** across the next 3 years (of which 1 is North Yorkshire), whereas 12 will see increases.
- 3.17 Funding Floor
- 3.18 The Government are proposing to "provide a real terms funding floor to all standalone fire and rescue authorities across the multi-year Settlement. This reflects that standalone fire and rescue authorities have a unique place within the funding structures of the Settlement. As we assess their relative need for one service area only, their funding position is more sensitive to wider changes to the needs assessment, and they have fewer flexibilities to manage

budgetary pressures available to them. A real terms funding floor will support standalone fire and rescue authorities to continue providing their life-saving services”

- 3.19 This funding floor has been set using a ‘GDP deflator’ which equates to a 6.25% increase across 3 years.
- 3.20 The impact of the funding formula on North Yorkshire Fire is a reduction in Government Funding of £3,372k, in cash terms, across the 3 years. This equates to a **reduction in Government Grant of almost 25%** across the 3 years.
- 3.21 This has clearly had a significant impact on our financial plans and is the reason for the precept proposal for 2026/27 being higher than was included within our financial plans a year ago, which was for a £6 increase.
- 3.22 What does this mean for North Yorkshire Fire in 2026/27 in terms of Funding?
- 3.23 Based on the Fire Element of the precept being proposed, of £116.62 for a Band D property, then the overall impact on the Core Spending Power for the organisation is set to increase by 4.9%, or just under £2.4m, as set out in the table below:

<b>Local and Government Funding</b>				
	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2025/26 Revised</b>	<b>(Increase)/ Reduction</b>	<b>Year on Year Change</b>
	£000s	£000s	£000s	%age
<b><u>Government Funding</u></b>				
Total Settlement Funding	(12,666)	(11,185)	(1,481)	13.2%
National Insurance Grant	0	(265)	265	-100.0%
Compensation for Underindexing of Business Rates	0	(2,120)	2,120	-100.0%
<b>Total Government Funding</b>	<b>(12,666)</b>	<b>(13,570)</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>
<b><u>Impact of a £9.60 increase in Band D Precept</u></b>				
Net Surplus on Collection Funds	50	(166)	216	
Council Tax Requirement	(38,197)	(34,699)	(3,497)	
<b>Total Local Funding</b>	<b>(38,147)</b>	<b>(34,865)</b>	<b>(3,282)</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
<b>Total Government + Local Funding</b>	<b>(50,812)</b>	<b>(48,435)</b>	<b>(2,377)</b>	<b>4.9%</b>

- 3.24 These numbers are subject to potential changes when the final settlement figures are provided during February.
- 3.25 Funding now included within Core Spending Power
- 3.26 National Insurance Compensation Funding
- 3.27 The 2024 Autumn Budget included an increase to employer’s National Insurance contributions and corresponding compensation for the Public Sector.
- 3.28 The additional costs to the Fire Service of these increases were around £600k with only £265k provided as compensation for these additional costs.
- 3.29 In the 2026/27 Settlement this funding has been rolled into the main Government Settlement grant, and therefore this recurring pressure has also been rolled into the underlying funding position.
- 3.30 Compensation for Under-indexing of Business Rates  
The funding for decisions made by the Government when they do not pass on the full costs of Business Rates are compensated to those Authority’s that are funded through the receipt of Business Rates through an additional grant.

- 3.31 This grant for 'under-indexing' has now been rolled into the main Government Settlement too.
- 3.32 Funding that sits outside of the Core Spending Power calculation
- 3.33 Within this financial settlement the Government has indicated that "we intend to consolidate the Fire Pensions and Uplift Protection grants into the Settlement in the future"
- 3.34 As this has not happened at this stage, we continue to make assumptions about the level of these Grants going forward as we haven't been informed of the exact values at this stage.
- 3.35 Fire Pensions Grant
- 3.36 The Service currently receives a grant of £1,336k to compensate for an increase in the Employers Pension Contribution Rate into the Fire Pension Fund of 8.8%.
- 3.37 This Grant has not yet been confirmed for 2026/27 and hasn't increased by inflation in previous years. We have therefore assumed that it will be frozen at this level again.
- 3.38 Uplift Protection Grants
- 3.39 As with previous years we have made no assumptions that this funding will continue however as this funding delivers additionality, we also have not included the costs of this work continuing if the funding is not received.
- 3.40 Flooding and Water Rescue
- 3.41 There continues to be no funding provided to Fire Services in relation to Flooding and Water Rescue, this is because in England, fire and rescue authorities do not have a statutory duty to respond to water rescue or flooding incidents. The only possible exception is a road traffic incident involving water, which is a specified duty. Alongside the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime, I have lobbied government to introduce such a duty and reflect this within fire authority funding.
- 3.42 Therefore, while this work clearly is undertaken within North Yorkshire the Fire Service is not funded to provide these resources.
- Funding for 2027/28 and beyond**
- 3.43 The 3-year settlement provided in December 2025 provides clarity on what will happen to Government Funding for the next 2 years in addition to 2026/27.
- 3.44 The impact for North Yorkshire Fire is a further reduction of £1,200k, or 9.5% in 2027/28 versus the 2026/27 Government Funding level.
- 3.45 This is then followed by a further reduction in 2028/29 of £1,267k, or 11% versus the 2027/28 Government Funding level.
- 3.46 The current plan also assumes that Mayoral Combined Authorities will continue to be afforded precept flexibility with no capping, and that the Fire element of the Mayoral General Precept will increase by £7.20 in 2027/28 and £4.80 in 2028/29.
- 3.47 MTFP Assumptions  
A review of the assumptions within the MTFP has been undertaken, these will remain under review and are updated with the best information available, the current assumptions incorporated into the MTFP for 2026/27 and beyond are as follows:
- Pay Awards: Firefighter Pay Increases of 3.5% in 2026/27, with staff increases of 2.5%
  - Precept: Increases of £9.60 in 2026/27, £7.20 in 2027/28 and then £4.80 in 2028/29
  - Tax Base increases of 1% to 1.3% each year

- Government Grants: Are reduced in line with the announcements made in December 2025 and included within this report.
- Nil impact from Business Rates Reset
- Inflation: 2% for most non-pay areas from 27/28 onwards.
- Any pensions changes are fully funded by the Government.

3.43 **Income Forecasts**

3.44 Based on these revised assumptions and the information received and forecast around other areas of funding then the entire funding expected to be available for the Fire Service for the next 4 years, in comparison to 2025/26, is as follows:

	Approved Budget	Forecasts			
	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30 £'000
<b>Funding</b>					
Total Settlement Funding	(13,570)	(12,666)	(11,466)	(10,198)	(10,402)
Council Tax Precept	(34,699)	(38,197)	(41,082)	(43,229)	(45,359)
Collection Fund Surplus/Deficit	(112)	50	(130)	(130)	(130)
<b>Funding for the Net Budget Requirement</b>	<b>(48,381)</b>	<b>(50,813)</b>	<b>(52,678)</b>	<b>(53,558)</b>	<b>(55,891)</b>
%age change in Net Budget Requirement	27.2%	5.0%	3.7%	1.7%	4.4%
S31 NDR Grants and Specific Grants	(2,281)	(2,074)	(1,581)	(1,521)	(1,522)
General Income	(937)	(1,067)	(1,067)	(1,091)	(1,114)
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>(51,599)</b>	<b>(53,955)</b>	<b>(55,326)</b>	<b>(56,170)</b>	<b>(58,528)</b>
%age change in Total Funding	15.1%	4.6%	2.5%	1.5%	4.2%

3.45 Once all funding sources have been factored in then we currently forecast that Total Funding will increase by just over **£2.35m**, or 4.6% in 2026/27.

3.46 **Pay Increases and Inflation Pressures**

3.47 While the overall increase in Total Funding seems reasonable in 2027/28 it is important to reflect that the following 2 years become more challenging as the impact of significant reductions in Government funding continue to create a challenging financial position.

3.48 In terms of 2026/27 it is important to reflect on the additional costs that need to be funded from this increase.

Movements on Pay

3.49 Over half of the increase in Income in 2026/27 is required to fund movements in pay, which total £1,210k, as set out below.

<b>Forecast additional Pay Costs</b>	
	<b>2026/27</b>
	£000s
Impact of 25/26 Support Staff Pay Award	45
Impact of 25/26 Firefighter Pay Award	(230)
Reduction in LGPS Pension Contribution Rate	(150)
Assume 3.5%/2.5% Pay Awards in 26/27	1,075
Incremental Drift and Other sundry movements	205
<b>Total Forecast Additional Pay Costs</b>	<b>1,210</b>

3.50 Lower than budgeted pay awards for Firefighters in 2025/26, plus a reduction in the Employer's Contribution Rate into the Local Government Pension Scheme for Support Staff has partly mitigated a higher than budgeted Support Staff Pay award in 2025/26, and the forecast costs associated with pay awards for 2026/27.

3.51 In addition to pay pressures, there are a significant number of non-pay pressures in 2026/27.

<b>Impact of Inflation and Pressures/Growth on Non-pay Budgets:</b>	
	<b>2026/27</b>
	<u>£000s</u>
Training/Indirect Staff Costs	120
Authority Costs	(10)
Premises	365
Transport	190
Supplies and Services	(45)
External Service Agreements	10
PFI (inc. capital element)	100
Injury/Medical Pensions	125
<b>Total Forecast Additional Non-Pay Costs</b>	<b>855</b>

3.52 The areas of significant increase are as follows:

3.53 **Training/Indirect Staff Costs** are forecast to increase by £120k, after savings, predominantly because of increased need for operational training.

3.54 **Premises Costs** are forecast to increase by £365k after savings, mostly as a result a new contract to improve maintenance of the Fire Estate that continues to need significant investment, higher utilities costs, higher business rates costs and general inflationary pressures.

3.55 **Transport Costs** are forecast to increase by £190k, resulting from higher Vehicle Insurance Costs, higher third-party maintenance and parts costs, and general inflation

3.56 **Supplies and Services Costs** are forecast to reduce by £45k, as the Service continues to drive out savings and efficiencies.

3.57 **PFI Costs** are forecast to increase by £100k as the contract price is linked to RPI increases.

3.58 **Injury and Medical Retirements Pensions** are forecast to increase by £125k due to several Medical/Injury Retirements agreed during 2025/26 along with pay inflation impacting on the level of injury and medical pension payments.

3.59 **Capital and Reserves Movements**

3.60 In 2025/26 we allocated around £2.5m to stabilise the financial position of the Fire Service through increasing reserves and providing for Change.

3.61 Now that this has been done this money can be redirected to the next part of the plan which was to bolster the amount of funding that would be set aside to support and fund the Capital Programme.

3.62 Almost £2.3m of this £2.5m has now been set aside to increase the contribution to the Capital Programme in 2026/27, this will reduce the need to constantly have to borrow to fund shorter life assets such as vehicles, ICT and general equipment.

3.63 Putting together all of the cost increases, results in potential additional costs and pressures of just under £2.1m as set out within the table below, in addition to this the capital and reserve movements described above are shown in the summary below, which shows how the overall increase in funding of £2,355k has been allocated within the budget.

<b>Forecast additional Pay Costs</b>	
	<b>2026/27</b>
	£000s
Impact of 25/26 Support Staff Pay Award	45
Impact of 25/26 Firefighter Pay Award	(230)
Reduction in LGPS Pension Contribution Rate	(150)
Assume 3.5%/2.5% Pay Awards in 26/27	1,075
Incremental Drift and Other sundry movements	205
<b>Total Forecast Additional Pay Costs</b>	<b>1,210</b>
<b>Impact of Inflation and Pressures/Growth on Non-pay Budgets:</b>	
	<b>2026/27</b>
	£000s
Training/Indirect Staff Costs	120
Authority Costs	(10)
Premises	365
Transport	190
Supplies and Services	(45)
External Service Agreements	10
PFI (inc. capital element)	100
Injury/Medical Pensions	125
<b>Total Forecast Additional Non-Pay Costs</b>	<b>855</b>
<b>Capital Charges and Contributions</b>	<b>2,402</b>
<b>Changes to Reserve Movements</b>	<b>(2,112)</b>
<b>Potential Additional Costs and Pressures</b>	<b>2,355</b>

- 3.64 These costs are **after including savings of £380k** to be delivered during 2026/27.
- 3.65 The projected increases in income in future years are now expected to be lower than inflation and pay awards, will continue to highlight the importance and focus on delivering further savings.
- 3.66 As stated last year, and in line with the results of precept survey and the strong support from the public to deliver the 'Minimum Burden on Local Taxpayers', the continued need for the Service to become more efficient to be able to deliver an improving service to the public of North Yorkshire will continue to be firmly held.
- 3.67 **Savings Plans**
- 3.68 The search for savings and efficiencies continues to receive a lot of focus and a further **£380k of non-pay savings/reductions** (equivalent to around 3.2% of our Indirect staff and non-staff costs) have been factored into the 2026/27 Budget, these are summarised below:
- Supplies and Services - £285k
  - Indirect Staff Costs - £45k
  - Premises Costs - £25k
  - Transport - £15k
  - Other - £10k
- 3.69 **Fire and Rescue Plan and the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP)**
- 3.70 On the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025 I [approved](#) the new North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2025-29, subject to additional stipulations placed on some proposals.

- 3.71 The new CRMP aligns with the [Fire and Rescue Plan](#) which was widely consulted upon and published in April 2025. This financial plan underpins both the Fire and Rescue Plan and the Community Risk Management Plan.
- 3.72 There are 6 priorities within the Fire and Rescue Plan:
- **Targeted Prevention**  
Deliver targeted prevention activities to keep people in York and North Yorkshire safe from fires, road traffic collisions, water hazards and other emergencies.
  - **Protected Built Environment**  
Provide targeted support and advice to protect people and properties from fires through safer buildings in York and North Yorkshire.
  - **Effective Emergency Response**  
Provide an effective response to incidents across York and North Yorkshire, as quickly as possible.
  - **Stronger Communities**  
Prepare for major disruptions, working in collaboration with our partners to support communities across York and North Yorkshire to effectively prepare for emergencies and recover from them when they occur.
  - **Supported, Safe and Skilled Staff**  
Foster a culture of excellence and belonging in North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Invest in training, safety and welfare to maintain a skilled and resilient Workforce.
  - **Financial Stability**  
Ensure the long-term financial sustainability of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and be transparent in our spending.
- 3.73 While this financial plan underpins all the above priorities it is perhaps important to set out how last year's plan and this year's proposed financial plans aim to deliver improved long-term financial stability for the Fire Service.
- 3.74 General Reserves – will increase from £1.1m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 to £2.8m by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2030.
- 3.75 Overall Reserves – these are forecast to increase from £4.3m as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 to £7.0m by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2030
- 3.76 Borrowing – In 2024/25 almost 85% of the Capital Programme was funded through borrowing, this is expected to reduce to around 50% by 2028/29, and more importantly this borrowing is planned only for investment into the Estate. All other Capital Expenditure will be funded from revenue contributions to the Capital Programme. This is only possible due to the significantly improved financial stability of the Fire Service.
- 3.77 **Community Risk Management Plan – Areas of Focus**
- 3.78 The new Community Risk Management Plan includes over 80 'Areas of Focus' which are all aligned to the Fire and Rescue Plan priorities. This financial plan, and future financial plans, will be focused on prioritising funding and resources to deliver against these.
- 3.79 The Areas of Focus cover Prevention, Protection, Response, On-Call, Resilience, Operational Preparedness, Collaboration, People, Culture and Values, Estates, Fleet, and Data, Digital and Technology.
- 3.80 A number of these Areas of Focus are referred to within this report, including at section 4 which described some of the investments to be made within the Capital Programme.

