

Agenda

Meeting: North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Venue: Hudson Room, City of York Council West Offices, Station Rise, York

Date: Thursday, 10 October 2024 at 10.30 am

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Business

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

All Members are invited to declare at this point any interests they have in items appearing on this agenda, including the nature of those interests.

3. Minutes of the Panel Meeting held on 25th July 2024

(Pages 5 - 14)

4. Progress on Issues Raised by the Panel

Update report from the Panel Secretariat.

(Pages 15 - 20)

5. Public Questions or Statements to the Panel

- Any member of the public, who lives, works or studies in North Yorkshire and York can ask a question to the Panel. The question or statement must be put in writing to the Panel no later than midday on Monday, 7th October 2024 to DemocraticServices.Central@northyorks.gov.uk for the attention of Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer (contact details given at the foot of the agenda sheet).

- The time period for asking and responding to all questions will be limited to 30 minutes. No one question or statement shall exceed 3 minutes.
- Please see the rules regarding Public Question Time at the end of this agenda page. The full protocol can be found at www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pfcp.

6. **Members' Questions**

Focus On: Caring about the vulnerable

7. **'Making All Women and Girls Safer': Annual Progress Report**
Report from the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime regarding delivery against the Joint Strategy to Address Violence Against Women and Girls and progress on the development of the Victims Centre.
(Pages 21 - 40)
8. **'Embed Compassion for Victims and the Vulnerable': Tackling Hate Crime**
Annual update report from the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime.
(Pages 41 - 44)

Other reports:

9. **Risk and Resource Model: Post-Implementation Review**
Report from the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime reviewing the implementation of the NY Fire and Rescue Service Risk and Resource Model (RRM).
(Pages 45 - 48)
10. **Consultation outline for the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan**
Report from the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime highlighting the public consultation to be undertaken for the development of the two statutory plans.
(Pages 49 - 52)
11. **Work Programme**
Report by the Panel Secretariat.
(Pages 53 - 56)
12. **Any other items**
Any other items which the Chair agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.
13. **Date of Next Meeting**
Thursday, 16 January 2025 at 10:30am – County Hall, Northallerton.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton
Wednesday, 2 October 2024

NOTES:

- (a) Members are reminded of the need to consider whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests to declare on any of the items on this agenda. The Panel Secretariat officer will be pleased to advise on interest issues. Ideally their views should be sought as soon as possible and preferably prior to the day of the meeting, so that time is available to explore adequately any issues that might arise.
- (b) Members of the public may put questions or statements to the Panel and these must be submitted to the officer detailed below three working days in advance of the meeting, for consideration by the Chair. The full protocol for public questions can be found at www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pfcp

Contact Details:

Diane Parsons
Panel Secretariat
Tel: (01609) 532750
Email: nypfcp@northyorks.gov.uk

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North Yorkshire Council

North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Minutes of the meeting held in the Hudson Room at City of York Council's West Offices on Thursday, 25th July, 2024, commencing at 10.30 am.

Councillors Peter Wilkinson (North Yorkshire Council) in the Chair; Danny Myers (City of York Council), Lindsay Burr MBE (North Yorkshire Council), Tim Grogan (North Yorkshire Council), Emilie Knight (City of York Council), Heather Moorhouse (North Yorkshire Council), Andrew Murday (North Yorkshire Council), Michael Pavlovic (City of York Council), Steve Shaw-Wright (North Yorkshire Council) and Malcolm Taylor (North Yorkshire Council).

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

David Skaith (Mayor of York and North Yorkshire).

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

Deputy Chief Constable Scott Bisset (North Yorkshire Police).

Officers from the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner: Simon Dennis (Corporate Director OPFCC & Deputy MO for Policing, Fire and Crime (MCA)), Jenni Newberry (Director of Commissioning, Criminal Justice and Partnerships), Michael Porter (Assistant Director of Resources (Deputy s73 Officer for Police, Fire and Crime Functions)), Tamara Stevens (Director of Delivery and Assurance).

Officers present: Diane Parsons (North Yorkshire Council), Paul Clark (Mayoral Combined Authority).

In attendance: Councillor George Jabbour (North Yorkshire Council).

Apologies: Councillor Chris Aldred (North Yorkshire Council).

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

11 Election of Panel Chair

Considered –

Members noted the guidance note provided by the Panel Secretariat.

Two nominations were received for the role of Panel Chair; one for Councillor Peter Wilkinson and one for Councillor Lindsay Burr. Both were seconded. Councillor Burr proposed that a named vote be taken for the election, which was seconded. The Panel voted unanimously in favour of this proposal via a show of hands.

The results of the named vote for each nomination were as follows:

Nomination for Councillor Wilkinson (in alphabetical order):

Cllr Lindsay Burr	Against
Fraser Forsyth	For
Mags Godderidge	Against

Cllr Tim Grogan	For
Cllr Emilie Knight	Against
Cllr Heather Moorhouse	For
Cllr Andrew Murday	Against
Cllr Danny Myers	For
Cllr Michael Pavlovic	For
Cllr Steve Shaw-Wright	For
Cllr Malcolm Taylor	For
Martin Walker	For
Cllr Peter Wilkinson	For

Nomination for Councillor Burr (in alphabetical order):

Cllr Lindsay Burr	For
Fraser Forsyth	Against
Mags Godderidge	For
Cllr Tim Grogan	Against
Cllr Emilie Knight	For
Cllr Heather Moorhouse	Against
Cllr Andrew Murday	For
Cllr Danny Myers	Against
Cllr Michael Pavlovic	Against
Cllr Steve Shaw-Wright	Against
Cllr Malcolm Taylor	Against
Martin Walker	Against
Cllr Peter Wilkinson	Against

Resolved -

That Councillor Wilkinson be elected to serve as Chair of the Panel until July 2025.

12 Welcome and apologies

Councillor Peter Wilkinson in the Chair.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted. It was noted that Councillor Murday was attending as substitute for Councillor Aldred.

13 Declarations of Interest

Martin Walker declared that he is a Trustee of IDAS, which receives funding for its work from the Mayor's office.

Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright declared for transparency that a family member is currently a serving officer with North Yorkshire Police.

Councillor Lindsay Burr declared for transparency that she is a campaigner for tackling Violence Against Women and Girls.

Mags Godderidge declared that she is CEO of Survive; a charity which is commissioned through the Mayor's office to provide services to survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

14 Minutes of the Panel Meeting held on 12th June 2024

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2024, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

15 Election of Vice Chair to the Panel

Considered –

Two nominations were put forward for Panel Vice Chair; one for Councillor Myers and one for Councillor Knight.

A show of hands was taken from the Panel for each nomination and Councillor Myers was elected as Vice Chair.

Resolved –

That Councillor Myers be elected to serve as Vice Chair of the Panel until July 2025.

16 Consideration of Exclusion of the Public

Resolved -

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Item 16 on the grounds that discussion would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

17 Progress on Issues Raised by the Panel

Resolved –

That the Panel notes the update report on progress made against issues raised at previous Panel meetings.

18 Public Questions or Statements to the Panel

A statement was provided to the Panel by Gwen Swinburn as follows:

“I realise we’re in the early stages of a big change round but notwithstanding I first wanted to raise my concerns that the membership of this committee does not reflect all the other committees under the auspices of the Combined Authority. It is an inherited committee but I think we need to ensure that this committee now has equal numbers from York and North Yorkshire if we are to have proper geographic and political representation. As of now only three Members are from York, seven from the rest of North Yorkshire. We should have five each according to the Combined Authority rules we have had to follow to date. What is the legal basis for York being denied its extra places?”

As it seems at face, and I think it is a further democratic governance issue, is the independent people having a vote. As it stands they don't represent anyone, and have exactly the same weight as the three York Members. Can these issues be formally reviewed?

My second concern is related to the governance arrangements of the very below radar joint audit committees. I understand there is a proposal to look at the democratic accountability, and I hope transparency, of that committee. We do see the papers now, if anyone can find them.

Of particular concern is the last two audit meetings were both inquorate, also it seemed most people were on dial-in which we know is not the best for proper oversight, hence not allowed in most local government committees.

The fact members are in the dark about the major audit and governance issues, and are effectively excluded from the teams meetings is exacerbated by the legal framework that in essence, limits any proper scrutiny as we know it in local government.

So both audit and scrutiny are a long way off minimal standards we see in local government. We need to find a middle ground, to bring light to these matters.

Finally, I hope now that the responsibility of all of this lies with the Mayor and Deputy the standard local government ModGov and related practices will be quickly adopted, that could go a long way to addressing quite a few of the afore stated concerns."

A response was provided from the Panel (read by the Secretariat) as follows:

"Thank you for bringing your questions to the Panel.