3.81 In addition to the Capital Programme the Fire Service has a comprehensive Change Pipeline to oversee and manage many of these Areas of Focus.

3.82 What does this mean for the overall Financial Position in 2026/27?

3.83 There are several areas that remain outstanding at this point in the development of the 2026/27 budget and the MTFP however a summary of the current position is shown below:

	Approved Budget	Forecasts			
	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Funding</b>					
Total Settlement Funding	(13,570)	(12,666)	(11,466)	(10,198)	(10,402)
Council Tax Precept	(34,699)	(38,197)	(41,082)	(43,229)	(45,359)
Collection Fund Surplus/Deficit	(112)	50	(130)	(130)	(130)
<b>Funding for the Net Budget Requirement</b>	<b>(48,381)</b>	<b>(50,813)</b>	<b>(52,678)</b>	<b>(53,558)</b>	<b>(55,891)</b>
%age change in Net Budget Requirement	27.2%	5.0%	3.7%	1.7%	4.4%
S31 NDR Grants and Specific Grants	(2,281)	(2,074)	(1,581)	(1,521)	(1,522)
General Income	(937)	(1,067)	(1,067)	(1,091)	(1,114)
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>(51,599)</b>	<b>(53,955)</b>	<b>(55,326)</b>	<b>(56,170)</b>	<b>(58,528)</b>
%age change in Total Funding	15.1%	4.6%	2.5%	1.5%	4.2%
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Wholetime Firefighters	21,900	22,450	22,624	23,418	24,122
On Call Firefighters	5,221	5,341	6,082	6,295	6,484
Support Staff - Fire	3,091	2,993	3,063	3,169	3,311
Support Services Staff	2,833	3,364	3,412	3,537	3,626
Control Room Staff	1,039	1,147	1,156	1,137	1,172
<b>Direct Staff Costs</b>	<b>34,084</b>	<b>35,295</b>	<b>36,336</b>	<b>37,556</b>	<b>38,715</b>
<b>Indirect Staff Costs</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>936</b>
<b>Authority Costs</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>Premises</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>3,009</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>3,166</b>	<b>3,225</b>
<b>Transport</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>1,230</b>
<b>Supplies and Services</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>4,398</b>	<b>4,351</b>	<b>4,445</b>	<b>4,506</b>
<b>Operating Leases</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>External Service Agreements</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>309</b>
<b>PFI (inc. capital element)</b>	<b>1,939</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,278</b>
<b>TLT Budget</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Total Indirect Staff and Non Staff Costs</b>	<b>11,308</b>	<b>12,036</b>	<b>11,362</b>	<b>11,493</b>	<b>11,635</b>
<b>PENSIONS</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>1,196</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE BEFORE CAPITAL CHARGE</b>	<b>46,536</b>	<b>48,599</b>	<b>48,932</b>	<b>50,214</b>	<b>51,546</b>
<b>Provision for Debt Repayment</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>1,351</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>1,357</b>
<b>External Interest</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>1,313</b>	<b>1,510</b>
<b>Revenue Contribution to Capital</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>2,960</b>	<b>3,649</b>	<b>2,949</b>	<b>3,450</b>
<b>Total Capital Charges</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>4,996</b>	<b>5,930</b>	<b>5,640</b>	<b>6,317</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET</b>	<b>49,130</b>	<b>53,595</b>	<b>54,862</b>	<b>55,855</b>	<b>57,863</b>
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit before Reserves</b>	<b>(2,469)</b>	<b>(360)</b>	<b>(464)</b>	<b>(315)</b>	<b>(665)</b>
<b>Planned Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves:</b>					
<b>New Developments and Change Reserve</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>Pensions, Pay &amp; Price Reserve</b>	<b>910</b>				
<b>Home Office ESMCP Reserve</b>			<b>194</b>		
<b>Home Office Protection Uplift Grant Reserve</b>	<b>(141)</b>				
<b>Planned Transfers to/(from) General Fund</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit After Reserves</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

3.84 The Service is projecting a surplus before Reserves in each year of the MTFP.

3.85 This surplus is being used to continue to strengthen the General Reserve position and increase this from 3% of the Net Budget Requirement to 5% between 2025/26 and the end of this planning period.

3.86 There is also some funding set aside specifically for new developments and change of £165k. It is expected that this will be focused on Road Safety within 2026/27. This aligns to the

'Targeted Prevention' priority within the Fire and Rescue Plan and aligns with one of the Areas of Focus within the Community Risk Management Plan which refers to 'Delivering consistent early intervention and youth engagement initiatives, working with our partners around fire, road and water safety. We will also explore opportunities where we can support interventions around the serious violence duty'

3.87 Fire Reserves

3.88 While the Fire Budget is part of the wider Combined Authority Budget the Fire Reserves are still separately identifiable and will continue to be used solely for investment in the Fire Service.

3.89 Attached at Appendix 3 is a forecast on the levels of Reserves within North Yorkshire Fire over the period of the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

3.90 Overall reserves are forecast to increase from £4.3m at the start of 2025/26 to around £7.0m by the end of 2029/30.

3.91 As previously set out Reserves were low within North Yorkshire Fire and the plans set out within this report will continue to ensure that these Reserves are bolstered and that the Service is on a much more secure financial footing going forward.

3.92 The lower reserves are also now mitigated, to some extent, by the additional precept flexibility that I as Mayor now have. Should unexpected costs for higher pay awards, for example, materialise within the next financial year then these pressures could be funded from Reserves in the short term and then addressed as part of any future precept proposals, as/if needed.

3.93 The impact of the proposed Fire Element of the Mayoral General precept, and the savings and efficiency plans, has enabled the Service to meet the significant financial pressures from reducing levels of government funding.

3.94 As well as this the Service has incorporated into its balanced MTFP its plans for continuing its improvement journey and continuing to transform the Service.

3.95 It is important to recognise that there will be some changes to these financial plans, and these will be confirmed as part of the budget setting process during February.

## **4 CAPITAL**

### 4.1 Capital Investment Plans

4.2 As previously mentioned there continues to be a need for some significant investment within the Estate from which the Fire Service operates. Some of this required immediate attention to ensure that the buildings were both accessible to a more diverse workforce and the public, where needed. Funds were set aside to address this and the work was completed in 2024/25.

4.3 In addition to this a complete refurbishment of Ripon Fire Station, to make it a joint base for Fire and Police was officially opened in March 2025.

4.4 As with Ripon, there is a need to assess entire buildings and determine whether they are suitable for the delivery of modern-day services. While affordability will remain a key challenge, plans to refresh the estate continue to be developed. The current Capital plans are set out at Appendix 2.

4.5 These plans continue to incorporate the outcomes from the findings of the 2024/25 stock condition surveys (of the Fire Estate) and set out the need to spend around £2.5m across the life of plan to address the highest areas of need identified within those surveys.

- 4.6 Aligned to the CRMP £250k is set aside within the Capital Programme to invest in fitness equipment to help with fitness and availability of Firefighters, which in turn leads to better availability, reduced sickness and improvements in operational performance.
- 4.7 Building on the allocation of £75k of funding to Fire from my 'Mayoral Renewables Fund' in 2025/26 to fit Solar Panel to both York Fire Station and the Transport Hub, the Fire Service is continuing to invest in these 'invest to save' measures with £1.2m set aside across the plan to support this.
- 4.8 In addition to the above and aligned to the CRMP almost £14m has been set aside within the Capital Programme to "prioritise redevelopments at Northallerton, Malton and Scarborough stations"
- 4.9 Beyond investment in Estates and aligned to the CRMP the Capital Plan provides funding for significant investment and replacement of the Fire Fleet, including:
- Investment in a replacement Aerial Ladder Platform
  - Investment in a replacement Water Bowser
  - Capacity to continue to renew/replace Fire Appliances in future years.
- 4.10 This follows on from the Service ordering 16 new Fire Appliances, delivery of which is expected to be complete in 2025/26.
- 4.11 Beyond Estates and Fleet, the delivery and roll out of new Breathing Apparatus will be complete during 2025/26, concluding a £1.6m investment in this area which brings this vital piece of equipment fully up to date.
- 4.12 All these plans will be refreshed, refined, prioritised and kept under close review to ensure that they are both affordable and necessary.

## **5 Public Consultation**

- 5.1 To further inform the decision around the Fire Element of the proposed precept for 2026/27 consultation has been undertaken with the public to ascertain their feedback and thoughts on this subject.
- 5.2 Between 17 November 2025 and 5 January 2026, an online, self-completion survey was open to the public of York and North Yorkshire with paper copies offered on request or available to download. The survey combined questions relating to both Police and Fire areas into a single questionnaire. The order of the questions was rotated: half of respondents answered the policing precept question first, while the other half began with the fire and rescue precept question.
- 5.3 To achieve a more representative sample, targeted community engagement activities were undertaken to boost participation. These included outreach events on high streets and at leisure centres, engagement with local businesses, and email communications to seldom-heard communities.
- 5.4 During the consultation period, responses were reviewed and targeted social media posts and adverts were used to increase responses from underrepresented areas and communities.
- 5.5 Full details on the consultation are attached at Appendix 4.
- 5.6 The public were asked the following:
- 5.7 North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has an annual budget of £51.6 million. Around £35 million of this (67 per cent), comes from your council tax and the remaining 33 percent is funded mainly by the Government and Business Rates.

- 5.8 Last year's council tax increase provided much needed financial stability and allowed for important investment in North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. I would like to see this work continue and to invest in road safety in line with agreed public priorities.
- 5.9 In 2026-27 it is estimated £3-4.5 million more is needed to maintain current service levels and deliver planned improvements, depending on the final funding formula which determines the level of Government funding we receive. £2-3 million of this would need to come from council tax, with the rest from savings and increased Government funding.
- 5.10 Each £1 raises approximately £325k. An increase of £6 for a Band D property would raise about £2 million.
- 5.11 The following options are based on an average Band D property currently paying £107.02 each year for Fire and Rescue. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for fire and rescue services in York and North Yorkshire?

**Up to £6 a year (50 pence per month)**

- *Raises around £2 million*
- *Any changes to the current funding formula will risk current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
- *No scope for additional service investment*

**Up to £8 a year (67 pence per month)**

- *Raises around £2.6 million*
- *May allow limited investment in road safety if no changes to the funding formula*
- *Any changes to the current funding formula will result in increases in debt and reduce future capital investments*

**Up to £10 a year (83 pence per month)**

- *Raises around £3.3 million*
- *Allows for investment in road safety*
- *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
- *Maintain current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*

**Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)**

- *Raises around £3.9 million*
- *Allows for investment in road safety*
- *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
- *Allows limited investment in other areas of service delivery. For example, in operational training and equipment*

- 5.12 In total 2,637 responses were received to the financial aspects of the survey from a Fire perspective; this is an increase of nearly 28% in comparison to last year.
- 5.13 A summary of the overall results is shown below:
- Up to £6 increase – 32%
  - Up to £8 increase – 11%
  - Up to £10 increase – 20%
  - Up to £12 increase – 37%
- 5.14 Given the proposed precept increase of £9.60 then the consultation result shows support for this level of increase by 57% of the people who completed the survey.

## 6. Financial Implications

### 6.1 The Tax Base

The two local Councils have provided their tax bases for 2026/27 as set out in the table below:

<b>Tax Base</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
	Net Tax Base	Net Tax Base
North Yorkshire Council	257,552	254,805
York City Council	69,979	69,426
<b>Total</b>	<b>327,531</b>	<b>324,231</b>
<b>Annual Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>3,299</b>	
<b>Percentage Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>1.02%</b>	

6.2 The tax base is expressed in terms of Band D equivalent properties. Actual properties are converted to Band D equivalent by allowing for the relevant value of their tax bands as set down in legislation (ranging from 2/3rds for Band A to double for Band H; discounts for single person occupation, vacant properties, people with disabilities etc;) and a percentage is deducted for non-collection. Allowance is also made for anticipated changes in the number of properties. The decision by both City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council to charge a 100% council tax premium on second homes is also factored into calculations.

6.3 The tax base calculated by the billing authorities differ from the figures used by the Government (which assumes 100% collection) in calculating Grant Formula entitlements.

6.4 As can be seen from the table above the number of Band D equivalent properties across North Yorkshire has increased in 2026-27, in comparison to 2025-26, by 3,299 – this equates to an increase of 1.02%.

### 6.5 **The 2026/27 tax base is therefore 327,530.86 Band D Equivalent properties**

### 6.6 Setting the Council Tax

6.7 The precept calculation needs to take account of any net surplus or deficit on the billing authority collection funds. Projected surplus/deficits on the individual funds, relating to Fire are shown in the table below.

<b>Collection Funds Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>	
	<b>£</b>
North Yorkshire Council	(20,000)
York City Council	87,470
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Collection Fund</b>	<b>67,470</b>

6.8 The surpluses/deficit that have arisen need to be returned through the precept. The final precept to be levied will reflect the position on each council's collection fund.

### 6.9 Precept Calculations for the Fire Element of the Mayoral General Precept

The precept calculations for the Fire Element of the Mayoral General Precept are set out in the tables below based on a £9.60 increase:

<b>Proposed Fire element of Mayoral General Precept - £9.60 Increase</b>			
	<b>Unadjusted Precept</b>	<b>Collection Fund Balance</b>	<b>Council Tax Requirement</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
North Yorkshire Council	30,015,745	(20,000)	30,035,745
York City Council	8,248,374	87,470	8,160,904
<b>Total Precept</b>	<b>38,264,119</b>	<b>67,470</b>	<b>38,196,649</b>

6.10 The 'basic amount' of council tax is the rate for a Band D property. It is calculated by dividing the Council Tax Requirement by the total tax base i.e. £38,196,649 by 327,530.86 giving a council tax rate for Band D properties of £116.62.

6.11 The proposed council tax rate for each property band is determined in accordance with the statutory proportions and is set out in the table below, it also shows the increases for each Band in comparison to 2025/26 for the Fire Element of the Mayoral General Precept. It is advised that the tax rates should be calculated to more than 2 decimal places.