In relation to the point raised regarding membership of the Panel from the two constituent authorities, a similar question was raised by Gwen to the Panel's meeting on 5th of February this year and the full response from the Panel was included within the published minutes for that meeting. As such I don't propose to repeat the full response. However, it spoke to the point that fundamentally, the legal basis for the Panel pre-dates and stands separately to that for the Mayoral Combined Authority so it isn't bound by any of the same principles of the Combined Authority. Also that Home Office guidance prior to unitarization recommended that the Panel re-align its membership around population between York and North Yorkshire, which was agreed through both councils.

The Panel is legally bound to ensure it represents the political make-up of the police force area and this is regularly reviewed.

In relation to the query around the voting rights of independent co-opted members to the Panel, under paragraph 4 of Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, legally Panels must have a minimum of two such members. Para 26 of the same Act states that "All members of a police and crime panel may vote in proceedings of the panel", so where this entitlement to vote appears in the Panel's Rules of Procedure this is simply reflecting a legal requirement and is not discretionary.

In terms of the points raised by Gwen about police and fire audit committees, as explained previously at the Panel, the Panel has no legal oversight of these committees and the governance of them sits within the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) arrangements now. It is therefore a matter for the police, fire and crime

function of the MCA to consider.”

The Chair invited Simon Dennis to assist with additional commentary around Gwen’s points regarding audit arrangements under the MCA. Simon briefly highlighted that the police and fire audit committees are constituted under separate arrangements to the Panel in accordance with the financial management code of practice. Work is underway to align the audit and governance arrangements with those of the MCA. Simon acknowledged that there has been a higher churn in committee membership than would have been ideal but recruitment for extra members will bring resilience. Work is in progress as regards a house style and administrative improvements. The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) is presented jointly with the Chief Constable and PFCC. Gwen asked a supplementary on this latter point as regards why the AGS is not reviewed by the Panel. Simon responded to the effect that the audit arrangements for policing and fire fall within the MCA arrangements and not those of the Panel.

19

Members' Questions

1) Crisis care response

A question was put to the Panel on behalf of Councillor Andrew Lee in his capacity as Chair of the North Yorkshire Council Scrutiny of Health Committee, as follows:

“At the NYC Scrutiny of Health Committee’s Mid-Cycle Briefing on Friday 19 July, we were presented with concerns surrounding the crisis care response for individuals with complex mental health needs. Councillor Paul Haslam (NYC) has raised his concerns with the Scrutiny of Health Committee on behalf of a particular resident in crisis who was met with an armed police response. Councillor Haslam is of the view that the case presented is not an isolated one and is keen to identify how the different agencies link up around such cases and whether the support in place is working effectively. Clearly such an issue does not just involve one agency or scrutiny committee.

To this end, I have agreed that I will facilitate co-ordination of a meeting among partners to better explore and consider the following:

- *Is the ‘Right Care, Right Person’ (RCRP) model monitored and reviewed internally within NYP? Has it been effective in North Yorkshire and York thus far?*
- *What challenges has RCRP faced, and how have these been addressed?*
- *What processes are in place to co-ordinate between North Yorkshire Police and Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust, both operationally on individual cases, and strategically?*
- *Are the funding levels supporting mental health care adequate, and how do they compare to funding levels across other ICBs?*

I am aware that the Police, Fire and Crime Panel has a longstanding interest in scrutiny of the Mayor’s (previously Commissioner’s) oversight of the RCRP policy in terms of its implementation and efficacy. I am therefore writing to invite the Panel Chair and Vice Chair (or other suitable representative) to attend a meeting of partners to discuss this further. I intend that this meeting includes the following:

- *North Yorkshire Police (NYP)*
- *Deputy Mayor for Police, Fire and Crime from York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (Y&NYCA)*
- *Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)*

- *Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB)*
- *Chair and Vice Chair of North Yorkshire Council's Scrutiny of Health Committee (SOH)*
- *Chair and Vice Chair of North Yorkshire Council's Care and Independence Scrutiny Committee (C&I).*

I will be writing to representatives of the above groups and agencies with the aim of meeting later in the year to explore these issues further. The meeting would be internal, with a written summary provided to the public meetings of the two council Scrutiny Committees."

Members considered the issues raised by Councillor Lee's correspondence, noting that recent visits to the Force Control Room had highlighted an efficient triage operation. Members raised that it would be helpful to see data behind the Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) model and whether it is evidence-based. Concerns were raised that support through Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust is not available 24 hours a day. The Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime ('the DMPFC') acknowledged the issues raised and that further discussions should also include the relevant portfolio holder on City of York Council. DCC Bisset commented on the strategic and tactical governance arrangements in place around RCRP to review demand but noted that it's often not police officers who should be attending where someone is in crisis.

The Panel agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair will attend a multi-agency meeting to discuss these issues further.

2) Bailing of perpetrators

The DMPFC was asked whether she felt assured that operational policing decisions around bailing perpetrators to addresses in the immediate vicinity of alleged victims wasn't re-traumatising victims. The DMPFC responded that she was aware of the pressures in the system and could explore these further but acknowledged the impact on victim safety and confidence. DCC Bisset invited detail on specific cases to be fed through to the force.

3) Force Control Room – staffing and CCTV access

Following recent Panel visits to the Force Control Room (FCR), Members highlighted concerns that the FCR is operating at about 20% fewer staff than there should be, especially around dispatch. The FCR also doesn't have access to live CCTV feeds in some key areas of North Yorkshire. DCC Bisset highlighted that dispatch roles are harder to recruit to as the role is more complex and/or the training is difficult; whereas the FCR currently has the highest number of communications officers it has ever had. York is also a difficult labour market for such roles as there are many customer service-type roles available, although the service has tried to adjust salaries to assist. It was also highlighted that staff in the FCR often see this as a stepping stone to other roles within the service. The concerns around CCTV were acknowledged and the DMPFC will explore this aspect further.

4) County Lines

The DMPFC was asked about work around County Lines issues in Malton and Scarborough. The DMPFC acknowledged the need for investment in prevention and early intervention and noted that the issue is much wider than just a policing matter. The Mayor reinforced the need for an economic framework which will support communities in all aspects.

5) Induction programme for DMPFC

In response to a question regarding induction training, the DMPFC highlighted the range of events and briefings she has received, such as on VAWG, briefing on the

early release of prisoners and starting to better understand the law around some of the aspects of work. Simon Dennis added detail around a programme including meeting and listening to victims and an induction curriculum provided by the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners. Members highlighted the importance of the DMPFC engaging with staff associations and unions as part of her induction, in addition to attending the FCR. The DMPFC thanked the officers and staff of North Yorkshire Police for their work.

6) PCSOs

In response to a query on the development plan for PCSOs and whether recent recruitment had been effective, Panel were advised that the service is in the middle of a neighbourhood policing review but that communities have been put at the centre of this. There is a need to ensure the correct blend of officers and targeting those areas with most need; some areas require further work with partners to tackle issues rather than necessarily drawing on additional PCSOs.

7) Retail crime

Members raised concerns regarding retail crime and being able to get investigating officers engaged. The DMPFC highlighted that this will be reviewed and the Mayor outlined that the High Street Fund is aimed at getting businesses to invest and make communities safer.

20

HMICFRS 'PEEL' inspection of North Yorkshire Police - outcomes and progress

Considered –

The update report provided to Panel regarding progress made against the recent inspection by HMICFRS of North Yorkshire Police.

The Panel commended the significant improvements made. A number of other aspects were highlighted as concerns or queries to the Mayor, which included:

- the level of victim withdrawal;
- poor inspection outcomes in relation to the investigation of crime;
- ensuring that securing a trial or conviction aren't seen as the only outcomes for victims but looking holistically at what's needed; and
- efforts to retain and support staff.

The DMPFC acknowledged the need to get victim support right and to do better within the resources available. DCC Bisset highlighted a national shortage of detectives and that the service now has multiple entry routes to improve this locally. Operation Soteria outcomes are being embedded to help change how the service investigates and improves its outcome rates on serious sexual violence and rape cases. The DMPFC also highlighted that there is likely to be national movement around improving response to spiking incidents. In relation to staff welfare, the DMPFC recognised the challenges faced by staff and the need to ensure support is available to both back office and frontline staff at all levels.

Resolved –

That the Panel notes the update report provided on progress against inspection outcomes within North Yorkshire Police.

21

Considered –

The draft Policing and Crime Annual Report for 2023/24.

The Panel were reminded that this report and that for fire and rescue are provided on behalf of the former Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Zoe Metcalfe and comments were sought.

The Panel felt that overall the draft report reads very well and is accessible in terms of language and content to communities. Some specific observations and comments were made by the Panel for further consideration in relation to the draft report, as outlined below.

- a) Members had recommended in 2023 that information could be provided on the average time taken to respond to police complaints and noted that this was omitted again from the 2023/24 draft. It was noted that the DMPFC will provide this information separately but the Panel would be grateful for this to be taken into consideration for a future draft as it would provide a richer picture on police complaints handling.
- b) The Panel sought reassurance that the development of the new Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in York will not be hindered by further delays as it will provide an important service for victims in the area. The Panel welcomed the DMPFC's reassurance on this matter and commitment to provide a written update, in addition to noting that should delays be encountered it would be helpful to engage with local authority partners further.

In addition, it was highlighted by the Panel that North Yorkshire Police does not currently appear to be listed as a 'White Ribbon' accredited organisation but were provided with reassurance by DCC Bisset on this point and that this will be rectified in due course.

Resolved –

That the Panel:

- (a) recommends that the draft Policing and Crime Annual Report 2023/24 be approved, subject to the Mayor's further consideration of the issues raised; and
- (b) receives an update from the DMPFC on progress with the build of the SARC in York.

22

Draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2023/24

Considered –

The draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2023/24.

The Panel felt that the style and language of the report similarly reads well to the policing and crime report. Several specific queries and comments were raised as outlined below:

- Page 105 refers to investment into prevention and protection teams and Panel would welcome further detail on this;
- Page 105 refers to there being “no notable increase in response times to incidents in the Huntington area” following the implementation of the Risk and Resource Model. Members asked for further detail to better understand this;
- It was highlighted that the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is the worst performing service in the country based on recent data so Members expressed concerns that the draft report does not reflect this and as such the following information was requested for the Panel’s October meeting:
 - Detail of appliance availability of fire engines across the area;
 - An update on the FBU Critical Safety Notice issued this year. The DMPFC was urged to meet with the FBU to better understand their concerns.

The DMPFC agreed to revert in writing to the Panel on points raised, with further detail. A more substantive review of the Risk and Resource Model will be brought to Panel in October 2024 which will incorporate these updates.

Resolved –

That the Panel:

- (a) recommends that the draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2023/24 be approved; and
- (b) receives further information in response to the detailed queries raised during discussion on the draft report for its next meeting.

23 Annual Report of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel 2023/24

Considered –

The draft Annual Report of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel for 2023/24.

Members endorsed the draft report, with the suggestion that an amendment may be helpful around the update on the development of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre in York to reflect the further delays.

It was noted that a one-page summary will be shared with Members of the constituent authorities, with a link to the full published report.

Resolved –

That the Panel agrees its Annual Report 2023/24, subject to minor amendment.

24 Work Programme

Resolved –

That the Panel agrees its outline work programme.

25 EnableNY Progress Report

Considered –

The published reports to the Panel regarding the progress of the EnableNY shared services collaboration.

Simon Dennis introduced the material by outlining the challenging aspects which had impacted the progress of the programme. Simon spoke to the difficulties of re-designing services at the same time as endeavouring to baseline efficiency and effectiveness and how the re-shaping of the collaboration in 2023 resulted in being able to address aspects of the design which could on reflection have been better modelled at the start. A review has been taken independently of the programme and the report shared privately with the Panel, incorporating potential options for consideration by the partners involved. These have not yet been through the appropriate decision-making channels or shared with staff representatives and as such cannot be shared publicly. Simon acknowledged that aspects of this report are not as positive as would be desired but that it's important now to commit to a forward programme of review for both services. The MCA is a party to this collaboration and discussions are underway to consider how that collaboration might best serve the needs of the MCA itself.

The Panel thanked Simon for the information provided. Due to the nature of the confidential reports the Panel proposed and seconded to retire into closed session to be able to consider the confidential material provided on the rising of the Panel.

Resolved –

That the Panel notes the published papers and verbal update provided regarding the progress of the EnableNY programme.

26 Any other items

The Panel were advised that no urgent items had been raised with the Chair.

27 Date of Next Meeting

The Panel were notified that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, 10th October 2024 at 10:30am at City of York Council's West Offices.

28 Closed Session - EnableNY progress update

The Chair brought the meeting of the Panel held in public to a close and following a short break the Panel moved into closed session to consider the material exempted from publication under Item 15.

The meeting concluded at 12.53 pm.
DP.

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL

10 October 2024

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 will be submitted to the Panel as required, listing 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	25 July 2024	21 / Draft Policing and Crime Annual Report 23/24	Information sought on how long it took for the NYP Complaints and Recognition Team to deal with complaints in 23/24.	30.09.24	Completed See Appendix A
2	25 July 2024	21 / Draft Policing and Crime Annual Report 23/24	Reassurance sought on the build progress for the Sexual Assault Referral Centre in York.	30.09.24	Completed See Item 7
3	25 July 2024	22 / Draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 23/24	Panel to receive details of the investment made into prevention and protection teams as a result of the changes at Huntington Fire Station.	30.09.24	Completed See Appendix A
4	25 July 2024	22 / Draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 23/24	Panel requested further detail regarding FRS response times from Huntington post-RRM (to be compared with pre-RRM where available).	30.09.24	Completed See Item 9

5	25 July 2024	22 / Draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 23/24	Panel requested that the October FRS report includes (i) appliance availability across the area; and (ii) an update on the position as regards the FBU critical safety notice.	30.09.24	Completed See Appendix A
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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 from the York and North York Yorkshire Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (YNY OPFCC).

Appendix B: Investment into protection and prevention across fire and rescue staffing Structure.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services
County Hall
Northallerton
2 October 2024
Report Author: Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer.

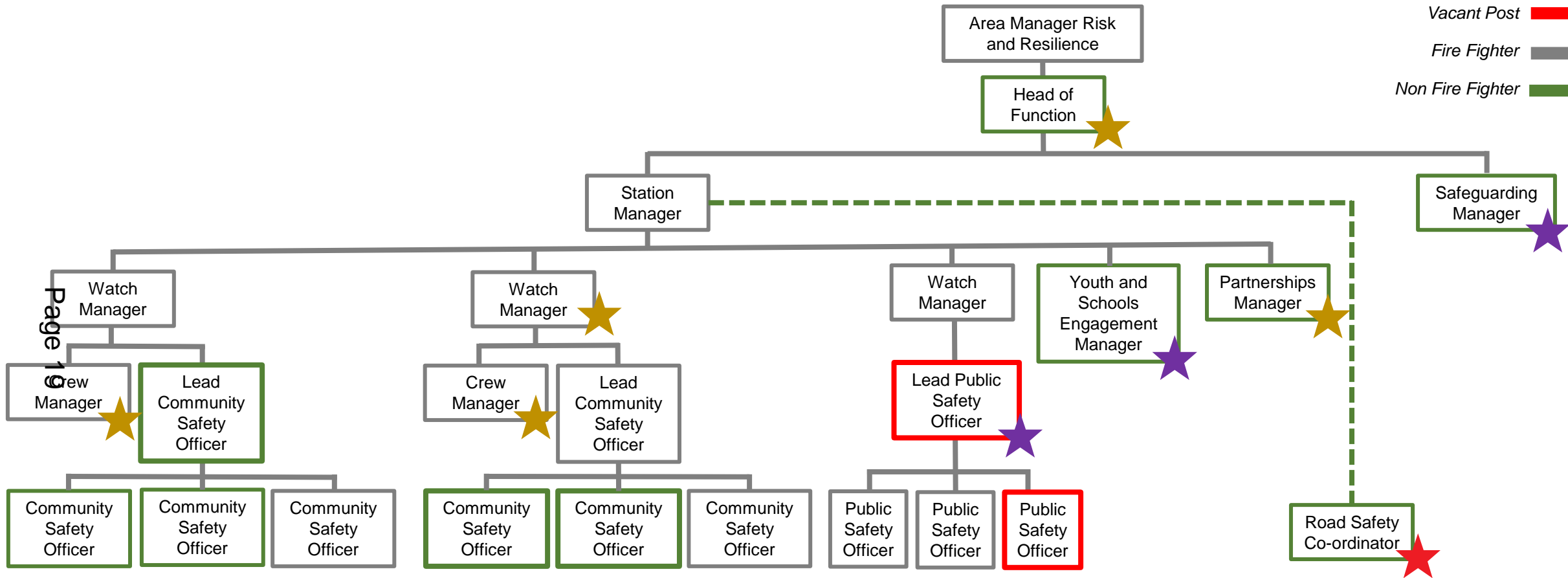
	Query raised	Response from YNY OPFCC
1	<p>Pages 5-6 of the draft Police and Crime Annual Report 2023/24 highlight volumes of complaints received. The Panel highlighted that a previous recommendation was for the report to include detail on the average time take to handle complaints. It was agreed that this information would be provided to the Panel.</p>	<p>Here is the Q1 IOPC report Police-complaints-information-bulletin-North-Yorkshire-Q1-24-25.pdf (policeconduct.gov.uk)</p> <p>To give this some context the way complaints are logged on centurion changed on 29 January 2024. This now provides a more robust set of data and bring us in line with the IOPC national reporting model and other police force areas.</p> <p>Part of the success of service recovery and following the informal process is the ability to recover cases in a less formal but nevertheless thorough way. On advice from the IOPC complaints are now robustly assessed based on the allegation and not on the merit of the complaint. Where there has been no merit in the past, we have worked to resolve these through the informal process; these are now referred to Professional Standards for a formal assessment in line with IOPC requirements.</p> <p>At day 28 where enquiries cannot be completed or the matter is not resolved informally consideration is now given to referring these to the police Professional Standards Dept (PSD) under the formal process. These are decided on a case by case basis, for example where the case is nearing completion there would be little benefit referring these cases.</p>
3	<p>Page 11 of the draft Fire and Rescue Annual Report 2023/24 stated <i>“The changes at Huntington fire station have allowed investment into prevention and protection teams creating additional specialist, permanent prevention and protection roles,”</i> Panel requested details of the investment made into prevention and protection teams as a result of the changes at Huntington Fire Station.</p>	<p>Whilst the change to Huntington Fire Station has allowed investment into Prevention and Protection functions, this was not the key driver for this change; resourcing to risk was.</p> <p>Further information on the investment is contained within the NYFRS Risk and Resource Model update at Item 9. Appendix B also provides an overview of how the investment has enabled the service structure to evolve in terms of both protection and prevention.</p>