<b>Fire Element of Mayoral Council Tax Precept Band Amounts and Increases</b>				
	<b>£9.60 increase</b>			
Property Band	2026/27	2025/26	Increase per Annum	Increase per Week
	£	£	£	£
A	77.747	71.347	6.40	0.12
B	90.704	83.238	7.47	0.14
C	103.662	95.129	8.53	0.16
D	116.620	107.020	9.60	0.18
E	142.536	130.802	11.73	0.23
F	168.451	154.584	13.87	0.27
G	194.367	178.367	16.00	0.31
H	233.240	214.040	19.20	0.37

## **7 Conclusion**

7.1 I have considered various options and various factors in deliberating on my Fire budget for 2026/27. I have considered the need for the continued improvement and delivery of high levels of Fire and Rescue Services within North Yorkshire, many years of previous underinvestment in the service, I have spoken with the Chief Fire Officer and have consulted with the public.

7.2 The Panel is therefore asked to note and comment, as appropriate, on

- The overall budget proposed for NYFRS.
- The proposed £9.60 increase in the level of the Mayoral Fire Precept.
- The improved position on reserves and how this is going to significantly improve the stability of the finances of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- The proposed fire service capital programme and proposals for funding.
- The medium-term financial position for NYFRS covered by the Mayoral precept.

Further to this the following additional Appendices are also attached:

- Appendix 1 – Draft Budget based on a £9.60 Fire Precept Increase

- Appendix 2 – Draft Capital Budget
- Appendix 3 – Draft Forecast Reserves Schedule
- Appendix 4 – Precept Consultation Report

	<b>APPENDIX 1</b>				
	<b>Approved Budget</b>	<b>Forecasts</b>			
	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Funding</b>					
Total Settlement Funding	(13,570)	(12,666)	(11,466)	(10,198)	(10,402)
Council Tax Precept	(34,699)	(38,197)	(41,082)	(43,229)	(45,359)
Collection Fund Surplus/Deficit	(112)	50	(130)	(130)	(130)
<b>Funding for the Net Budget Requirement</b>	<b>(48,381)</b>	<b>(50,813)</b>	<b>(52,678)</b>	<b>(53,558)</b>	<b>(55,891)</b>
%age change in Net Budget Requirement	27.2%	5.0%	3.7%	1.7%	4.4%
S31 NDR Grants and Specific Grants	(2,281)	(2,074)	(1,581)	(1,521)	(1,522)
General Income	(937)	(1,067)	(1,067)	(1,091)	(1,114)
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>(51,599)</b>	<b>(53,955)</b>	<b>(55,326)</b>	<b>(56,170)</b>	<b>(58,528)</b>
%age change in Total Funding	15.1%	4.6%	2.5%	1.5%	4.2%
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Wholetime Firefighters	21,900	22,450	22,624	23,418	24,122
On Call Firefighters	5,221	5,341	6,082	6,295	6,484
Support Staff - Fire	3,091	2,993	3,063	3,169	3,311
Support Services Staff	2,833	3,364	3,412	3,537	3,626
Control Room Staff	1,039	1,147	1,156	1,137	1,172
<b>Direct Staff Costs</b>	<b>34,084</b>	<b>35,295</b>	<b>36,336</b>	<b>37,556</b>	<b>38,715</b>
Indirect Staff Costs	767	886	899	918	936
Authority Costs	125	113	119	151	131
Premises	2,642	3,009	3,108	3,166	3,225
Transport	1,086	1,277	1,194	1,212	1,230
Supplies and Services	4,421	4,398	4,351	4,445	4,506
Operating Leases	2	0	0	0	0
External Service Agreements	286	296	297	303	309
PFI (inc. capital element)	1,939	2,037	1,374	1,278	1,278
TLT Budget	40	20	20	20	20
<b>Total Indirect Staff and Non Staff Costs</b>	<b>11,308</b>	<b>12,036</b>	<b>11,362</b>	<b>11,493</b>	<b>11,635</b>
<b>PENSIONS</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>1,196</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE BEFORE CAPITAL CHARGES</b>	<b>46,536</b>	<b>48,599</b>	<b>48,932</b>	<b>50,214</b>	<b>51,546</b>
Provision for Debt Repayment	1,090	1,291	1,351	1,378	1,357
External Interest	798	745	930	1,313	1,510
Revenue Contribution to Capital	707	2,960	3,649	2,949	3,450
<b>Total Capital Charges</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>4,996</b>	<b>5,930</b>	<b>5,640</b>	<b>6,317</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET</b>	<b>49,130</b>	<b>53,595</b>	<b>54,862</b>	<b>55,855</b>	<b>57,863</b>
(Surplus)/Deficit before Reserves	(2,469)	(360)	(464)	(315)	(665)
<b>Planned Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves:</b>					
New Developments and Change Reserve	1,000	165	165	165	165
Pensions, Pay & Price Reserve	910				
Home Office ESMCP Reserve			194		
Home Office Protection Uplift Grant Reserve	(141)				
Planned Transfers to/(from) General Fund	700	195	105	150	500
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit After Reserves</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>General Reserves</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
General Fund Balance b/f	1,150	1,850	2,045	2,150	2,300
Proposed (use of)/contribution to General Fund	700	195	105	150	500
Current Year Forecast	0	0	0	0	0
General Fund Balance c/f	<b>1,850</b>	<b>2,045</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>2,800</b>
% of NBR	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
<b>Employee Numbers (Budgeted as at 1st April)</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>FTEs</b>
Wholetime Firefighters	286.0	285.0	274.0	274.0	274.0
On Call Firefighters	342.0	304.0	304.0	304.0	304.0
Support Staff - Fire	64.5	64.3	61.3	61.3	61.3
Support Staff - Enable	51.8	52.8	52.8	52.8	52.8
Control Staff	17.5	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
<b>Assumptions</b>					
Staff Pay Increase	4% / 2.5%	3.5% / 2.5%	3.5% / 2.5%	3.5% / 2.5%	3% / 2.5%
Non Pay Inflation	calculated	calculated	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Precept Increase	28.9%	9.0%	6.2%	3.9%	3.9%
Council Tax Base Increase	2.9%	1.0%	1.3%	1.3%	1.0%

<b>FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE</b>		<b>APPENDIX 2</b>				
<b>CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2026/27 TO 2030/31</b>						
	<b>Estimated 2026/27 £000</b>	<b>Estimated 2027/28 £000</b>	<b>Estimated 2028/29 £000</b>	<b>Estimated 2029/30 £000</b>	<b>Estimated 2030/31 £000</b>	<b>Totals across 5 years £000</b>
<b>FUNDING</b>						
<b>Reserve Brought Forward</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0</b>
Revenue Contribution to Capital Reserve	2,960	3,649	2,949	3,450	3,800	16,808
Borrowing	970	993	1,015	1,063	852	4,893
Estates Replacement Borrowing	1,783	4,232	2,666	2,630	2,489	13,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>5,713</b>	<b>8,874</b>	<b>6,630</b>	<b>7,143</b>	<b>7,141</b>	<b>35,501</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Transport	1,476	2,420	1,614	2,072	1,533	9,115
Estates	970	993	1,015	1,063	852	4,893
ICT	249	320	157	1,046	467	2,239
Control System		1,870	1,890			3,760
<b>TOTAL APPROVED CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>2,695</b>	<b>5,603</b>	<b>4,676</b>	<b>4,181</b>	<b>2,852</b>	<b>20,007</b>
<b>ESTATES REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME</b>	<b>1,783</b>	<b>4,232</b>	<b>2,666</b>	<b>2,630</b>	<b>2,489</b>	<b>13,800</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>9,835</b>	<b>7,342</b>	<b>6,811</b>	<b>5,341</b>	<b>33,807</b>
<b>Reserve Carried Forward</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>2,549</b>	

**Reserves Forecasts**

	<b>Balance</b>	Transfers	Transfers	<b>Balance</b>	Transfers	Transfers	<b>Balance</b>	Transfers	Transfers	<b>Balance</b>	Transfers	Transfers	<b>Balance</b>	Transfers	Transfers	<b>Balance</b>
	<b>at 31 March</b>	In	Out	<b>at 31 March</b>	In	Out	<b>at 31 March</b>	In	Out	<b>at 31 March</b>	In	Out	<b>at 31 March</b>	In	Out	<b>at 31 March</b>
	<b>2025</b>	2025/26	2025/26	<b>2026</b>	2026/27	2026/27	<b>2027</b>	2027/28	2027/28	<b>2028</b>	2028/29	2028/29	<b>2029</b>	2029/30	2029/30	<b>2030</b>
	<b>£000</b>	£000	£000	<b>£000</b>	£000	£000	<b>£000</b>	£000	£000	<b>£000</b>	£000	£000	<b>£000</b>	£000	£000	<b>£000</b>
Pensions, Pay & Price	464	910	(120)	1,254			1,254			1,254			1,254			1,254
New Development and Change Reserve	132	1,000	(369)	763	165		928	165		1,093	165		1,258	165		1,423
Insurance	80			80			80			80			80			80
Recruitment	175		(127)	48			48			48			48			48
Hydrants	100			100			100			100			100			100
Collection Fund	22		(22)	0			0			0			0			0
RRM	206		(206)	0			0			0	0		0	0		0
HO Grant - ESMCP/LTR	0	206		206			206	194		400			400			400
HO Grant - Protection Uplift	251	63	(141)	173			173			173			173			173
<b>Total Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>1,429</b>	<b>2,179</b>	<b>(985)</b>	<b>2,623</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,147</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,312</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,477</b>
<b>Earmarked Capital Reserve</b>	<b>1,759</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>(1,765)</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>2,960</b>	<b>(1,725)</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>3,649</b>	<b>(4,610)</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>2,949</b>	<b>(3,661)</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>(3,118)</b>	<b>749</b>
<b>General Reserves</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>700</b>		<b>1,850</b>	<b>195</b>		<b>2,045</b>	<b>105</b>		<b>2,150</b>	<b>150</b>		<b>2,300</b>	<b>500</b>		<b>2,800</b>
<b>Total Usable Reserves</b>	<b>4,339</b>	<b>3,740</b>	<b>(2,750)</b>	<b>5,329</b>	<b>3,320</b>	<b>(1,725)</b>	<b>6,924</b>	<b>4,113</b>	<b>(4,610)</b>	<b>6,427</b>	<b>3,264</b>	<b>(3,661)</b>	<b>6,030</b>	<b>4,115</b>	<b>(3,118)</b>	<b>7,027</b>



---

# Consultation Report: Precept 2026/2027

## Fire & Rescue

---

January 2026

Version 2.0

# Table of Contents

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Background and Consultation Approach .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Background .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Consultation Approach .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Respondent Profile .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Findings .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>The Mayor’s Precepting Principles .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Level of Support for Precept Increase – Fire &amp; Rescue.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Subgroup Analysis .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>3.4</b>	<b>General Comments.....</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Appendix 1 – Precept Survey 2026/2027 .....</b>	<b>11</b>

# 1.0 Background and Consultation Approach

## 1.1 Background

Annual council tax bills inform residents about their contributions to local council services and other essential public services across York and North Yorkshire, including policing and fire and rescue. These contributions, known as ‘precepts’ vary according to a property’s council tax band.

The Mayor is legally responsible for setting both the policing precept and the Mayoral General Precept, which includes the portion that funds fire and rescue services. National referendum principles, set by the Government, limit how much council tax can increase before a public vote is required. These limits apply to the policing precept but do not apply to the Mayoral General Precept.

When determining the policing precept, the Mayor must take into account the views of council tax payers across York and North Yorkshire. While consultation on the Mayoral General Precept is not a legal requirement, it supports transparency, accountability, and public involvement in decisions that affect local taxation and public services.

For 2026/2027, the Mayor will not increase any non-fire elements of the Mayoral General Precept and will only seek an increase to the fire and rescue element.

## 1.2 Consultation Approach

The Mayor’s precept consultation aimed to understand how much more the public would be prepared to pay via their council tax for policing and separately for fire and rescue services in 2026/2027.

Between 17 November 2025 and 5 January 2026, an online, self-completion survey was open to the public of York and North Yorkshire with paper copies offered on request or available to download. The survey combined questions relating to both precepting areas into a single questionnaire. The order of the questions was rotated: half of respondents answered the policing precept question first, while the other half began with the fire and rescue precept question.

To achieve a more representative sample, targeted community engagement activities were undertaken to boost participation. These included outreach events on high streets and at leisure centres, engagement with local businesses, and email communications to seldom-heard communities.

The survey was extensively promoted, including via two media releases and additional reminders to reporters – particularly in under-represented areas – and via social media including Facebook and Nextdoor (reaching up to 107,000 households in 592 neighbourhoods). All users of the Community Messaging system in North Yorkshire and the City of York (18,704 people) were notified about the survey and an email was sent to local MPs and councillors to raise community awareness.

Posters and leaflets were distributed to North Yorkshire and City of York libraries, to raise awareness of the survey, while stakeholders were provided with a toolkit to help promote the survey and asked to engage their staff in the consultation.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime recorded a video to help promote the consultation via her channels, and an additional explainer video was produced to provide further context.

During the consultation period, responses were reviewed and targeted social media posts and adverts were used to increase responses from underrepresented areas and communities.

The consultation yielded 2,926 responses; an increase of over 600 responses compared to the previous year.

## 2.0 Respondent Profile

The following tables present a profile of survey respondents. Response percentages may not always total 100% due to rounding.

The survey was open to any individual who pays council tax in York or North Yorkshire. Where possible, response data has been compared with 2021 Census information. Overall, a good level of representation was achieved across geography, gender, disability, and ethnic group.

Respondents aged over 55 are overrepresented, while those under 25 are notably underrepresented compared with the general population. This is expected, as most individuals in this younger age group do not pay council tax and were therefore not eligible to participate in the consultation.

**Table 1: Respondent demographics vs 2021 Census**

Characteristic	Count	% responses	*Population 18+ %	
<b>AGE</b>	<b>18-24</b>	13	0.5%	10%
	<b>25-35</b>	133	5%	15%
	<b>36-45</b>	248	9%	14%
	<b>46-55</b>	364	14%	17%
	<b>56-65</b>	634	24%	17%
	<b>66-75</b>	773	29%	15%
	<b>Over 75</b>	481	18%	12%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,646</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>GENDER</b>	<b>Male</b>	1459	55%	49%
	<b>Female</b>	1185	45%	51%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2644</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>	<b>White</b>	2598	98%	96%
	<b>Other Ethnic Group</b>	50	2%	4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2648</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>DISABILITY (self-defined in survey)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	673	26%	17%
	<b>No</b>	1941	74%	83%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2614</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 2: Responses by location vs 2021 Census**

Location	Count	% responses	*Population %
<b>Craven</b>	265	9%	7%
<b>Hambleton</b>	421	15%	11%
<b>Harrogate</b>	482	17%	20%
<b>Richmondshire</b>	379	14%	6%
<b>Ryedale</b>	188	7%	7%
<b>Scarborough</b>	296	11%	13%
<b>Selby</b>	269	10%	11%
<b>York</b>	489	17%	25%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2789</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Data Source: 2021 Census, Office for National Statistics

The report includes subgroup analysis of support for each precept increase option, broken down by age, gender, ethnic group, disability status, and geographic location.

### 3.0 Main Findings

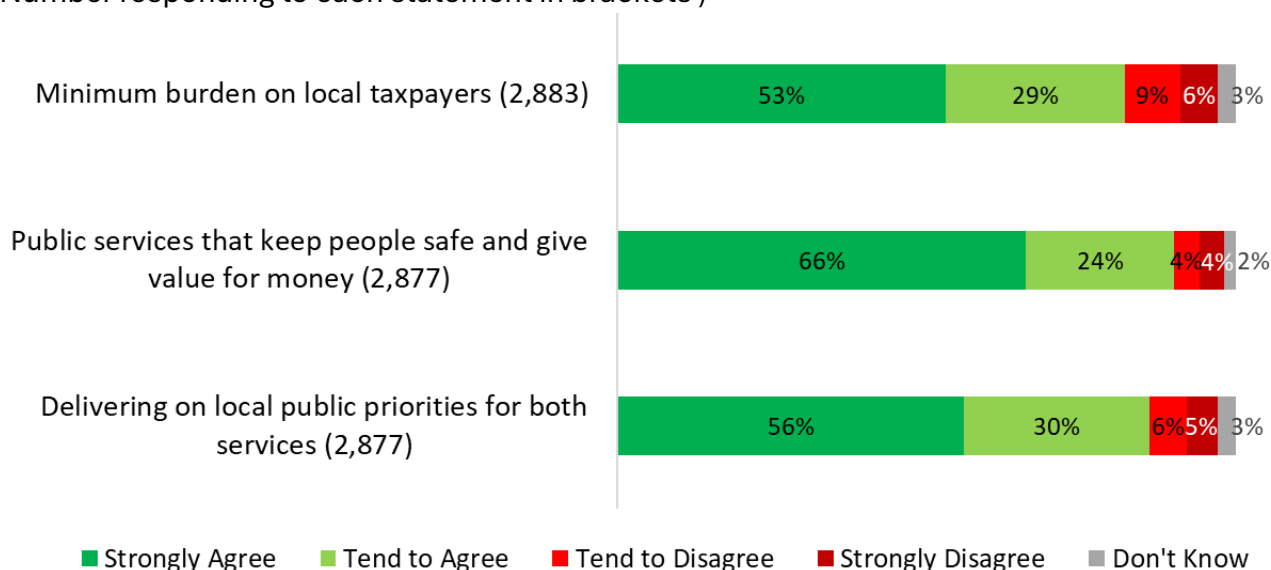
This chapter provides an analysis of the responses to the fire and rescue section of the precept consultation. Base sizes vary by question due to non-response to some questions; percentages are calculated on the valid base for each question.

#### 3.1 The Mayor’s Precepting Principles

Respondents were asked for their views on the principles guiding the Mayor’s final precept decision. Over 80% agreed with each of the three principles which collectively seek to deliver efficient and effective public services that meet local priorities while keeping the burden on taxpayers to a minimum.

**Figure 1: Do you support the Mayor’s core principles in making this decision?**

(Number responding to each statement in brackets )



#### 3.2 Level of Support for Precept Increase – Fire & Rescue

The survey included background information on the funding and budget of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (see Appendix 1 for full details) to enable respondents to provide an informed answer to the precept question. The exact wording of the question is shown below.

**Survey Extract:**

The following options are based on the amount of council tax an average Band D property would pay for fire and rescue services. This is currently £107.02 per year.

The options show the maximum increase you might pay. The Mayor will reduce these amounts in line with the level of funding received from Government.

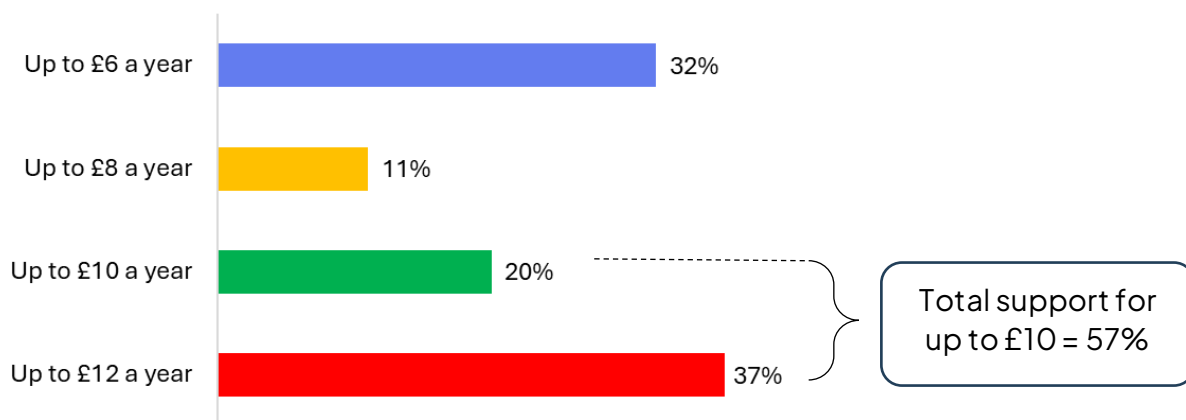
**Q. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for fire and rescue services in York and North Yorkshire?**

- ❑ **Up to £6 a year (50 pence per month)**
  - *Raises around £2 million*
  - *Any changes to the current funding formula will risk current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
  - *No scope for additional service investment*
- ❑ **Up to £8 a year (67 pence per month)**
  - *Raises around £2.6 million*
  - *May allow limited investment in road safety if no changes to the funding formula*
  - *Any changes to the current funding formula will result in increases in debt and reduce future capital investments*
- ❑ **Up to £10 a year (83 pence per month)**
  - *Raises around £3.3 million*
  - *Allows for investment in road safety*
  - *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
  - *Maintain current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
- ❑ **Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)**
  - *Raises around £3.9 million*
  - *Allows for investment in road safety*
  - *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
  - *Allows limited investment in other areas of service delivery. For example, in operational training and equipment*

Figure 2 illustrates the public’s response to the fire precept question. Around one-third of respondents (32%) felt that an increase of up to £6 per year would be reasonable, while a further 11% supported an increase of up to £8. Overall, the majority (57%) favoured a higher uplift of up to £10 - comprising 20% who supported an increase of up to £10 and an additional 37% who backed an increase of up to £12.

**Figure 2: Q. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for fire and rescue services in York and North Yorkshire?**

Those answering (2,637)



### 3.3 Subgroup Analysis

Table 3 below shows the total level of support by characteristic for an increase of up to £10 in the council tax contribution to fire and rescue services. These figures represent a combined percentage of respondents who selected ‘up to £10’ or the highest option of ‘up to £12’.

There is a positive correlation between household income and willingness to pay more, with higher-income respondents more likely to support larger increases. Respondents with a household income less than £20,000 were much more likely to choose the lowest increase of up to £6, while those with an income above £20,000 were more likely to choose the higher increase options of up to £10 or £12.

Across all former district areas, age groups, genders, and disability statuses, over half of respondents supported an increase in the precept of up to £10. Respondents from ethnic minority backgrounds were less likely to support this level of increase; however, this finding should be interpreted with caution due to the small number of responses within this subgroup.

**Table 3: Variation in total support for up to £10 increase by subgroups**

(bases in brackets)

Sub-group	% total support for up to £10 *	Sub-group	% total support for up to £10*
<b>TOTAL (2637)</b>	<b>57%</b>		
<b>AREA</b>		<b>AGE</b>	
Craven (252)	62%	18-35 (124)	51%
Hambleton (379)	52%	36-45 (217)	50%
Harrogate (447)	58%	46-55 (338)	59%
Richmondshire (336)	57%	56-65 (587)	53%
Ryedale (173)	59%	66-75 (736)	61%
Scarborough (266)	58%	Over 75 (445)	62%
Selby (245)	51%	<b>HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>	
York (457)	60%	Less than £20,000 (385)	48%
<b>GENDER</b>		£20,001 - £40,000 (654)	56%
Male (1347)	55%	£40,001 - £60,000 (484)	64%
Female (1104)	61%	£60,001 - £80,000 (236)	62%
<b>DISABILITY (Self-defined)</b>		£80,001 - £100,000 (142)	70%
Yes (617)	56%	More than £100,000 (128)	67%
No (1806)	59%		
<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>			
White (2416)	58%		<b>KEY</b>
Other Ethnic Group** (44)	36%	Under 40%	
		40-49%	
		50-60%	
		Over 60%	

\*% total support = combined percentage of respondents selecting ‘up to £10’ or ‘up to £12’

\*\* Interpret results for ‘Other Ethnic Group’ with care due to small base

### 3.4 General Comments

Respondents were invited to share comments on the fire and rescue precept to provide context for their views. The main themes identified from these comments are outlined below. Most respondents referred to multiple themes within a single response.

#### 1. Opposition to increases / affordability (c170 references)

Cost-of-living pressure, 'no increase'/'£0' preferences, pensioner affordability concerns, the perception of already high council tax, not wishing to pay more to cover government shortfalls in funding.

*...the government should see this as a priority too not just to put the financial burden on residents.*

*This should be supported more by central government.*

*I am a pensioner - I just can't afford anymore.*

*Everything is going up and the community are struggling with rising costs.*

#### 2. Funding & investment support (c100 references)

Many describe fire and rescue services as *vital/essential*, willing to pay a small uplift (often framed as an 'insurance policy') to maintain or improve service. Support is frequently contingent on frontline focus and visible outcomes.

*North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service must prioritise protecting frontline fire and rescue capabilities when determining the Council Tax precept. This is vital to ensuring rapid emergency response and effective community safety provision across North Yorkshire.*

*I would pay more for fire and rescue services, they are like an insurance policy – you need them to be there for when you need them and do so much more like prevention work and advice.*

#### 3. Equipment, training & resilience (c100 references)

Repeated references to wildfire events (e.g. moors/Langdale), water supply capabilities, PPE, fleet reliability, and specialist training for climate-related incidents (wildfires, floods, storms) and emerging risks such as BESS (battery storage).

*The fires on the North Yorkshire moors in the summer showed only too well why our fire and rescue service needs not only proper funding but up to date PPE and equipment to do their job.*

*Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) have a high risk of fire, toxic fumes and contaminated water – if Councils are approving these schemes, we must ensure our fire services are funded to address any impacts.*

#### **4. Efficiency & transparency (c90 references)**

Requests to cut waste, improve productivity, publish clear plans/targets, and ring-fence spending for frontline.

*We need to see evidence that current funding is being spent wisely and efficiently before increasing it. If funding can be shown to be spent on front line staff then an increase can be better justified.*

*Whilst I agree with funding NYFRS I feel you need to look at the money wasted within the organisation.*

#### **5. Road safety (c70 references)**

General support for investment in road safety but some confusion about why this sits under fire and rescue rather than policing/highways. Clearer explanation and accountability requested.

*Maintaining the services we have is important and further investment in road safety is needed as well as retaining staff which means they must be given the training and resources they need.*

*This is confusing. Why is Road Safety part of the Fire and Rescue element? ... surely a job for North Yorkshire Police.*

#### **6. Rural cover & response / on-call staffing (c70 references)**

Concerns about on-call crew availability, standby at other stations leaving areas uncovered, and longer response times in rural locations.

*My station is short of retained fire people which impacts response times.*

*We are very happy with our local fire and rescue service but there are times when they don't have enough manpower for call-outs.*

# Appendix 1 – Precept Survey 2026/2027



## York and North Yorkshire Precept Survey 2026/2027 (Policing and Fire & Rescue)

David Skaith, the Mayor for York and North Yorkshire, is asking for your views before setting the amount that goes to North Yorkshire Police and, separately, to North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service from your council tax bill. This is known as a Precept.

Principles on which the Mayor will make his final decision are:

1. The minimum possible burden on local taxpayers
2. Having effective, well managed public services that keep people safe & deliver value for money
3. Delivering on local public priorities for both services, including improving the safety of our region's roads

Around 80% of police and fire and rescue budgets are spent on staff who need and deserve a pay rise. The Mayor also has to balance inflation pressure with increasing demand for both emergency services. Unlike most areas, York and North Yorkshire are able to fund the fire and rescue service beyond the national cap of £5 because of devolution arrangements.

Separately, changes to the formula that sets these budgets are anticipated soon which may affect the core funding for these services in our region. The options presented here therefore include the range of options we need to consider because of that uncertainty.

Before setting the levels of precept for the two services, the Mayor would like to know your views on the possible options. When an option might impact on service to the public that is made clear.

- The survey will take no longer than 7 minutes to complete.
- The survey will close at 10am on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Policing, Fire and Crime Team at [info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk](mailto:info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk) or call us on 01423 569 562 to request a copy.

Our privacy notice about how we use and protect your data can be found here: [Survey Privacy Notice](#)

**Q1. Do you pay council tax in York or North Yorkshire?**

- Yes
- No – sorry, you need to pay council tax in York or North Yorkshire to take part in this survey

**Q2. Do you support the Mayor’s core principles in making this decision?**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don’t know</b>
Minimum burden on local taxpayers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public services that keep people safe and give value for money	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivering on local public priorities for both services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# POLICE

North Yorkshire Police currently has a budget of £232 million. Around £104 million of this (45 per cent) comes from your council tax and the other 55 percent mainly comes from the Government.

North Yorkshire Police has worked hard to increase the efficiency of how it delivers its services to ensure the public get value for money. To maintain the current level of service, the Police need an extra £12 million to cover inflation and other ongoing costs. About £4.5 million of this would need to be raised through the council tax, with the remainder delivered from savings and increases in Government funding.

The Government is likely to set a national limit allowing a council tax increase of up to £14 towards policing for an average Band D property. Each £1 raises approximately £325k. The £14 increase would raise about £4.5 million for policing.

**The following options are based on the amount of council tax an average Band D property would pay for policing. This is currently £320.86 per year.**

**Q3. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for policing in York and North Yorkshire?**

- Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)**
  - *Raises around £3.9 million*
  - *Below the organisation's inflationary pressures*
  - *Would likely lead to reductions in current levels of service delivery unless significant further savings could be delivered*
- Up to £14 a year (£1.17 per month)**
  - *Raises around £4.5 million*
  - *Matches the organisation's inflationary pressures.*
  - *Maintains current levels of service delivery*
- Up to £16 a year (£1.33 per month)**
  - *Raises around £5.2 million*
  - *Likely to be higher than the organisation's inflationary pressures*
  - *Allows some investment. For example, in neighbourhood policing, early intervention and prevention activities and tackling violence against women and girls.*
- Up to £18 a year (£1.50 per month)**
  - *Raises around £5.9 million*
  - *Higher than the organisation's inflationary pressures*
  - *Allows more significant investment. For example, in neighbourhood policing, early intervention and prevention activities and tackling violence against women and girls*

**Q4. Do you have any comments about the policing council tax that may help us understand your response?**

# FIRE & RESCUE

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has an annual budget of £51.6 million. Around £35 million of this (67 per cent), comes from your council tax and the remaining 33 percent is funded mainly by the Government and Business Rates.