<p>5</p>	<p>Panel requested that the October fire and rescue service report includes info on:</p> <p>(i) appliance availability across the area; and</p> <p>(ii) an update on the position as regards the FBU Safety Critical Notice.</p>	<p>(i) This information is covered under Item 9 on the agenda.</p> <p>(ii) Reference to the Fire Brigade Union’s Safety Critical Notice (SCN) pertaining to staffing levels and fire engine availability was made. At the 25th July meeting, Panel Members stated that the Chief Fire Officer at the start of this year had assured Panel that the Notice would be dropped by the FBU. At this previous Panel on 5 February 2024 the Chief Fire Officer had informed Panel members that the FBU had stated an intention to remove the Notice and that he was therefore hopeful of its removal (but this was not guaranteed). The Chief Fire Officer explained the need for the FBU to define the legal basis for issuing the Notice and that he was looking to hold workshops with the FBU to define, discuss and resolve the issues internally.</p> <p>Discussion of any ongoing internal industrial relations matter should not be held at Panel and/or in the public domain since it has the potential to undermine the Industrial Relations Protocol between the Service and representative bodies.</p>
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Prevention: our evolved structure

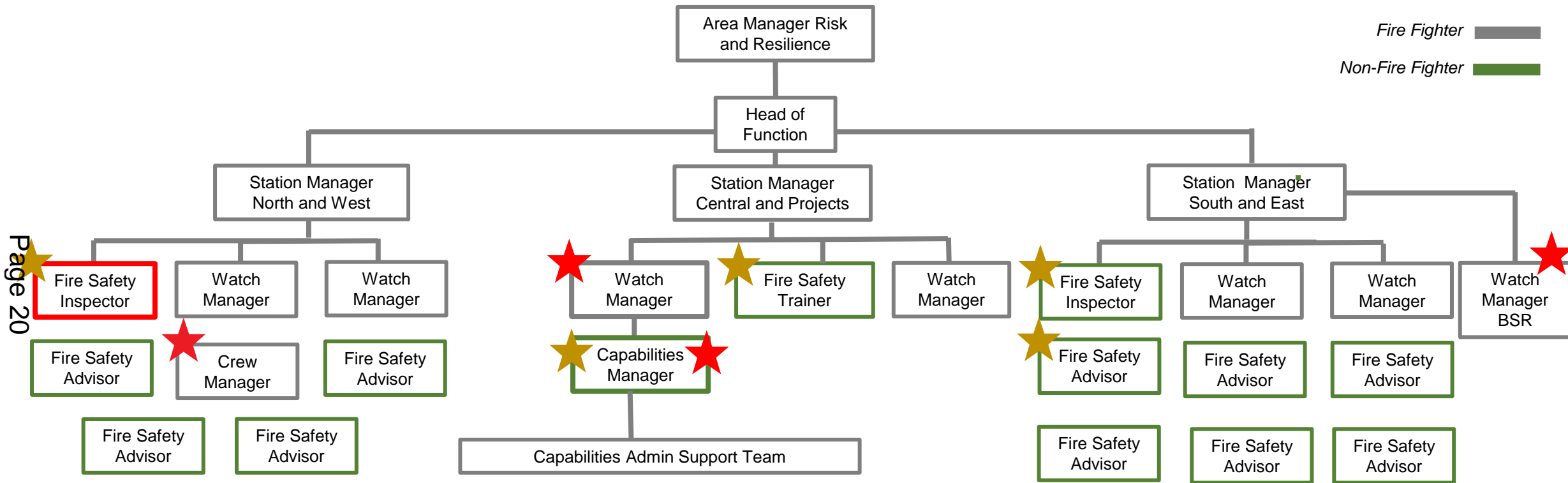
APPENDIX B

- New Post ★
- Expanded Post ☆
- Temporary Post ★
- Vacant Post ■
- Fire Fighter ■
- Non Fire Fighter ■



Protection: Our New Structure with Operational & Non Operational Pathways

- New Post 
- Temporary Post 
- Vacant Post 
- Fire Fighter 
- Non-Fire Fighter 



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Annual Progress Report for the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on the Strategy to Address Violence Against Women and Girls; and Victims' Centre



Part of the



October 2024

This report provides an update to Members on progress made against the six Strategic Objectives of the joint Strategy to Address Violence Against Women and Girls since the last [annual update](#) provided at the Panel meeting held on 12th October 2023, and what we plan to do next. This report also provides an update on the progress of the new Victims' Centre for York and North Yorkshire.

Strategy to Address Violence Against Women and Girls

The joint Strategy to Address Violence Against Women and Girls (“VAWG”) was launched in June 2022 and can be found on the York and North Yorkshire Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (“OPFCC”) website here: [Addressing violence against women and girls in North Yorkshire and City of York](#).

The Strategy was informed by local and national strategies and crucially, by local women and girls themselves. When developing the Strategy, the OPFCC undertook consultation with strategic partners and stakeholders, local organisations representing women and girls, and spoke directly with victims and survivors via focus groups and an online survey – full details can be found here: [What did you tell us is important? - Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner North Yorkshire](#).

The six Strategic Objectives set out in the VAWG Strategy are:

- 1: Listening to All Women and Girls**, including those from rural and under-represented communities, and proactively seeking feedback to inform continuous service improvements
- 2: Tackling the root causes of VAWG through Prevention and Early Intervention**, including campaigns aimed at increasing awareness, early help and community-led interventions
- 3: Increasing Public Confidence and Trust in the Police**, including holding the police to account on their handling of reports of VAWG
- 4: Strengthening the Multi-Agency Approach to Address VAWG**, including the wider criminal and civil court processes
- 5: Enhancing Support Services for Victims**, including ensuring that high quality services are available to everyone at their time of need
- 6: Facilitating Behaviour Change by Perpetrators**, including both enforcement and rehabilitation interventions by expanding the availability and scope of behaviour change programmes

VAWG Strategic Governance and Accountability Arrangements

The VAWG Strategic Governance Board has continued to meet twice a year to conduct biannual reviews of overall progress against our six Strategic Objectives. The Board has published the findings of these biannual progress updates on the OPFCC website here:

[Joint Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy - Progress Update - December 2022](#)

[Joint Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy – Progress Update – June 2023](#)

[Joint Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy – Progress Update- April 2024](#)

A representative of the VAWG Professionals Sub-group attends the VAWG Strategic Governance Board to feedback key discussion themes and shared experiences impacting the sector including increasing demand for specialist support services, resourcing limitations and future funding concerns.

VAWG Strategy Delivery Plan

The VAWG Strategy Delivery Plan outlines how we intend to achieve the six Strategic Objectives and was co-produced by the Joint VAWG Strategy Delivery Group which is made up of representatives from local statutory partners and stakeholders. A representative of the VAWG Professionals Sub-group also attends the Joint VAWG Strategy Delivery Group to ensure we continue to adopt a person-centred and trauma-informed approach wherever possible within our delivery activities.

The Group has met every two months but recently agreed to meet quarterly moving forward. The Group aims to identify learning opportunities, share best practice and consider findings from relevant national and local surveys, consultations and feedback from victim and survivor forums. The Group have examined specific issues in more depth through ‘Spotlight Topic’ presentations on a variety of subjects including stalking, special measures in court for victims and witnesses in criminal justice proceedings, and Family and Civil Court processes.

The Group has also established Task and Finish Groups to lead on specific activities: one group is assessing scope and membership locally of national ‘Safe Spaces’ schemes such as ‘Ask for Angela’ and ‘Ask for Ani’ and exploring how these can be expanded and more effectively joined up with local support services; another group is exploring options to coordinate training and support for Professional and Workplace Champions to ensure a more trauma-informed response to disclosures of VAWG, whilst the VAWG Professionals Sub-group continues to consider how to increase the network of Community-based Champions and volunteers.

Delivery Plan on a Page

Objectives

Outcomes

Aims

1. Listening to All Women and Girls



1. Proactive engagement with under-represented communities and seldom heard women
2. Ensure parity of services across both urban and rural areas, and other isolated communities



Regular consultation and engagement with women and girls.
Engage regularly with under-represented communities.
Expansion of the York Women's Centre.