Last year's council tax increase provided much needed financial stability and allowed for important investment in North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. The Mayor would like to see this work continue and to invest in road safety in line with agreed public priorities.

In 2026-27 it is estimated £3-4.5 million more is needed to maintain current service levels and deliver planned improvements, depending on the final funding formula which determines the level of Government funding we receive. £2-3 million of this would need to come from council tax, with the rest from savings and increased Government funding.

Each £1 raises approximately £325k . An increase of £6 for a Band D property would raise about £2 million.

**The following options are based on the amount of council tax an average Band D property would pay for fire and rescue services. This is currently £107.02 per year.**

**The options show the maximum increase you might pay. The Mayor will reduce these amounts in line with the level of funding received from Government.**

**Q5. How much more do you think it is reasonable to pay each year for fire and rescue services in York and North Yorkshire?**

- Up to £6 a year (50 pence per month)**
  - *Raises around £2 million*
  - *Any changes to the current funding formula will risk current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
  - *No scope for additional service investment*
- Up to £8 a year (67 pence per month)**
  - *Raises around £2.6 million*
  - *May allow limited investment in road safety if no changes to the funding formula*
  - *Any changes to the current funding formula will result in increases in debt and reduce future capital investments*
- Up to £10 a year (83 pence per month)**
  - *Raises around £3.3 million*
  - *Allows for investment in road safety*
  - *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
  - *Maintain current levels of service delivery and the financial security of the service*
- Up to £12 a year (£1 per month)**
  - *Raises around £3.9 million*
  - *Allows for investment in road safety*
  - *Minimises impact of significant changes to the funding formula*
  - *Allows limited investment in other areas of service delivery. For example, in operational training and equipment*

**Q6. Do you have any comments about the fire and rescue council tax that may help us understand your response?**

# ABOUT YOU

We have a duty to promote equality and ensure all parts of the Community are included in this consultation, but the following questions are optional.

## Which area do you live in?

- Craven
- Hambleton
- Harrogate
- Richmondshire
- Ryedale
- Scarborough
- Selby
- York

## How would you describe your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer to self-describe
- Prefer not to say

## What is your age?

- 18-24
- 25-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- 56-65
- 66-75
- 76-85
- Over 85
- Prefer not to say

## Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long-term health issue?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

**What is your ethnic group?**

**White:**

- English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
- Irish
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- Roma
- Any other White background

**Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups:**

- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- Any other mixed or multiple ethnic background

**Asian or Asian British:**

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian or Asian British background

**Black or Black British, Caribbean or African:**

- Caribbean
- African
- Any other Black, Black British, Caribbean or African background

**Other ethnic group:**

- Arab
- Any other ethnic group

- Prefer not to say

**Which of these best reflects your total household income?**

- Less than £10,000
- £10,001 - £20,000
- £20,001 - £40,000
- £40,001 - £60,000
- £60,001 - £80,000
- £80,001 - £100,000
- More than £100,000
- Prefer not to say

**Finally, how did you hear about this survey? Please select all that apply.**

- Community Messenger
- Nextdoor
- Social media
- Email
- Website
- Through staff of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority
- Through the Mayor (David Skaith) or Deputy Mayor (Jo Coles)
- Word of mouth
- Advert/Poster
- Local newspaper
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

This page is intentionally left blank

## POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	21 <sup>st</sup> January 2026
Report Title	Holding to account for the Delivery of Shared Services (formally Enable)

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Police, Fire and Crime Team at [info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk](mailto:info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk).

### Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the holding to account of the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer for delivery of Shared Services.

### 1.0 Background

The delivery of shared services within North Yorkshire has been through a series of significant changes since its inception, during which time there have been four Commissioners, the integration of Fire into the PCC model and more recently the OPFCC moving into the Combined Authority.

Enable North Yorkshire (as it was formally known) was a formal collaboration established between North Yorkshire Police (NYP) and North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service (NYFRS) to integrate support functions like HR, IT, finance and other back-office operations under a single enabling unit. The collaboration aimed to improve efficiency, modernise services, reduce duplication and reinvest savings into frontline operations.

A brief timeline of the collaboration is below.

- **2013:** A Statement of Intent was signed by the then Chief Constable, Chief Fire Officer, Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority and Police & Crime Commissioner to combine support functions. This early commitment saw limited success at the time.
- **2018:** The then Commissioner’s Local Business Case for Fire Governance cemented the ambition to create a shared services model.
- **April 2019:** Enable North Yorkshire was officially launched, with a dedicated Managing Director overseeing joint services and streamlining senior leadership to remove duplication.
- **Feb 2020:** A formal Decision Notice published by the Commissioner at the time (DN 04/2020) approved the collaboration and officially titled it Enable North Yorkshire.
- **June 2024 :** HMICFRS report for shared services (Enable functions) showed positive progress. A subsequent review was undertaken by NYP & NYFRS which recommended a mix of Part-Collaborated and Part Sovereign models tailored to the needs of each function, with implementation aligned to the annual budget cycle.

- **March 2025:** The revised model was approved by the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire & Crime (DMPFC) at the March 25 Strategic Oversight Board (SOB). It was acknowledged that EnableNY was established without in-depth analysis against the prescribed model. The proposals put forward to the DMPFC ensured the outputs and the constituent parts were appropriately resourced and pivoted towards improvement in the delivery of support services. Not supporting the model would result in support services continuing to operate without sufficient resource, being reactive and unable to adapt to ever changing pace of operational requirements.

## 2.0 Introduction

At the inception of Enable, structural changes of people from both organisations began which included co-locating at the NYP headquarters in Northallerton. They remained employed by their respective services but reported day-to-day to the Enable Managing Director. The Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer were accountable to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner via the collaboration governance board. Enable operated under the statutory duty to collaborate mandated by the Policing and Crime Act 2017.

‘Holding to Account’ arrangements in North Yorkshire are just one part of wider arrangements which the DMPFC uses to assure that the statutory functions and wider legal responsibilities are being properly discharged, and the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue plan is being delivered.

The Chief Constable is corporation sole and has operational independence and is responsible for the direction and control of their police force, which includes the management of support services and a duty to ensure value for money across all activities.

The PFCD broader mechanisms for scrutiny and assurance which are used to help inform and underpin the DM’s holding to account arrangements provides an overview of the DM’s approach to engaging with the partnership governance boards on which they are a standing member, including local community safety partnerships and regional collaboration boards.

The legal duties for holding to account are set out in both the Policing Protocol 2023 and the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRORA). These include responsibilities to:

1. hold the CC to account for the exercise of the functions of the office of Chief Constable and the functions of the persons under their direction and control.
2. maintain an efficient and effective police force for the police area
3. scrutinise, support and challenge the overall performance of the force including against the priorities agreed within the Police and Crime Plan.
4. hold the CC to account for the performance of force officers and staff; More specifically, Section 1 (8) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

## 3.0 Holding to Account Arrangements

There is no legal definition of ‘holding to account’, or statutory or Government guidance on what ‘holding to account’ arrangements should look like. Every Police and Crime Commissioner and Mayor/Deputy Mayor hold their Chief Constable to account on behalf of the public, and each one does it in their own way.

The philosophy for the York and North Yorkshire Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime is to focus on the following five areas:

- Performance
- Quality of work
- Value for money

- Using feedback and evidence to improve services
- Examining performance

The Deputy Mayor uses a mix of public meetings, reports and research; partnering organisations such as His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services; and formal complaints to assess the Chief Constable against expectations. Sometimes formal and sometimes informal, ‘holding to account’ is always based the views, needs and feedback from the public.

The Mayor/Deputy Mayor also uses the following to inform their holding to account process in respect of the Chief Constable, For example:

- Meeting the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan
- The Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR), which ensures there is sufficient capability, regionally and nationally, to deal with serious and cross-boundary criminality
- The force’s Code of Ethics
- Its effectiveness and efficiency
- Officers’ engagement with local people
- Equality and diversity
- Child safety and promotion of child welfare
- Monitoring of external inspection reports

A review was undertaken as whilst the Enable collaboration is structurally successful, progress on delivering measurable cost savings and demonstrable efficiency gains has been limited

## 4.0 Assurance Framework

The aim of the assurance framework [Assurance Framework - York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority – Policing, Fire and Crime Team](#) is to set out how the Mayor/DMPFC hold North Yorkshire Police (NYP) and North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service (NYFRS) to account. The Mayor/DMPFC does this by continually monitoring and assesses delivery of outcomes against the Mayor’s priorities which are set out in the [Police and Crime Plan](#), and the [Fire and Rescue Plan](#).

Whilst the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA), through the Mayor, regularly seeks assurance from the services, the DMPFC also scrutinises them to ensure there is formal effective evidence of the positive progress and outcomes being achieved.

The assurance framework supports the four principles outlined by the Centre for Public Scrutiny which state that effective overview and scrutiny should:

- Provide constructive “critical friend” challenge
- Amplify the voices and concerns of the public
- Be led by independent people who take responsibility for their role
- Drive improvement in public services

## 5.0 Best Value for money

The Mayor is committed to the principle of best value for money for taxpayer and ensures as part of the holding to account function this is central to decision making.

The most recent Precept Survey asked the community if they supported the Mayors core principles on which the Mayor will make his final decision:

1. The minimum possible burden on local taxpayers

2. Having effective, well managed public services that keep people safe & deliver value for money
3. Delivering on local public priorities for both services, including improving the safety of our region's roads

The Mayoral Combined Authority gives wider opportunities around estate and capital gains programmes and collaboration opportunities with other public sector partners.

## 6.0 Support Services paper (Annex A)

To address the specific request from the Police, Fire & Crime Panel the DMPFC asked the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer for a formal update, that specifically answers the questions posed by the panel – Annex A provided by Lisa Stitt, Assistant Chief Officer for North Yorkshire Police specifically answers these questions: -

- What changes were taken forward following the review undertaken?
- What is the current governance structure and how is its effectiveness assessed (would be useful to also have update or chart on senior officers)?
- What benefits have been realised following review of the programme?
- Are there identifiable savings because of the work (not including historic projects such as HQ re-location)?
- What plans are there for greater collaboration?
- Are there areas where it has been determined there actually needs to be sovereignty rather than join-up (and why)?

Following an in-depth review and various consultation periods at Chief Officer level, a final decision was made at the Collaboration Steering Board (CSB) on 17 Dec 24. where both the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer, agreed to the recommendations within the overarching business case

A briefing of the options was subsequently provided to the Deputy Mayor on 18 Dec 24 by the Service Chiefs and Assistant Chief Officer. The revised model was approved by the DMPFC at the March 25 Strategic Oversight Board (SOB). At this meeting the DMPFC sought specific assurances from NYP and NYFRS on:

- How they would monitor the impact of this change
- How they will ensure this delivers value for money

The Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer are responsible for the delivery of the shared services model. The DMPFC will hold the services to account model using the assurance framework that is detailed above.

## POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	21 January 2025
Report Title	Briefing Paper: Enable Review – Support Services Transformation

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Police, Fire and Crime Team at [info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk](mailto:info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk).

### Purpose of this report

This report provides an overview of the outcomes and ongoing activity following the Enable Review of Support Services for North Yorkshire Police (NYP), and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS).

### Background

EnableNY was originally established as a collaborative Support Services model for NYP and NYFRS. It was set up at pace without some of the in-depth analysis or consideration of gaining optimal efficiency. Over time, performance issues and perceptions of unfairness emerged, particularly due to differing terms and conditions for staff and a lack of flexibility to meet operational demands; a self-service model did not provide an agile service to the front-line services it was designed to support. In 2024, an independent review by Practice to Progress (P2P) and further internal analysis highlighted the need for structural reform. On 6 June 24, under direction of new Police, Fire and Mayoral Combined Authority leadership teams the task was to “**identify structural options for support service delivery**”. The review focused on five key functional areas: **Finance, People Services, Information Communications & Technology (ICT), Transport & Logistics**, and **Estates** and used the following seven elements as the framework: **Leadership, Strategy, Structure, Systems, Processes, People, Culture** and **Governance**.

The Design Principles of the review were as follows:

- a. Provide agile Support Services that enable the delivery of policing and fire capabilities that mean the people of York and North Yorkshire are kept safe and feel safe (**Leadership, Strategy, Structure, Systems, Processes, People, Culture and Governance**).
- b. Job Roles must be at the appropriate level with no grade inflammation; we must empower our personnel to deliver the roles for which they are appropriately skilled and trained (**Leadership**).
- c. The design must be Proactive and not Reactive in order to meet the Operational intent; we must be outputs focused and agile to meeting the emergent demands of blue light organisations (**Strategy**).

- d. No growth where it is not needed; operate within the current finance and people envelope and only create additional posts where it is necessary to deliver business outputs (**Structures**).
- e. No duplications where roles already deliver elsewhere in the services; our support services personnel deliver technical and professional roles which should not be duplicated elsewhere (**Systems**).
- f. No overlaps or cross-cutting and re-role posts where necessary; perform a role once and perform it well (**Structures**).
- g. Trust in the functions that they know the right way to deliver the options; empower our professional support service personnel at the right level and avoid matter being escalated to higher levels where they should be dealt with at another level, by subject matter experts (**Leadership & People**).
- h. Where there are opportunities, the leadership and management costs are appropriate, this creating the right amount of leadership not additional leadership where it is not required (**Structures & Processes**).

All this is underpinned by **People**, **Culture**, and the strict adherence to **Governance**. The Support Services are part of the operational structures of policing and fire and are accountable to both Chief Officer Teams. The Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer are in turn, held to account by the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime as part of the governance, as set out in more detail under section 2 below.

The resulting business case recommended a mix of Part-Collaborated and Part-Sovereign models tailored to the needs of each function, with implementation aligned to the annual budget cycle. The revised model is endorsed by both the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer and was approved by the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire & Crime at the March 25 Strategic Oversight Board. Consultation on the revised organisational design models took place during Summer 2025, culminating in agreement of the new structures in September 2025 and October 2025 (for Transport & Logistics). Activity is ongoing to resource these structures.

## Activity Update

### 1. What changes were taken forward following the review?

- **Structural Changes:** The review recognised that the previous structures under EnableNY were incompatible to deliver proactive and effective operational outputs for both police and fire. It also highlighted that EnableNY was under invested when it was created. Structurally, the review proposed the adoption of a part-collaborated, part-sovereign model for Finance (which includes Procurement and Purchasing and Pensions and Payroll) and People Services, with a fully collaborated model for ICT, Estates and Transport and Logistics. This new model, which was subject to Staff Consultation, came into being on 1 September 2025 for most Directorates and for Transport & Logistics on 20 October 2025. Recruitment for new or adjusted posts is currently ongoing. All new personnel employed in collaborated roles will be employed on NYP contracts. Personnel carrying out sovereign roles for either fire or police will be employed on contracts of those organisations. The simplification of contracts for those in joint roles mitigates against the different terms and conditions personnel are on when carrying out the same or similar roles.