2. Tackling the root causes of VAWG through Prevention and Early Intervention



1. Increase awareness and promote zero tolerance of all forms of gender inequality and VAWG
2. Increase availability of Early Help and Community-led Interventions



A range of age-appropriate materials, interventions, and campaigns to challenge misogyny, stalking and street harassment, illegal cultural harms and a network of VAWG Champions.
Explore the development of 'Safe Spaces' and apps and other initiatives.
Facilitate Vulnerability and 'spiking' awareness training.

3. Increasing Public Confidence and Trust in the Police



1. Increase confidence in reporting VAWG offences
2. Identify learning opportunities and ensure continuous improvement



Support police officers to adopt a trauma aware response.
Better identify and respond to VAWG 'gateway offences', Stalking, illegal cultural harms, rape and police perpetrated domestic abuse.
Use Rape and Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panels to review cases that had a NFA outcome.

4. Enhancing Support Services for Victims



1. Improve Safeguarding and Risk Management Approaches
2. Improve the experiences of those going through Criminal Justice Processes
3. Improve the experiences of those going through Civil and Family Court Proceedings



Multi-agency work focussed on identifying and safeguarding victims and identifying and manage risk from perpetrators.
Availability of special measures in court and Work with the Crown Prosecution Service to support evidence-led prosecutions.
Explore options for establishing Court Observers Panels.
Work to prevent further victimisation within the family court process.

5. Enhancing Support Services for Victims



1. Ensure high quality services are available to everyone at their time of need



Explore options to jointly commission services to offer trauma-aware support for victims.
Use support services to better identify victims of modern slavery & consider the gendered nature of Exploitation.

6. Facilitating Behaviour Change by Perpetrators



1. Increase availability of interventions for perpetrators of VAWG offences that focus on both enforcement and rehabilitation
2. Increase availability of interventions for those with Dual Status and Unmet Needs



Develop a full suite of perpetrator services including for domestic abuse & stalking.
Seek to divert women at risk of entering the criminal justice system.

Refresh of VAWG Strategy and Delivery Plan

The current VAWG Strategy covers the period 2022-2024, and the six Strategic Objectives and 12 Outcomes and 17 Aims set out in the Delivery Plan are now due to be fully reviewed and updated accordingly to ensure they remain aligned to local need and expectations. This review and refresh of the VAWG Strategy is aligned to the timeframes for the new Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan, with the new Strategy to be place from April 2025 for an initial period of four years.

To inform this review, work has commenced to re-assess local need and demand by collating all available relevant data, including reported crimes and incidents, commissioned services performance data and other relevant information or intelligence. Acknowledging that VAWG offences continue to be under-reported, we will work with the VAWG Professionals Sub-group as well as the York Centre for Voluntary Service (known as York CVS) and Community First Yorkshire to maximise opportunities to link in with other local Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (“VCSE”) organisations, particularly non-commissioned specialist support services and charities to enhance data already available.

A detailed analysis of the latest VAWG Survey responses will be undertaken to ensure the voices of victims and survivors remain central to the development of our Strategic Objectives. The OPFCC are also exploring options to facilitate focus groups and other consultation methods to expand our reach and engagement with more diverse communities to ensure that everyone is given the opportunity to have their views represented.

Alongside this, a comprehensive Communications and Engagement Plan will be produced in partnership with our Communications and Engagement and Inclusivity and Public Confidence teams to increase awareness and accessibility of support services, projects and initiatives delivered under the VAWG Strategy and how they contribute to achieving the 17 Aims and 12 Outcomes of the six Strategic Objectives. This Communications and Engagement Plan will be aligned to the full scope and duration of the refreshed VAWG Strategy and will support achieving the Outcomes under Objective 1 in particular by focussing on developing a range of consultation and engagement opportunities with under-represented communities and groups.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime, Jo Coles will host a VAWG Summit on the 25th November 2024 for strategic leads and local stakeholders to agree a vision for the VAWG Strategy, alongside refreshed Strategic Objectives, Outcomes and Aims from 2025. This will include considering how we will know whether we are successfully achieving our joint strategic priorities, identifying key performance measures, shared opportunities and risks, and mapping key areas of overlap or interdependencies where closer partnership working maybe required.

Progress Achieved in past 12-months

Objective 1: Listening to All Women and Girls, including those from rural and under-represented communities, and proactively seeking feedback to inform continuous service improvements

Outcome 1.1: Proactive engagement with under-represented communities and seldom heard women

In July 2023, we launched a new VAWG Survey to assess the difference we have made to date by hearing about specific experiences of violence or abuse, and in particular, the type of response and support received; we also asked if there is anything else the public think should be done locally to

tackle VAWG. In the 12-months from 31st July 2023 to 1st August 2024 we have received 264 responses, which will be used to inform the refresh of the 17 Aims and 12 Outcomes of the six Strategic Objectives as set out in the current Delivery Plan. This VAWG Survey will remain live indefinitely on the OPFCC's website here: [What should be done to STOP Violence Against Women and Girls?](#) and will be reviewed at least every six months to ensure the views and personal experiences of victims and survivors remain central to shaping and driving our future activities. We will continue to work with our partners and key stakeholders to promote the VAWG Survey and encourage responses from under-represented communities and seldom heard women.

Focus Groups and interviews continued to be held with those willing to share their expertise by experience to ensure the voices of victims and survivors inform practice development and innovation on key issues including:

- in October 2023, a Victims of Rape Focus Group discussed and reviewed the letters to be sent from the CPS (instead of the Witness Care Unit) to inform them of the outcome of their case and consider how we measure the impact of these letters on those who receive them, and also considered how victims would like to be represented at OPFCC and/or CPS Rape Scrutiny Panels; and
- in January 2024, a Focus Group was convened with five women who are currently being supported by York Drug and Alcohol Services which helped identify gaps in current service provision for women who use substances and a new weekly women-only recovery group now takes place at York Women's Centre as a result.

Trusted relationships continue to be developed with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities at four sites across North Yorkshire in Burn, Carlton, Thirsk and Stokesley through a new Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Domestic Abuse Community Support Officer pilot commissioned by North Yorkshire Council; between October 2023 and June 2024, 19 victims accessed support, including three adult males and nine workshops were delivered on-site, plus 32 off-site support sessions were delivered to 15 individuals, resulting in 20 onward referrals into specialist services.

Outcome 1.2: Ensure parity of services across both urban and rural areas, and other isolated communities

'Liberty Links' continues to provide mobile and outreach services to women in rural and other isolated communities throughout the Ryedale district via a specially converted van; since commencement in August 2023 this provision has provided Brief Intervention support to 116 women and 59 women have been engaged into longer-term support as a result. Further additional funding has been secured by the OPFCC through the Home Office Safer Streets Fund for St. Giles Trust to purchase and convert another van to reach more women, initially commencing deployments in the Craven area in the coming months.

Serious Violence Duty Funding has also been awarded to St. Giles Trust to develop the ['Libby Girls' project](#) offering detached youth work to girls at risk of exploitation in more urban areas, initially Scarborough.

Drop-in sessions for women have been established in Northallerton, Selby and Scarborough, however these are not women-only spaces. Work is ongoing to identify suitable premises to establish a dedicated Women's Centre in Scarborough.

[New Beginnings](#) have been awarded Community Safety Services Funding by the OPFCC to expand their domestic abuse peer support project into Craven to ensure the voices of those living in rural and other isolated communities are heard.

The IDAS specialist Older Persons and Rural Lead, funded via the Ministry of Justice National ISVA/IDVA Fund secured by the OPFCC (until 31st March 2025), continues to provide specialist support and advice to all IDAS teams through internal training and Peer Case Reviews, in addition to holding their own caseload where more complex advocacy is required for older people and those living in rural communities. As evidence suggests older people are much less likely to self-refer into support for domestic abuse, by linking in with services already working with older people such as Housing, Social Care and Disability Support Services to increase awareness amongst frontline staff and targeting services where older people are more likely to frequent such as pharmacies, GP surgeries, banks and supermarkets is now increasing suitable referrals into IDAS for older people.

The IDAS specialist Military Lead continues to develop relationships with both army personnel and families living within Catterick garrison and has now been fully integrated into the Community-based Services support offer to include other military communities. They have developed strong working relations with the HIVE Information Centre (provided by the Army to give information support to all members of the Service community) and the Army Welfare Service at Catterick, with further work ongoing to develop relationships with Unit Welfare Officers at the Army Training College in Harrogate, SSAFA (the Armed Forces Charity) and RAF Welfare services at RAF Leeming. The Military Lead hosts weekly drop-ins at Catterick Community Hub and have delivered a 6-week Moving On from Domestic Abuse (“MODA”) programme, co-facilitated by a serving soldier who now volunteers for IDAS; they are also now working with Aurora New Dawn, a national service for Army and Navy personnel to jointly deliver MODA groups. They continue to provide specialist training inputs and awareness raising to army personnel including presentations to the Unit Welfare Officers at their annual training programme days, along with an ISVA and Children’s Worker; training for Royal Military Police as part of their regular refresher programme; and have interacted with over 600 personnel at 2x Military Health Fair events in 2023. Discussions are ongoing with Army Welfare and Mountain Healthcare Ltd to establish an Independent Scrutiny Panel for Military Investigations and Disciplinary processes involving domestic abuse or sexual offences.