- **Branding:** The 'enableNY' or 'Enable' brand is no more. Functions are now referred to by their functional output such as ICT or People Services and when referring to the collective (all Functional Areas) it is known as Support Services. The functions are fully nested within the police and fire organisations they support and are not a separate "entity" as EnableNY was previously perceived. Additionally, all jobs have been assessed to ensure their grading is appropriate to the output of the role. This creation of new or revised roles was about ensuring roles were delivered at the right level, not by introducing more senior roles. As such, the bulk of the new roles are in lower grades. Overall, 19 new posts have been created or moved into Support Services as a result of the review. Across the Functions, job titles have been standardised to ensure they reflect the professional roles performed.

## 2. What is the current governance structure and how is its effectiveness assessed?

- **Governance Structure:** The collaboration is governed by the monthly Support Services Steering Board (SSSB), jointly chaired by the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer. SSSB oversees all collaborated elements, reporting on joint programme and project activity. The Mayoral Combined Authority Statutory Officers also attend. The SSSB oversees all collaborative activity. Matters that relate specifically to police or fire, for example personnel, finance and budget setting, are governed for police through the Chief Officer Team Board and, for fire, through the Strategic Leadership Board. This reflects the principle that the functions work for and to the respective police and fire service and are not a combined entity in themselves, as was the perception of EnableNY.
- **Escalation:** Matters requiring Strategic Oversight Board approval are escalated from the SSSB or the respective Chief Officer/Strategic Leadership Boards for single-force/service activities.
- **Assessment of Effectiveness:** Effectiveness is monitored through regular reviews including Monthly Performance Meetings, updates to SSSB, alignment with operational priorities and quarterly performance reviews into SOB. The governance model is designed to ensure accountability, transparency, and responsiveness to evolving need; the Support Services functions are accountable to the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer for their outputs, in the same way as they rest of their organisations are.

## 3. What benefits have been realised following review of the programme?

- **External Validation:** It is worthy of note that His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) have, in the last year, conducted inspections of both NYFRS and NYP. The inspection of fire highlighted improvements in the Support Services functions, notably in the area of "making the best use of resources" moving from inadequate to good, "getting the right people with the right skills" moving from inadequate to good and "managing performance and developing leaders" moving from requires improvement to good. This represents one of the most significant improvements for a Fire and Rescue Service in a single inspection cycle.

While the police final report is expected in Spring 26, the initial verbal feedback from HMICFRS indicates a comparable improvement in the support services functions with the Inspectorate having little concern over the outputs it delivers and it being on positive trajectory, which was not the case for previous inspections. Alongside the HMICFRS inspections, assessments by our internal auditors have highlighted "substantial assurance" in areas such as recruitment and selection, equality and diversity and governance.

- **Operational Impact:** The previous model of EnableNY was designed as a self-service model. The creation of a proactive Support Services has freed up uniformed officers in both Police and Fire for frontline duties by reducing administrative burdens. Once recruitment is complete and the new posts are resourced (likely towards the end of the financial year due to recruitment and vetting clearances) Police and Fire operational personnel will see the full benefits.
- **Regionally aligned service delivery:** The restructured model has moved or created posts that are regionally aligned across the county in the core hubs of Scarborough, York and Harrogate, rather than posts mainly located at the Joint headquarters in Northallerton. This includes:
  - the creation of local ICT hubs to better support local operational teams replacing the visiting ICT Surgery Team, who previously visited these sites once a week, with permanently located teams. This will result in better service delivery at a local level, along with a significant decrease in operational officers travel time to return to HQ for ICT matter, which will now be dealt with at a local level.
  - The realignment of Estates Surveyors to be regionally based, again at Scarborough, York and Harrogate, as well as HQ Northallerton, who are responsible for all building in their region, will play a significant part in the modernisation and planning of our future estate and also supports operational teams on a daily, rather than visiting on an ad-hoc basis;
  - The restructuring of the delivery of Human Resource Business Partner (HRBP) activity to be regionally and functionally aligned, with named HRBP working alongside operational commanders to deliver their Workforce Plan and be the first point of contact for all HR matters at the local level, significantly reducing the need to operational personnel to self-serve and deal with multiple individuals on similar matters. This is a significant organisation design change to better support front line activity and deliver the workforce plans for both police and fire;
  - In addition, for NYFRS, the creation of a Fire Professional Standards department, housed within People Services, as function that did not previously exist;
  - The movement of Learning & Development (new Police Officer training) back into People Services, where it sat prior to the creation of EnableNY, to sit in alongside our Leadership and Inclusion training bringing all non-specialist training into one area.
- **Resilience and Flexibility:** The new model provides greater resilience, avoids multiple single points of failure, and develops subject matter expertise across functions.
- **Service Improvements:** Enhanced efficiency, improved service delivery, better compliance, and increased asset value are being realised, particularly in Estates and ICT.
- **Cultural Change:** The move away from the enableNY brand and towards integrated Support Services is fostering a more unified organisational culture with the functions viewed as a central and pivotal part of policing and fire and not as a separate entity.
- Investing in the functions has already delivered benefits, some of which are highlighted below. As posts are recruited and resources established, further benefits will be delivered:
  - Moving the entire ICT Wide Area Network for Police and Fire from Virgin Media to NYNet with minimal operational input, competitively procured and contracted in record time;

- Replacing Body Warn Video for the entire force, including docking kiosk upgrades resulting in better user experience, quality of data and evidence capture to support investigations and prosecutions.
- ICT able to install improved radio coverage at York Designer Outlet.
- Implementing a new Fire & Rescue Data Rescue Platform;
- ICT designing and delivering 'Atlas' a system to significantly improve the process and speed of DBS check, a system now being rolled out by other Forces, highlighted as Best Practice with HMICFRS and the foundation methodology of which is being used to develop similar tools for other security and multiple platform checking tools;
- Enhanced ICT and Transport & Logistics support to the Langdale Moor incident, providing better connectivity, agility, servicing and maintenance;
- In-house ICT development and delivery of Blueprint, a streamlined process for officers and police staff investigators to prepare case files resulting in improvement in case file quality, improvement in the time taken to prepare files for court and reduce errors. This is already praised by our wider Criminal Justice partners and naturally will support delivering a better outcome to victims of crime;
- A reduction in long-term sickness and modified duties across both police and fire by the introduction of a focused review, roadshows and education across the county, aligning the HRBPs and specialised People Operations personnel with operational leaders;
- Proactive Trauma Informed Training delivered by the specialised Wellbeing Team, now being used as a benchmark by other forces;
- Recruitment activity at almost every level of police and fire with one joint recruitment team carefully balancing the peaks and troughs of the two organisations, adopting a renewed targeted recruitment approach and attracting an unprecedented number of applications to all posts and bulk recruitment; graded as "substantial reassurance" by the internal auditors;
- Upgrading of the Police Human Resource and Duty Management system;
- The creation of Resourcing Books for all police and fire teams to better understand and own, at the local level, the headcount and, in addition, their budget from a financial perspective. This is created through the close alignment of HRBPs and finance accountants;
- A significant improvement in financial management of both police and fire budgets, previously highlighted by HMICFRS as an area of concern and now praised as extremely well managed;
- Cashable procurement savings of c.£900k in 25/26 and a budget saving of £110k in the capital programme through smarter and including joint procurement. This will only improve as new contracts come into being;
- Consolidated accounts produced for NYP, NYFRS and the YNYCA for the first time;
- The refurbishment of Ripon joint Police & Fire Station, vastly improving the standards and sustainability of the building, creating a new public front office and installing a new Voluntary Attendance suite enabling video interviews and negating the need for officers to have to travel and conduct such interviews at other stations;
- Through our restructured Estates team model, the Estates Support Technicians have invested in 'Degafill' to fill potholes across our broad estate, saving us thousands of pounds each year in external contractors conducting these repairs and allowing them to be completed quickly, thus supporting the preservation of not only our sites but vehicles on those sites, in particular when responding to emergencies;
- Improvements to the estates at Malton Fire Station with windows repaired and repainted, walks repaired and internal spaces updated;
- Improvement made across all our custody facilities;
- Awarded the National Police Estates Group Best Project for Acer House, the new victims centre in York that opened in 2025;
- The creation of a new dedicated Video Recorded Interview facility in a discrete, welcoming, safe and secure location in Northallerton, managed and delivered by the

regionally aligned Surveyor working direct with the Criminal Justice team and wider partners;

- The removal of a significant amount of asbestos, across multiple sites, a legacy of years of fiscal underinvestment across our estate;
- Upgrades to LED lights and sensors across multiple sites, notably in Masham and Filey Fire station;
- The installation of an air source heat pump onto Harrogate Police Station;
- Using in-house specialist skills and knowledge, improvement to our remotest site – Lofthouse Fire Station – at minimal costs to the public purse but delivering maximum value to Fire personnel there ahead of the harsh winter season;
- The replacement and configuration of aging Public Order Carriers with state of the art carriers now capable of meeting the most strategic public order requirements;
- The replacement of a significant proportion of our grey fleet vehicles with modern, more efficient vehicles;
- The introduction of telematics in the majority of police vehicles, daily monitored by Transport & Logistics who, working with operational commanders continually pivot the fleet to meet operational demand. The installation of telematics in some fire fleet is imminent.

#### **4. Are there identifiable savings as a result of the work (not including historic projects such as HQ re-location)?**

- **Cost Savings:** The review recommends investment (total uplift of £696,660 split £182,690 NYP and £513,970 NYFRS) needed to reinforce the growth for fire (or both) was ultimately required to deliver the needs of a modern service, as opposed to the reduced pre-review model. It also identifies opportunities for cost savings through optimised property management, energy conservation, and effective joint procurement. Activities carried out in the short time since the review was implemented include a new joint contract for Buildings Maintenance works for the c.100 buildings across the police, fire and joint estate delivering much improved response times for maintenance matters, along with improvements to the estate. In addition, the estates team have contracted for, facilitated and will deliver by the end of the financial year solar panels on five buildings across the estate. This could not have been delivered without having restructured the estates team. This will deliver savings to the revenue spend on utilities with plans for additional buildings in subsequent financial years.
- **Efficiency Gains:** Streamlined processes and modernised systems are expected to reduce administrative costs and improve financial sustainability, though the primary focus is on reinvestment for improved service rather than direct cashable savings. By the end of the financial year, Fire will be on the same financial management system as Police. The Mayoral Combined Authority will also move onto the same financial management system in the subsequent financial year(s), creating a much more efficient accounting methodology.

#### **5. What plans are there for greater collaboration?**

- **Collaborated Models:** ICT and Estates have moved to fully collaborated models, with shared teams and resources. Further collaboration will be considered where it is in the interests of best value, service delivery and public outcomes.
- **Support Services Steering Board (SSSB):** The new board drives further collaboration, monitors joint activities, and identifies additional opportunities for shared working.
- **Continuous Review:** The phased approach allows for ongoing assessment and evidenced expansion of collaboration, as funding and operational needs evolve. In addition, Support Services will continue to work with Police Forces and Fire & Rescue Services regionally and nationally where opportunities for collaboration exist, as well as at the macro level with Blue Light Commercial and harnessing opportunities from the Home Office-led Police Reform

programme, for fire, with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for other central government initiatives.

**6. Are there areas where it has been determined there actually needs to be sovereignty rather than join-up (and why)?**

- **Finance and People Services:** Certain elements require sovereignty due to distinct systems, statutory requirements, or operational needs (e.g., separate accounting for police and fire, specific HR support). The alignment of Human Resource Business Partners with the areas of business they directly support is pivotal in the delivery of the Strategic Workforce Plans for both Police and Fire.
- **Rationale:** Sovereignty is maintained where collaboration would not be cost-effective, would compromise compliance, or would fail to meet the specific operational demands of either service.

Lisa Stitt  
Assistant Chief Officer  
North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service

This page is intentionally left blank

## POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	January 21 <sup>st</sup> 2026
Report Title	NYFRS Community Risk Management Plan 2025-2029

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Police, Fire and Crime Team at [info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk](mailto:info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk).

### 1.0 Purpose of this report

To provide an update on the development and recent publication of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service’s (NYFRS) new Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2025-2029, formerly known as the Risk and Resource Model.

### 2.0 Background

Every fire and rescue service must produce and consult on a CRMP, as required by the Fire and Rescue National Framework (2018)<sup>1</sup>. The Plan provides an assessment of risks facing our communities and outlines how the Service will continue to adapt and improve to meet these challenges, to keep the people of York and North Yorkshire safe.

The CRMP acts as the strategic roadmap for how North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service plans for the future and uses its resources effectively. The new CRMP will support delivery of the Mayor’s priorities in the Fire and Rescue Plan 2025-2029.

The Mayor approves the CRMP but delegates its development to the Chief Fire Officer, to define the risk and resourcing across the service area.

### 3.0 Developing the CRMP 2025-2029

#### Development

NYFRS published its updated Community Risk Profile (CRP) in June 2025, providing a comprehensive assessment of foreseeable risks based on incident data, demographics, infrastructure, and partner insights. The priority risks include; accidental dwelling fires, road traffic collisions, fires which impact businesses and the growing impact of climate related incidents. The CRP can be accessed here: [Community Risk Profile 2025 - North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service](#).

<sup>1</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5aec5974ed915d42f7c6bf18/National\\_Framework\\_-\\_final\\_for\\_web.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5aec5974ed915d42f7c6bf18/National_Framework_-_final_for_web.pdf)

The CRMP sets out how prevention, protection, and response activities will collectively mitigate these risks. The Plan also includes wider strategic objectives (Areas of Focus) which describe the actions the Service will take to improve its service to communities as an organisation and employer.

Over seventy Areas of Focus have been identified across twelve key functions: *Prevention, Protection, Response, On-call, Resilience, Operational Preparedness, Collaboration, People, Culture and Values, Estates, Fleet, Data, Digital and Technology*.

These Areas of Focus were informed by a range of sources, including the assessment of risk within the refreshed Community Risk Profile, findings from independent inspections, the Service's change pipeline and analysis of Service performance. Some Areas of Focus continue existing work, while others reflect new priorities. Together, they demonstrate NYFRS's commitment to keeping communities safe and continuously improving as both a service provider and employer.

In June 2025, the Chief Fire Officer presented the Areas of Focus and two service delivery change proposals to the Deputy Mayor's Strategic Oversight Board:

- Extending the Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) attendance policy from 12 hours to 24 hours (no attendance at commercial premises without sleeping risk unless fire confirmed).
- Replacing one of the two water bowsers.

Following scrutiny of the rationale for the two proposals, the Deputy Mayor approved progression to formal consultation.

### **Public Consultation**

Public engagement was central to shaping the CRMP. Foundations were laid through consultation on the Mayor's Fire and Rescue Plan priorities and the Chief Fire Officer's CRMP planning principles in Autumn 2024. Ahead of formal consultation, NYFRS undertook a two-week staff engagement period.

The formal eight-week CRMP public consultation ran from 7 July to 7 September 2025 and was jointly delivered by the YNYCA and NYFRS. A total of 802 responses were received, representing broad demographic and geographic coverage. 60 responses came from NYFRS employees. Analysis included comparison of feedback before and after the Fylingdales Moor fire was declared a major incident (13 August 2025) to assess any impact on public views.

At the Deputy Mayor's Strategic Oversight Boards in September and October, NYFRS presented its response to the consultation findings, including measures to address public concerns. The Deputy Mayor reviewed these responses in detail and provided additional direction and stipulations as part of the approval process for the CRMP.

The North Yorkshire Fire Brigades Union response was received post-consultation and given special consideration. All consultation documents and responses are appended to the Mayor’s Decision Notice.

## 4.0 Approval and Publication

In December 2025, the Mayor made the decision to approve the NYFRS Community Risk Management Plan 2025–2029, including its Areas of Focus and the two proposed service delivery changes. The Decision Notice can be found here: [Decision - Approval of the new NYFRS CRMP 2025-2029](#).

The CRMP 2025-2029 can be read here: [CRMP - North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service](#).

Approval was subject to the following assurances and content changes:

### **Automatic Fire Alarm Policy**

The Deputy Mayor sought additional assurances regarding potential delays in the rare event that an AFA signals a genuine fire, particularly at commercial premises in remote rural areas where the response time to a genuine emergency would be longer and where it is possible a genuine fire would take longer to be confirmed. The Service will:

- Implement a comprehensive communication plan prior to the policy change to ensure responsible persons and Alarm Receiving Centres are fully informed.
- Continue to work with responsible persons to reinforce legal responsibilities and improve understanding of fire safety obligations.
- Deliver a targeted business engagement programme, focusing on commercial premises in rural and remote areas where response times are unavoidably longer.
- Continue its core regulatory responsibilities, with specialist fire safety staff auditing all high-risk premises every three years in line with the Risk-Based Inspection Programme.
- Maintain an effective call-challenging process to ensure AFAs are appropriately assessed. An emergency response will always be provided if a fire is confirmed.

### **Water Bowser Replacement**

In response to consultation feedback, early learning from the requirements of the Fylingdales Moor fire and subsequent assurances sought by the Deputy Mayor, a number of changes to the Areas of Focus have been made:

- A new Area of Focus has been introduced to strengthen resilience to major incidents, ‘Developing a Community Asset Register and formalising contracts with third-party providers to support our response to wildfires and other Major Incidents.’
- The original CRMP proposal, which focused on ‘exploring new technologies and partnerships to enhance wildfire resilience,’ has been broadened and made more explicit. It now states: ‘Replacing one of our two water bowsers and redirecting funds towards wildfire training, alternative vehicles, equipment, and PPE to improve rural response in line with the community risk profile.’ The Service will seek to procure the

most appropriate vehicles to address identified risks across the service area. To note, NYFRS will continue to maintain the second water bowser for as long as it is operationally and/or financially viable.

- The recent Fylingdales Moor fire highlighted the critical importance of water logistics to deliver capacity way in excess of the capabilities NYFRS could hold in Service, in tackling large-scale rural fires. In response, the Deputy Mayor has asked for an additional Area of Focus within the CRMP: 'We will closely work with our partners to ensure we maintain suitable water provision across the service area.

It is important context that, at the height of the Fylingdales Moor fire, a total of 15 water bowsers were deployed, comprising the two NYFRS vehicles alongside additional larger capacity units supplied externally, including those transported by tractors. In late October, the Deputy Mayor met with senior officials from Yorkshire Water to recognise the resources they had contributed during the incident and to discuss the importance of further strengthening partnership coordination to ensure reliable water provision during periods of multiple simultaneous incidents across the Yorkshire region.

## 5.0 Delivery and Reporting

NYFRS is still in a position where it needs to balance its ambition and improvement journey with maintaining financial security and sustainability. Investment needs to be carefully considered to ensure maximum impact and value for money, whilst still seeking opportunities for efficiencies when possible.

A costed and prioritised investment plan will be developed to enable effective and efficient delivery of the new CRMP.

Performance and progress against the new CRMP will be monitored and scrutinised through the Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate's Assurance Framework, as well as through independent inspections by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS). NYFRS will provide internal assurance via its governance structures and the publication of an annual performance update.

## North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

21 January 2026

### Progress on Issues Raised by the Panel

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To advise Members of

- (i) progress on issues which the Panel has raised at previous meetings; and
- (ii) any other matters that have arisen since the last meeting and which relate to the work of the Panel.

#### 2.0 Background

2.1 This report lists the Panel's previous resolutions and/or when it requested further information to be submitted to future meetings. The table below provides a list of issues which were identified at previous Panel meetings, and which have not yet been resolved. The table also indicates where the issues are regarded as completed and will therefore not be carried forward to this agenda item at the next Panel meeting.

2.2 The Panel is asked to consider whether any further follow-up is required.

	Date	Minute number and subject (if applicable)	Panel resolution or issue raised	Comment / date required	Status
1	1 May 2025	82 / Rural and Wildlife Crime	To receive update from Deputy Mayor following discussions with CPS on securing prosecutions for wildlife crime.	When available.	In progress. See Appendix A.
2	1 May 2025	83 / Domestic violence in rural areas	Seek collaboration with the Deputy Mayor on representations to govt regarding removal of firearms from individuals arrested on suspicion of serious sexual violence.	When available.	In progress. See Appendix A.
3	8 Oct 2025	109 / Members' Questions	Issue raised regarding an ASB incident which had not been actioned.	21.01.26	In progress. See Appendix A.
4	8 Oct 2025	109 / Members' Questions	Start Safe Stay Safe app to be promoted more widely – Panel Members asked if the app could be promoted more widely, including through parish and town councils.	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.

5	8 Oct 2025	109 / Members' Questions	How many women were offered therapeutic treatment through the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)? How many accepted/rejected? Can it be broken down into whether they are from North Yorks and from York?	21.01.26	Response provided. See Appendix A.
6	8 Oct 2025	109 / Members' Questions	What is the usage of the centre by West Yorkshire Police and/or other police areas rather than North Yorkshire Police with the therapeutic treatment? Are there numbers available on this?	21.01.26	Response provided. See Appendix A.
7	8 Oct 2025	109 / Members' Questions	Does North Yorkshire Police benefit financially from other forces using Acer House?	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.
8	8 Oct 2025	109 / Members' Questions	Have there been any times when the 24/7 service is not available at Acer House?	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.
9	8 Oct 2025	110 / Langdale Moor Fire Update	Could the fire and rescue service performance pack be shared with the Panel.	19.11.25	Completed. See Appendix A.
10	8 Oct 2025	110 / Langdale Moor Fire Update	Panel requested to be kept updated on the progress of the ongoing investigations into Langdale Moor wildfire and provided with info on the finalised costs of the incident when available.	February 2026	In progress.
11	8 Oct 2025	110 / Langdale Moor Fire Update	Panel asked about the approach of the Fire and Rescue Service to munitions fires and how the wildfire incident has informed future thinking.	February 2026	Completed. See Appendix A.
12	8 Oct 2025	111 / Protecting Vulnerable People	Question related to Operation Encompass and how it aims to protect children from sexual abuse to help them to recover.	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.

13	8 Oct 2025	111 / Protecting Vulnerable People	Question (FF) on the Community Safety Serious Violence Fund (section 3.6): What is the allocation for 2025/26 and how will it be spent? Written Response to be provided	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.
14	8 Oct 2025	111 / Protecting Vulnerable People	What is the support given to adults and child victims in respect of therapeutic intervention whilst a criminal investigation is ongoing and is there data on the current time lag between an investigation ending and when any court proceedings are completed?	21.01.26	Partially completed. See Appendix A.
15	8 Oct 2025	111 / Protecting Vulnerable People	Is data held for York and North Yorkshire on the number of children under the age of 12 (that have been subject to sexual abuse) and how long the court delays are in these cases?	21.01.26	Partially completed. See Appendix A.
16	8 Oct 2025	112 / Online Fraud and Cyber Crime	Question raised regarding 3.4 dashboard 'Other Fraud' (blue bar) is the second highest category, but what does it comprise?	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.
17	8 Oct 2025	112 / Online Fraud and Cyber Crime	Question raised about younger people falling victim to sextortion online blackmail and if we know the scale of it.	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.
18	8 Oct 2025	112 / Online Fraud and Cyber Crime	Request/action regarding promotion of Action Fraud in the wider community.	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.
19	8 Oct 2025	113 / CRMP	Costs of bowsers – would it be cheaper to rent one rather than sticking with existing two?  On the change proposals, it was noted by the Deputy Mayor that	21.01.26	Completed. See Appendix A.

			the FRS was looking at both the alarm extension and the bowser change proposals again to provide assurances to the Deputy Mayor around what the impact on commissioning will involve going forwards. It was stated that “further clarification will be put in the public domain on this in due course.”		
--	--	--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--

### **3.0 Financial Implications**

3.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from this report.

### **4.0 Legal Implications**

4.1 There are no significant legal implications arising from this report.

### **5.0 Equalities Implications**

5.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

### **6.0 Climate Change Implications**

6.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

### **7.0 Recommendations**

7.1 It is recommended that the Panel:

- (a) notes the report
- (b) considers whether any of the points highlighted in this report require further follow-up.

### **Appendices:**

Appendix A: Updates against issues raised by the Panel.

**Background Documents:** None.

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
13 January 2025

Report Author: Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer / nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk

	<b>Query raised</b>	<b>Response from the Policing, Fire and Crime Team (YNYCA)</b>
	<b>Panel meetings prior to Oct 2025</b>	
1	To receive an update from the Deputy Mayor following discussions with CPS on securing prosecutions for wildlife crime.	These discussions have not yet taken place yet, and as such a further update will be provided in due course.
2	Seek collaboration with the Deputy Mayor on representations to govt regarding removal of firearms from individuals arrested on suspicion of serious sexual violence.	<p>The Panel wrote to the Deputy Mayor on 21 May 2025 requesting that representations are made to central government that in order to protect the most vulnerable in our communities there needs to be a standardisation of approach to ensuring all firearms licences are suspended or revoked where an individual is under arrest on suspicion of rape or serious sexual violence.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor is awaiting further details from the Panel regarding the specifics of the case referred to in order that NYP may review.</p>
	<b>Members' Questions</b>	<b>Response</b>
3	Issue raised regarding an ASB incident which had not been actioned in Selby area.	This matter is currently live and ongoing with the PFC Customer Service Team. The Customer Service Team are working with the Panel Member in question and NYP. As such this issue will be removed from the log and dealt with separately as a casework matter.
4	Start Safe Stay Safe app to be promoted more widely – Panel Members asked if the app could be promoted more widely, including through parish and town councils.	The app was launched on 16 September with a press release. The app and toolkit have been shared with all town and parish councils on the suggestion of the panel. The app will be further promoted on our social media channels during our “16 days of activism campaign” and is regularly being promoted at various community engagement events the team attend.
5	How many women were offered therapeutic treatment through the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)? How many accepted/rejected? Can this be broken	The SARC provider is not commissioned to provide therapeutic treatment to victims. The provider is commissioned to provide Forensic Medical Examinations if appropriate with crisis support whilst they are at the Centre, advocating on behalf of the victim during their time in the Centre, answering any questions or concerns they may have and make onward referrals to aftercare services as required. All victims are routinely offered onward referrals onto ISVA services.

	<p>down into whether they are from North Yorks and from York?</p>	<p>Panel members can access our <a href="#">Commissioned Services pages</a> if they would like to learn more about services commissioned by the PFC Directorate.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor agreed to share data about usage of Acer House. The below data is from NHS England regarding Qtr 1 performance compared with the same period from the previous year.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="808 469 1942 959"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Q1 2025/26</th> <th>Q1 2024/25</th> <th>Difference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Referrals</td> <td>82</td> <td>74</td> <td>+8 / 11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examinations undertaken</td> <td>40</td> <td>30</td> <td>+10 / 33%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phone/Email Advice only</td> <td>39</td> <td>35</td> <td>+4 / 11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Successful Contacts with Service</td> <td>79</td> <td>65</td> <td>+14 / 22%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Q1 2025/26	Q1 2024/25	Difference	Referrals	82	74	+8 / 11%	Examinations undertaken	40	30	+10 / 33%	Phone/Email Advice only	39	35	+4 / 11%	All Successful Contacts with Service	79	65	+14 / 22%
	Q1 2025/26	Q1 2024/25	Difference																			
Referrals	82	74	+8 / 11%																			
Examinations undertaken	40	30	+10 / 33%																			
Phone/Email Advice only	39	35	+4 / 11%																			
All Successful Contacts with Service	79	65	+14 / 22%																			
6	<p>What is the usage of the centre by West Yorkshire Police and/or other police areas rather than North Yorkshire Police with the therapeutic treatment? Are there numbers available on this?</p>	<p>As above – no therapeutic services delivered from the Centre. We do have numbers on SARC Forensic Medical Examinations completed at the Centre for victims from other areas (See section 7).</p>																				
7	<p>Does North Yorkshire Police benefit financially from other forces using Acer House?</p>	<p>No, victims from across the Yorkshire and Humber may be seen at the Centre in York (as appropriate) as part of the Regional Adult SARC Contract.</p>																				

8	Have there been any times when the 24/7 service is not available at Acer House?	Adult SARC services are available 24/7 in line with the Regional Contract. Whilst Acer House is not staffed 24/7, wider provisions remain available.
	<b>Langdale Moor Fire</b>	<b>Response</b>
9	Could the fire and rescue service performance pack be shared with the Panel.	The performance pack for the 20 November 2025 Online Public meeting was circulated to all Panel members for information. These reports will continue to be shared with Panel once published by the PFC Team.
10	Panel requested to be kept updated on the progress of the ongoing investigations into Langdale Moor wildfire and provided with info on the finalised costs of the incident when available.	This has been noted and agreed – further information to be shared with Panel when available.
11	Panel asked about the approach of the Fire and Rescue Service to munitions fires and how the wildfire incident has informed future thinking.	<p>Response from North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS):-</p> <p>At Fylingdales Moor, we responded to a large wildfire where more than 20 explosions took place across the site due to buried unexploded ordnance (UXO). As a result, we had to change our operational tactics and limit firefighting activity to established access routes and prepared pathways.</p> <p>This significantly increased the complexity of the incident and reduced the types of actions crews could safely carry out. The presence of UXO meant that we continued firefighting, but we had to do so in a more limited and controlled way, as some of the more direct and intrusive tactics were not possible without creating unacceptable risk. Managing incidents of this kind is always a balance between maintaining safety and using other methods to attack and control the fire. It was due to these unforeseen, high-risk conditions that Bellwin funding was granted.</p> <p>Our approach is fully consistent with PI2016/01 – Guidance for Unexploded Ordnance in Infrastructure Activities, which is issued by the UK Ministry of Defence through the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). This guidance sets out how organisations should assess and manage UXO risk when operating in environments where unexploded ordnance may be</p>