Objective 2: Tackling the root causes of VAWG through Prevention and Early Intervention

Outcome 2.1: Increase awareness and promote zero tolerance of all forms of gender inequality and VAWG

We continue to see increased reporting of hate crime linked to misogyny and misandry since the launch of this Strategy; 45 crimes reported in 2022 compared to 34 crimes in 2021, and this increased again in 2023 with 51 hate crimes reported. Misogyny continued to feature during Hate Crime Awareness week in October 2023 with a dedicated session on ‘Misogyny, sexism and violence against women and girls’ delivered by IDAS and North Yorkshire Youth. This year IDAS will be offering a free online seminar for Misogyny and VAWG on Thursday 17th October 2024 aimed at frontline practitioners working with those who may be impacted by these types of crimes; the full programme for Hate Crime Awareness Week 2024 is available online now on the North Yorkshire Partnership website: [Hate Crime Awareness Week 2024 | North Yorkshire Partnerships \(nypartnerships.org.uk\)](https://nypartnerships.org.uk)

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service are exploring options to expand Local Intervention Fire Education (“LIFE”) courses for young people in 2024/25 to include misogyny. An easy read leaflet on misogyny has been jointly developed by North Yorkshire Police and the North Yorkshire Learning Disability Partnership as well as a One Minute Guide for practitioners to increase accessibility of information on misogyny as a Hate Crime.

The ‘All About Respect’ Project has been awarded Home Office Safer Streets Funding secured via the OPFCC to raise awareness of gender-based violence amongst young people. ‘All About Respect’ was developed by York St John University, York College, and local specialist charities IDAS and Survive. The project is student-led, working collaboratively with young adults (aged 16-25yrs) and aims to create a space for open and honest dialogue about healthy relationships in young adults. The funding has been used to develop the [All About Respect Active Bystander Training](#) modules on Sexual Violence / Harassment / Abuse along with a module on Hate Crime; these modules are delivered with supporting resources and can be used independently or as part of a wider educational training package on gender-based violence to be delivered from 2024, initially with universities and colleges in York and Selby but with the intention of rolling this out countywide. The funding will also facilitate consultation with young people through a variety of methods including dancefloor events, focus groups and surveys to reach a large representative sample of young people locally to hear their experiences and views.

Serious Violence Duty Funding has been awarded to the [‘She Was Walking Home’ project](#) which will deliver 10 awareness raising performances which are based on real-life testimonies and educational workshops in different educational/youth settings during the 2024/25 academic year. These sessions will also explore language, behaviour, reporting and support available.

The [‘Just a Kiss’ film series](#) funded by Home Office Safer Streets Funding secured via the OPFCC was launched on 12th October 2023 to raise awareness of how stalking and harassment can manifest, targeting young people aged 16-24 years with one episode released each day via the OPFCC’s Social Media channels during October; there had been a total of 5,857 YouTube views of the ‘Just a Kiss’ episodes at the end of March 2024.

‘Just a Kiss’ is now being used to raise awareness amongst the next generation of police officers at a local, regional and even international level – the film series was shown to approx. 1,800 Policing students at Leeds Trinity University in November 2023 and the University now intends to create a dedicated learning module around the ‘Just a Kiss’ film series; it was shown as part of a package of support delivered by the University to Policing students at the Lviv State University of Internal Affairs in the Ukraine, and the University are developing a similar project for Romanian Police Officers. Nick Wallen, Lecturer in Policing at Leeds Trinity University said:

“Stalking and Harassment is a serious subject that has to be taught with sensitivity and care, and the ‘Just a Kiss’ film the team have put together is an incredibly helpful resource as a training tool for new Police Officers. There are a number of different risk factors that we might see in a range of Stalking and Harassment scenarios, and this film captures them all. We had a fantastic reaction to the video from the Police Students on our course today, and we really look forward to further incorporating this film into our interactive workshop.”

More locally, ‘Just a Kiss’ was shown to students at Craven College in Skipton in January 2024 and students on the Uniformed Services course at Askham Bryan College in York during Student Safety Week in December 2023, and will now be added to their standard induction package college wide. The film has also been circulated to staff within CPS Yorkshire and the Humber. We are now working with North Yorkshire Police and both universities in York, as well as the Home Office to explore options to develop packages for university, secondary and primary school student audiences to use the film as an educational tool.

[The Halo Project](#) were awarded Serious Violence Duty Funding to write, produce and launch a North Yorkshire specific film featuring black and minoritised victims of cultural harms. The short film ‘Behind Closed Doors’ is trauma informed and co-produced with local women and girls aged up to 25 years who have experience of cultural violence and abuse and aims to raise awareness of the serious hidden violence and abuse faced in black and minoritised communities. The film

premiered to a limited audience of commissioners and stakeholders at the Everyman Cinema in York on Thursday 12th September 2024 and will shortly be shared with education and community settings as a free resource. The Halo Project have also been commissioned by the OPFCC to deliver specialist Illegal Cultural Harms Support Services including education and awareness raising to reach hidden victims within our Black and Minoritised communities.

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service have begun work to improve advice offered to individuals threatened with arson, in response to the threat of so called ‘honour’ based crimes.

The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (“DAHA”) project in North Yorkshire has delivered the ‘Domestic Abuse Awareness Course For Managers’ to managers and team leaders in North Yorkshire Council Housing and Customer Services since November 2023, and delivered level one domestic abuse awareness training to all Housing staff since January 2024 to increase awareness and recognition of domestic abuse at an earlier stage. The DAHA project is now offering training to Homelessness staff in Housing Law relating to Domestic Abuse and is creating a Domestic Abuse Champions network for North Yorkshire Council.

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service have commenced work on their first Domestic Abuse and Sexual Harm policy, operating procedure and associated training; this policy will be delivered during 2024/25 with associated training/awareness and processes across the organisation. This will be informed by an assessment of the type and level of training staff need to understand why VAWG happens, how we can respond more effectively, and how we can work with others to prevent it; this has been incorporated into the Prevention Team training programme. NYFRS have also begun to assess the consistency, safety, quality and impact of prevention interventions and established a Task and Finish Group to introduce a Safe Person Policy and Operating Procedure, based on national good practice.

As White Ribbon UK Supporter Organisations, the OPFCC and North Yorkshire Police support the United Nations ‘16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence’ annual campaign that commences on 25th November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and White Ribbon Day), through to International Human Rights Day on 10th December. There have been a series of awareness raising events and activities carried out over this period each year including a series of short films showcasing the support services available to women and girls locally, with interviews with those who have used and benefited from this support to encourage others to come forward and seek help; these videos can be viewed on the OPFCC’s website here: [#16Days of Action - Supporting women and girls](#) The OPFCC and North Yorkshire Police also worked with partners, including York St. John University during Sexual Violence Awareness Week in February to raise awareness and promote local support services, challenge victim blaming, and spiking awareness: [#ITSNOTOK - Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week 2024](#)

Outcome 2.2: Increase availability of Early Help and Community-led Interventions

StopHateUK have been awarded Community Fund by the OPFCC to develop ‘[Start Safe - Stay Safe](#)’ a Street Harassment App for North Yorkshire, which aims to enable and empower people, particularly women and girls, to report incidents of street harassment and access support and advice. The App will offer a direct link to the police in case of emergency and allows the capturing of audio, video, or photographic evidence in support of their report. We are working with StopHateUK to finalise the App with input from North Yorkshire Police Safeguarding leads, North Yorkshire Council Safeguarding (Adults and Children) leads and City of York Council Safeguarding (Adults and Children), Public Health and Domestic Abuse leads. The App is now in testing phase and due to be officially launched in late October 2024.

IDAS previously delivered Vulnerability Training and Humankind delivered ‘spiking’ awareness training to 187 workers in Scarborough and York night-time economy settings to enable participants to have a better understanding of the risks posed to lone people within the context of sexual violence, domestic abuse, spiking and other gender-based attacks. The OPFCC secured Home Office Safer Streets Funding for IDAS to deliver in partnership with North Yorkshire Horizons [‘Safer Streets’ online and interactive training](#) sessions to workers in day and night-time economy settings from 2024/25. This training aims to help keep our streets safer and reduce risk for those using our town and city in both the day and night time economy, and compliments national ‘Safe Spaces’ schemes such as Ask for Angela by increasing the knowledge and confidence of staff to understand vulnerability, indicators of concern, and how to take appropriate action. However, take up to date has been limited and as at the end of July 2024, only two sessions have taken place with 20 attendees. We are working with colleagues within the wider Combined Authority to promote this free training opportunity to local businesses through the Mayoral Combined Authority Newsletter.