	<p>present, and it reinforces the need to prioritise life safety and maintain appropriate safety cordons. The guidance can be accessed <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Our own NYFRS procedures, training and operational guidance mirror these same principles, particularly around risk assessment, life-safety prioritisation, and operating at a safe distance where UXO risk is present. These principles apply equally in wildfire environments: when UXO is present, responders must operate at a safe distance and public safety must remain the highest priority.</p> <p>Both the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) debrief and our internal organisational debrief are still in progress. These reviews are deliberately thorough to ensure that learning is accurately captured and can meaningfully inform future practice. Once they are complete, we will review our procedures in line with the findings. However, it is foreseeable that the safe evacuation and stand-off distances for responders are unlikely to change, and that future learning is more likely to focus on how we further enhance alternative and remote methods of firefighting/containment in these types of instances.</p> <p>As part of this learning, several changes have been reflected in the CRMP to strengthen our capability to deal with similar incidents in the future. These changes enhance our capacity to use alternative tactics and equipment where it is safe to do so and improve how we plan for and respond to wildfires. Two Areas of Focus have been added to support this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Developing a Community Asset Register and formalising contracts with third-party providers to support our response to wildfires and other major incidents.</li> <li>2. Working closely with partners to ensure we maintain suitable and resilient water provision across the Service area.</li> </ol> <p>Following the Fylingdales Moor fire and feedback received through public consultation, we have also broadened a further CRMP Area of Focus to ensure investment better reflects wildfire risk: Replacing one of our two water bowsers and redirecting investment toward wildfire training, alternative vehicles, equipment and PPE, in order to improve water provision and strengthen our wildfire and rural incident response, in line with the community risk profile.</p>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<b>Protecting Vulnerable People</b>	<b>Response</b>
12	Question related to Operation Encompass and how it aims to protect children from sexual abuse to help them to recover.	<p>This is a question for North Yorkshire Police who have provided the below response:</p> <p>What is Operation Encompass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A national early-notification scheme linking police and educational settings to support children affected by domestic abuse incidents at home.</li> <li>• It ensures that if a child is present or connected to a domestic abuse incident attended by police, their school’s designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is alerted before the next school day, enabling prompt pastoral and emotional support.</li> <li>• Following the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, this practice became statutory, making it a legal obligation for police forces in England to notify schools.</li> </ul> <p>How It Works (General Process)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Incident attended - Police attend a domestic abuse incident where children are present, witness it, or are connected to the household.</li> <li>2. Notification sent - An early alert email is sent to the school's Key Adult or DSL before the next school day. It includes the child’s name, incident date, police reference, and basic details.</li> <li>3. Follow-up details             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Later in the day, the school receives a more detailed report:</li> <li>• date/time/location of the incident</li> <li>• persons involved and their relationships</li> <li>• whether the child was present, and their location</li> <li>• observations about the child’s demeanour and whether they were spoken to by officers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. School support -The DSL uses this information to offer trauma-informed, personalised support, adjusting the child’s day or schedule to mitigate emotional impact.</li> <li>5. Training &amp; resources - Operation Encompass provides free training and materials for staff in schools, nurseries, and childminders to better identify and help affected children.</li> </ol> <p>North Yorkshire Police: Specific Implementation</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated team: A two-officer unit within the department's Vulnerability Assessment Team manages the operation.</li> <li>• Structured notifications: Early-alert email: Sent rapidly with minimal but critical details (child's name, date, reference number). Full report: Provides comprehensive context—incident specifics, who was involved, child's presence/location, demeanour, and background.</li> <li>• Purpose: Empower schools to understand each child's lived experience and deliver tailored pastoral care.</li> <li>• Advice-driven: Early alerts come with guidance on follow-up actions and emphasise trauma-informed approaches.</li> <li>• Contact point: For further queries, schools can reach out to the police unit via <a href="mailto:opencompass@northyorkshire.police.uk">opencompass@northyorkshire.police.uk</a>.</li> </ul> <p>Impact and Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timely intervention: Alerts before school enables immediate support, reducing children arriving at school in crisis.</li> <li>• Consistent coverage: Applies to all schools and eligible early years settings across the force area.</li> <li>• Staff training: Ensures school-based DSLs and staff are prepared to respond effectively.</li> <li>• Legislative compliance: Fully aligns with national mandatory data-sharing requirements under the Domestic Abuse Act.</li> </ul> <p>Operation Encompass, therefore, plays a key role in North Yorkshire by ensuring that children affected by domestic abuse receive prompt, informed support within education settings. The combination of immediate alerts, structured information, DSL empowerment, and dedicated police coordination makes it a proactive safeguarding tool, embedding trauma-awareness into both policing and educational practice.</p>
13	Question (FF) on the Community Safety Serious Violence Fund (section 3.6): What is the allocation for 2025/26 and how will it be spent?	<p>The total Community Safety Serious Violence Fund (CSSVF) budget 2025-26 is £357,465.17:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SVD specific element £221,692.32</li> <li>• CS £135,772.85</li> </ul>

		<p><a href="#">CSSVF 2025-26 projects</a> shows the total spend against each project and it is referenced if was SV funding only if this helps inform the Panel of the specific detail.</p>
14	<p>What is the support given to adults and child victims in respect of therapeutic intervention whilst a criminal investigation is ongoing and is there data on the current time lag between an investigation ending and when any court proceedings are completed?</p>	<p>This matter has been referred to the Local Criminal Justice Partnership Board. The DMPFC will report back to the Panel in due course. NYP have provided the following information:</p> <p>North Yorkshire Police deploy Family Liaison Officers (FLOs) in line with Authorised Professional Practice and the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) Practice Advice. The Victims' Code also outlines the rights relating to FLO deployment. Detailed records are kept for every deployment; however, these do not distinguish between deployments to victims' families and those involving suspects' families. Each deployment includes a strategy set by the Senior Investigating Officer (SIO), outlining the reasons and specific actions. It is likely that FLOs have been deployed to perpetrators' families in multiple incidents. For example, in domestic homicide cases, FLOs are often assigned to children of both the victim and the perpetrator, as their relationship to the victim necessitates deployment. In cases of child death where parents are suspects, FLOs would not be deployed to the parents but may be assigned to grandparents who have rights under the Victims' Code. Each decision depends on the unique circumstances and family structure of the investigation.</p>
15	<p>Is data held for York and North Yorkshire on the number of children under the age of 12 (that have been subject to sexual abuse) and how long the court delays are in these cases?</p>	<p>Data regarding specific crimes reported are not held by the PFC Directorate as they are recorded and published by NYP.</p> <p>In terms of how many 'IDAS' support for the period (who are the commissioned service provider of our ISVA service): -</p> <p>Q2 of 25/26, 67 of cases being supported were aged were aged 0-15                  Q2 of 24/25, 89 of cases being supported were aged 0-15.</p> <p>The matter of court delays will be picked up with the Local Criminal Justice Partnership Board.</p>

	<b>Tackling Online Fraud and Cyber Crime</b>	<b>Response</b>
16	Question raised regarding 3.4 dashboard 'Other Fraud' (blue bar) is the second highest category, but what does it comprise?	<p>Action Fraud is being replaced, publicly being launched in January 2026 (see action 18). The "Other" category is a "catch-all" and is often large, illustrating the difficulty in classifying the constantly evolving nature of fraud crimes with fixed counting rules.</p> <p>The New Report Fraud tool is working to update and provide better data, further information can be found at <a href="#">A-Z of fraud and cyber crime - Report Fraud</a></p>
17	Question raised about younger people falling victim to sextortion online blackmail and if we know the scale of it.	<p>NYP have run external comms campaigns to raise awareness of sextortion and help people protect themselves and their families. Our School Liaison Officers deliver inputs and interventions in online safety which support the messages to keep young people safe. We also have a page on our public facing website - <a href="#">Online child abuse   North Yorkshire Police</a> - which deals with sextortion.</p> <p>Increasing access to social media by young people as well as increased awareness and confidence to report is potentially behind the increase in reports we have seen specifically from young people under 18. Further details have been circulated to the Panel by NYP on this matter.</p>
18	Request/action regarding promotion of Action Fraud in the wider community.	Action Fraud is being replaced in January 2026 with a new service called Report Fraud. A National campaign is being rolled out in January 2026 which we will actively promote in the New Year.
	<b>CRMP</b>	<b>Response</b>
19	<p>Costs of bowsers – would renting one be cheaper than sticking with existing two?</p> <p>On the change proposals, it was noted by the Deputy Mayor that the FRS was looking at both the alarm extension and the bowser change proposals again to provide assurances to the Deputy</p>	<p>Please see the attached decision notice: <a href="#">DN6/YNYCA/M/2025 - Approval of the new NYFRS Community Risk Management 2025-2029 - York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority – Policing, Fire and Crime Team</a></p>

<p>Mayor around what the impact on commissioning will involve going forwards. It was stated that “further clarification will be put in the public domain on this in due course.”</p>	
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

This page is intentionally left blank

## North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

21 January 2026

### Work Programme

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To invite the Panel to consider its future work programme.

2.0 The Panel is responsible for setting its own work programme taking into account the statutory duties that the Panel must undertake and the priorities defined within the context of the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan. The work programme at Appendix A highlights those issues which have been previously agreed or which have been raised through the Chair since the last meeting.

3.0 The Mayor has published a Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan for 2025/29. These plans identify several key priorities – some of which are common to both plans, others which are not – which are intended to drive forward the Mayor’s vision for York and North Yorkshire to be safe places for all. The below list identifies where the priorities may be best grouped together thematically for the purposes of the Panel work programme, with the headings in bold highlighting which plan the priority is drawn from. This has been done based on identifying areas of focus across four meetings each year (not including the precept meeting). Beneath this are some of the key features of these priorities which may best align with the Panel’s scrutiny work.

- **Stronger Communities (NYP/FRS) / Protected Built Environment (FRS)**
  - Rural and wildlife crime
  - Tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG)
  - Tackling hate crime
  - Neighbourhood policing
  - Flooding response / environmental factors (fire and rescue)
  - Working with and advising businesses to develop resilience and ensure compliance (fire and rescue)
- **Protecting the Public (NYP) / Effective Emergency Response (FRS) / Supported, Safe and Skilled Staff (FRS)**
  - Fire and rescue response, in particular overcoming the challenges of rurality.
  - Force control room performance inc Right Care, Right Person
  - Online fraud and cyber crime
  - Staffing / recruitment / retention / EDI (policing and fire)
  - Trust and confidence (policing)
  - Cross-border collaboration on resilience and cross-border issues (policing and fire)
- **Financial stability (FRS) – to incorporate both services**
  - Shared collaboration between the services (post-EnableNY)
  - Budget position, planning and investment, inc working collaboratively to achieve best value
  - Precept proposals for both services

- **Prevention and Early Intervention (NYP) / Targeted Prevention (FRS) / Working with Partners (NYP)**
  - Development of the Community Risk Management Plan (Fire and Rescue)
  - Development of preventative data-driven approaches to identify high-risk areas and individuals and put in place appropriate, impactful programmes.
  - How effectively a 'trauma-informed approach' is being used to reduce crime and prevent reoffending.
  - How the Mayor/Deputy Mayor is engaging with the public to understand their perceptions of crime and using this feedback to monitor the impact of crime reduction work.
  - How effectively both services are working with partners in health, education and councils among others.
  - County Lines and pervasive drug crime
  - How the fire and rescue service is ensuring that it can best meet emerging environmental and technological changes (flooding, e-bikes) through suitable investment, collaboration and preventative work.
  - Road safety – monitoring of multi-agency prevention work including NYP and NYFRS.

4.0 Enclosed at Appendix A is an outline of the Panel's work programme across the next year, based on the above priorities. Members are invited to consider the topics identified and identify others which may need to be included.

5.0 Members are reminded that it is preferable for the Panel to agree just a couple of key substantive reports to come to each meeting to enable sufficient time for discussion. All full Panel meetings will continue to be held in person and venues are highlighted on the programme where these have been confirmed.

#### **6.0 Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no significant legal implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Equalities Implications**

8.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

#### **9.0 Climate Change Implications**

9.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

#### **10.0 Recommendations**

10.1 That the Panel agrees its outline work programme.

**Appendices:**

Appendix A – Police, Fire and Crime Panel Work Programme 2026/27

**Background Documents:**

None.

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
13 January 2026

Report Author: Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer  
nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk

<p><b>January 2026</b></p>	<p>Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at 2:00pm (Fire Precept Meeting) County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p><b>Financial stability (FRS)</b> Panel's consideration of the Mayor's draft budget and precept proposal for fire and rescue 2026/27 Evolution of the shared services collaboration between policing and fire and rescue (formerly EnableNY) <u>Other reports</u> Community Risk Management Plan for fire and rescue – substantive update report. Recommendations to Panel regarding appointment of the Panel's co-opted independent members.</p>
<p><b>February 2026</b></p>	<p>Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 10:30am (Policing Precept Meeting) County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>Panel's consideration of the Mayor's precept proposal for policing 2026/27 <b>Working with Partners (NYP/NYFRS)</b> Road safety – monitoring of the efficacy of road safety preventative work</p>
	<p>Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 2:00pm (Policing Precept Reserve Meeting) County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>Precept Reserve Meeting – if needed.</p>

<p><b>April 2026</b></p>	<p>Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026 at 10:30am Selby Civic Centre, Selby</p>	<p><b>Prevention and Early Intervention (NYP) / Targeted Prevention (FRS)</b></p> <p>Development of preventative data-driven approaches to identify high-risk areas and individuals and put in place appropriate, impactful programmes (policing and fire)</p> <p>How the fire and rescue service is ensuring that it can best meet emerging environmental and technological changes (flooding, e-bikes) through suitable investment, collaboration and preventative work.</p> <p><u>Other reports</u></p> <p>Panel’s draft Annual Report 2025/26</p>
<p><b>July 2026</b></p>	<p>Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 2.00pm Annual Meeting County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>Election of Chair and Vice Chair</p> <p><b>Stronger Communities</b></p> <p>Neighbourhood Policing update</p> <p><u>Other reports</u></p> <p>Complaints handling update <i>following report taken to July 25 meeting (to include update on case management system – how effectively are complainants updated, advised why cases closed etc)</i></p> <p>Mayor’s Annual Reports for Policing and Fire 2025/26</p>
<p><b>October 2026</b></p>	<p>Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2026 at 10:30am City of York Council West Offices, York</p>	<p><b>Protecting the Public (NYP) / Effective Emergency Response (FRS)</b></p> <p>Reports tbc</p>

This page is intentionally left blank