Objective 3: Increasing Public Confidence and Trust in the Police

Outcome 3.1: Increase confidence in reporting VAWG offences

The OPFCC secured Home Office Safer Streets Funding for North Yorkshire Police to deploy ‘Project Vigilant’ in Scarborough town centre from October 2023; ‘Project Vigilant’ is a perpetrator-focused approach to actively prevent sexual violence and predatory sexualised behaviour through increased specialist police visibility in the night-time economy to detect, deter and disrupt VAWG incidents. During the first six months, there were 6 deployments, 8 offenders identified and 23 disruptions / deterrents of VAWG incidents.

Serious Violence Duty Funding has been awarded to two North Yorkshire Police initiatives designed to provide more preventative and early intervention approaches to VAWG in night-time economy settings:

- [‘Operation Night Safe’](#) in Selby which will deliver visible patrols alongside provision of ‘safe spaces’ to help anyone who is out in the night-time economy, supported by Town Safety Officers, to engage with the public and focus on hotspot areas of concern; and
- [‘Operation Reach’](#) which is designed to address the current perceived lack of high visibility police presence in the night-time economy generally; officers will provide a holistic approach to early intervention and prevention to address issues including VAWG incidents.

We will now work together to develop a comprehensive communication strategy and campaign to support both Operation Reach and Project Vigilant throughout York and North Yorkshire to increase feelings of safety in the night-time economy, including purchasing ‘geo-fencing’ technology via Home Office Safer Streets Funding to send targeted social media messaging within night-time economy settings.

Trauma-aware approaches are included in training courses completed by North Yorkshire Police for sexual offences, child protection and domestic abuse investigations and victim interview skills. In addition Stalking Clinics hosted by the specialist Stalking Team specifically provide trauma-informed investigative support and advice to officers and supervisors investigating stalking offences, including specialist support services available. Subject matter experts in child sexual and criminal exploitation, domestic abuse, missing persons, and child protection provide specialist training inputs to new recruits, front line officers and newly promoted sergeants.

There has also been increased joint working between North Yorkshire Police and specialist support services to help police officers to adopt a trauma aware response and ensure the right support is offered when victims do report, specifically:

- IDAS have provided specialist training inputs to a number of police training events including:
 - Three Sexual Offence Liaison Officers (“SOLOs”) events attended by 48 police officers;
 - Two Specialist Sexual Abuse Investigators Development Programme (“SSAIDP”) training courses attended by 18 police officers; and
 - SSAIDP Continuous Professional Development event attended by 25 police officers
- The Halo Project have delivered around 75 online webinars and in-person training sessions to around 3,000 frontline workers and officers over the last two years to enhance safeguarding and protection of black and minoritised victims.

North Yorkshire Police have now adopted Op Soteria Bluestone to improve responses to victims of Rape And Serious Sexual Offences (“RASSO”). The self-assessment stage was concluded in January 2024 and included a review of all current delivery, practice and performance in respect of RASSO across all six pillars of the national Op Soteria operating model; this provided several key performance indicators against which improvement will be measured by North Yorkshire Police. The planning phase has now commenced to develop North Yorkshire Police’s local Op Soteria transformational and implementation plans, with implementation phase due to commence from November 2024. As part of Op Soteria there is a national training programme for all officers who attend as First Responders for RASSO cases, focused on a trauma informed approach. North Yorkshire Police are also exploring options to facilitate delivery of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust’s ‘Trauma Aware Response’ training for Police, Probation and Court staff as part of North Yorkshire Police’s Op Soteria implementation plans.

North Yorkshire Police have introduced ‘Office Manager’ posts in all CID offices to identify and assess “gateway” VAWG offences and ensure the most appropriate resource is allocated as a result; where offences are allocated to a PIP1* trained officer, PIP2* oversight will be arranged via a Detective Sergeant providing greater oversight of gateway offences which will ensure a full investigation plan is agreed, thus providing a better-quality service to the victim.

**Professionalising Investigation Programme level 1 and 2 is a structured development programme to give the police service and other sectors of law enforcement the skills to conduct professional investigations. It provides consistent registration, examination, training, workplace assessment and accreditation to a national standard.*

North Yorkshire Police are also working with CPS colleagues to progress the 10 Strategic Priorities outlined in the new Domestic Abuse Joint Justice Plan which was launched in January 2024; the Joint Justice Plan is a national framework, which both Police and CPS must implement locally and regionally. The Joint Justice Plan Strategic Priorities will be incorporated into the existing North Yorkshire Police Domestic Abuse Tactical Delivery Plan to ensure that required actions are progressed in 2024/25.

Outcome 3.1: Identify learning opportunities and ensure continuous service improvements

The national Operation Soteria Bluestone victim experience survey has now been completed; this was a national survey led by academics, not police. The data from this survey is now being shared with North Yorkshire Police to inform North Yorkshire Police’s Op Soteria implementation plans to

develop approaches to rape investigations and prosecutions, improving support for victims and putting the focus on the suspect.

A recommendation within the national Op Soteria Bluestone Action Plan is that there should be consultation with the police prior to the CPS making a decision to take No Further Action ('NFA') however the CPS locally have raised a lack of capacity (at this time) to deliver against this national recommendation. In the interim, it has been agreed that when North Yorkshire Police receive a notification that the case is to be NFA'd by the CPS this will be reviewed by the RASSO Detective Inspector who will make an assessment as to whether they agree with this decision and what is the learning from this (if any); where they disagree, the appropriate challenge process will be followed locally.

Objective 4: Strengthening the Multi-Agency Approach to Address VAWG

Outcome 4.1: Improve joint Safeguarding and Risk Management Approaches

The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences ("MARAC") / Multi-Agency Tasking And Coordination ("MATAC") Steering Group continues to review current arrangements, including meeting attendance and engagement by key stakeholders and to ensure learning from meetings is shared at an organisational level to continuously drive improvements, including inviting the Halo Project as a consultant and partner to the operational MARAC meetings where Illegal Cultural Harms is a factor, ensuring that the voice of Black and Minoritised women and girls are heard; toolkit aids are also being developed for professionals supporting victims or survivors with 'No Recourse to Public Funds'.

The MARAC/MATAC Steering Group is now developing case studies for victims that have been through the journey of MARAC to understand whether the outcome of the conference has been a positive or negative experience and to shape delivery through their experience ensuring a victim-centred approach is taken. A MARAC workshop was held on 17th June 2024, during Safeguarding Week, where both strategic and operational Leads from all participating partner agencies came together to explore current MARAC arrangements and discuss potential barriers to success and embed best practice across all areas where possible.

GPs now attend York Women's Centre on a fortnightly basis to offer support to women who may not be engaging with other professionals to ensure their health needs are met; the Women's centre also now offer a needle exchange service and a Smear clinic. This has resulted in women appropriately being referred and admitted to hospital where further treatment was required. A quarterly professionals women's group has also been established, led by Humankind to discuss case studies/good news stories, partnership work with other women's services, trends or patterns (support needs, offending behaviour) and challenges and opportunities.

Exploitation Risk Assessment Conferences ("ERACs") safeguard those involved in sex work, survival sex or at risk of sexual exploitation or County Lines, including 'cuckooing' to provide an offer of support; ERACs now identify and discuss on average 22 women per month, which is over three times as many identified per month on average last year. There are some significant and positive stories now emerging as a result of this multi-agency approach including:

- 'A' was No Fixed Abode on crash pad, being sexually exploited, alcohol dependant, but would not engage with professionals; they are now 40 days sober and on track to get a place in a hostel while she waits for her own property.

- ‘B’ was experiencing sexual and adult criminal; exploitation, substance use and declining mental health were contributory factors, and they were also a high-risk victim of domestic abuse from multiple perpetrators; they were supported to complete a managed move, with ongoing safety planning, and are now reducing their substance use.
- ‘C’ was a victim of Child Sexual Exploitation, with ongoing mental health issues, now a victim of adult exploitation, with substance use and declining mental health; more recently they were evicted from their property, and had begun a new relationship with a serial perpetrator of domestic abuse; working in partnership with the police Changing Lives were able to facilitate a Domestic Violence Disclosure (also known as a Claire’s Law disclosure) and complete safety planning with her around how she could exit the relationship safely; as a result she is now in temporary accommodation, attending Dialectical Behavioural Therapy skills groups, and has reported improved mental health and that they are no longer using substances.

Outcome 4.2: Improve the experiences of those going through Criminal Justice Processes

North Yorkshire Police’s Case Quality Review Team have led on developing and promoting the use of evidence-led policing approaches to support Evidence-Led Prosecutions (“ELP”) where appropriate. The team have assessed around 500 cases for referral to CPS over 12-months; of these 37 were identified as suitable for ELP. The Case Quality Review Team also work closely with the CPS including sharing videos from CPS around what a good ELP investigation looks like and a review of cases where the CPS took NFA submitted prior to May 2023 is underway; 19 cases have been assessed so far, of which 6 were presented as ELP but none had sufficient evidence to prosecute.

Steps have been taken to prompt ELP consideration including on the Domestic Violence Protection Notice template and case file checklist, and a new Outcome 16 template also requires information around why ELP is not being progressed where the suspect was identified, but the victim doesn't support (or has withdrawn support for) police action. ELP drop-in sessions have been held since October 2023 and ELP also features in every Crime Managers Meeting. North Yorkshire Police are also participating in academic research (led by the Open University) around the impact of ELP on victims and a workshop took place in York in March 2024 where initial findings were shared; these findings will be published in due course and will be used to inform North Yorkshire Police’s strategy to improve the charge and outcome rates for ELP for Domestic Abuse related offences specifically.

More victims of VAWG offences have benefited from special measures at court as a result of North Yorkshire Police’s Special Measures Advisor pilot within the Witness Care Team which started in February last year; this Advisor takes a proactive approach to reviewing cases pre-charge, and if it is felt that special measures are needed then they will reach out to the officer in the case (“OIC”) to advise on an application for the identified special measures required, which will in turn raise overall awareness of suitable Special Measures to be applied for in future cases.

The Special Measures Advisor has developed a new booklet which officers can give to victims and witnesses should they have questions; this is also available for use by external partner agencies such as the Witness Service and the ID/SVA services and has had positive feedback from those who have used it so far with some officers stating it has helped them and victims to understand the options available to them and the process involved in applying for special measures at court. North Yorkshire Police also now have a new and more detailed MG2 form used by officers which provides an explanation of what each type of special measure is and highlights crucial differences locally such as how the screens can vary from court to court; this has also had positive feedback

with officers confirming that the increased detail has made it more victim focused and is more informative and makes the process easier for victims to understand.

A pilot commenced in April 2023 for Domestic Abuse Practitioners (also known as an IDVAs) to be available 'on call' to attend plea hearings at York Magistrates Court should somebody need support in-court, whether or not they are an existing IDAS client; this pilot is overseen by the IDAS Court IDVA (see below for further information) providing vital support to victims during criminal proceedings, acting as an ideal opportunity to link in with both prosecution and probation to assist in impact considerations for the purposes of sentencing and victim safety. There are on average 5/6 listings per week split across both morning and afternoon sittings and around half of these are known to IDAS so they can add value to these cases (even if they are not currently receiving services from IDAS). The remaining 2-3 victims not known to IDAS, usually reside out of area and IDAS do not have any contact details (or consent) to contact them. As victims are not present at these plea hearings, the other key function provided through the pilot is contacting victims to ensure they are aware of the hearing and that IDAS will be attending to feed in on their behalf and to update victims on the outcome afterwards, and where possible, re-offer a full support package, including support for any trial and/or sentencing hearings and beyond through the community-based teams. On average 3-5 active clients being supported through the pilot at any one time following initial plea hearings; to date, 6 victims have been supported via the pilot all the way through their Criminal Justice journey from initial plea hearing through to full trial and/or sentencing. We are working with IDAS to explore how this approach could potentially be rolled out at other courts throughout North Yorkshire.

The Court IDVA is now a member of the Justice Participation and Engagement Group Panel for Crime, chaired by the HM Courts and Tribunal Service; the aim of this group is to bring the voices of victims to the attention of the panel in order to discuss new ways of working and responses to domestic abuse.

Outcome 4.3: Improve the experiences of those going through Civil and Family Court Proceedings

The OPFCC secured Ministry of Justice funding for IDAS to employ a dedicated Domestic Abuse Practitioner (also known as an IDVA) who provides specialist support to victims of domestic abuse going through Family Court processes (until March 2025). The Court IDVA also ensures that learning and best practice is embedded throughout the wider support teams through weekly Practitioner Drop-ins for all IDAS staff to provide specialist advice and guidance to practitioners to enable them to better understand and therefore support their clients through the civil and family court processes. To support this, the Court IDVA coordinates a team of Family Court Champions across IDAS, with a designated practitioner from each of the locality and specialist teams taking part in regular key training and forums to share that knowledge and awareness and embed best practice within their own teams.

The Court IDVA also holds their own caseload of those more complex cases providing a Specialist Family Court Support package directly to between 25 and 30 victims of domestic abuse going through Family Court processes at any one time; this support tends to be focussed on more practical advice and support for navigating the family court systems such as special measures applications and liaison with key professionals such as Child and Family Court Advisory and Support Service ("CAFCASS") and the Court Clerks. One client shared:

"This sort of support is remarkable; it is really unbelievable. The impact it has had on me and will have on others is unmeasurable. To think that support is available when you feel so fragile and vulnerable, trying to keep things together for the kids, is just life changing for me. I mean, how do you ask for help when you don't know why or understand what's happening and when the system is

so overwhelming? Coming to terms with abuse and making sense of that is frightening. For me being alone in a country that was not my place of birth and with no family and no one to turn to has been exhausting. I have had no one, but then IDAS came along and have given me hope again and I feel like I am getting myself back”.

The Court IDVA has developed strong working relationships across York, Harrogate and Scarborough Family Courts, working closely with the Legal Team Manager as well as Security, Ushers and Court Clerks, and they have a weekly drop-in desk at two of these courts with IDAS materials on how to access support and family courts FAQ distributed by the Courts in all hearing packs provided. They delivered a training programme on the impact of domestic abuse to all court staff from February to June 2024. Through regular attendance at hearings to support their clients, they have also established an excellent reputation with the local Judiciary; within a recent court transcript it was recorded that Judge Boorman stated that:

“your work is being recognised, don’t always see you myself but I know you are out there in the waiting areas helping those who need you, so thank you”

The Court IDVA attends the Local Family Justice Board meetings, including the Domestic Abuse Sub-Working group to raise awareness and increase knowledge across the range of professionals working with those going through the family courts. They are also a member of the Family Law Panel chaired by HM Courts and Tribunal Services, to ensure the voices of victims are heard and to inform the design of a new client facing system that will allow for position statements to be submitted, the legal system to be navigated more easily and for updates to be received and documents viewed. This system will also allow for IDAS to support Litigants in Person to submit evidence and documents as well as download their orders. The Court IDVA links in with the Family Court Advisory Teams and attends monthly Child And Family Court Advisory Support Service (“CAFCASS”) staff meetings to share good practice around cases of domestic abuse and family court proceedings.

The Court IDVA has also established good working relationships with local Solicitors and Barristers to increase the number offering pro-bono support for clients in the York and Scarborough areas. They have established quarterly Family Court ‘access an IDVA and a Family Law Solicitor’ drop-ins which are well attended and provide an opportunity to link in with Solicitors supporting IDAS clients and discuss key issues and next steps. ‘Family Courts Café’ sessions at York St. John University have recently been established with local Solicitors to meet with clients alongside their IDAS support worker in a friendly, supportive and safe environment.

Objective 5: Enhancing Support Services for Victims

Outcome 5.1: Ensure high quality services are available to everyone at their time of need

Need and demand continues to grow for specialist support services for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence in particular, with 10,857 victims and survivors supported through the OPFCC’s commissioned support services in 2023/24 including specialist Domestic Abuse Practitioners (also known as an IDVAs) and ISVAs, Exploitation Services and Counselling; however we recognise that these figures do not include those accessing support through non-commissioned services and other local charities, and there will be many more victims and survivors who are not accessing support at all for a variety of reasons.

VAWG Survey responses will be analysed in more detail, particularly those who reported not receiving any offer of support and compared to the Police Domestic Abuse Survey and national Op

Soteria Victim Experience Survey responses to identify common themes or barriers to accessing support and agree actions to be taken to address this moving forward.

The Halo Project's ID/SVA 'By and For' Black and Minoritised Women, funded via the Ministry of Justice National ISVA/IDVA Fund secured by the OPFCC (until 31st March 2025), continues to provide specialist support to women and girls who are victims, or are at risk, of illegal cultural harms. Although providing support to small numbers, Halo have seen a 725% increase in the number of victims supported in York and North Yorkshire from 6 in 2022/23 to 66 in 2023/24.

In 2023/24 the OPFCC secured Home Office Safer Streets funding to purchase and install Video Doorbells (with a 12-month subscription) for victims of post separation domestic abuse and/or stalking; as at July 2024, 52 video doorbells had been provided. The doorbells are distributed by IDAS as a target hardening measure alongside specialist advice and safety planning to improve feelings of safety and to capture any evidence of offences including breach of non-molestation/restraining orders.

The OPFCC, North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council have jointly commissioned a new package of support services to deliver a 'Whole System Approach' to Domestic Abuse from April 2024; collectively investing over £8m over the next four years to provide a holistic package of enhanced support services for everyone affected by domestic abuse across North Yorkshire and the City of York. The new services include specialist support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse within their family alongside support for those young people displaying abusive behaviours themselves towards family members or other young people as a result of the domestic abuse they have experienced. The new services will enable victims and survivors, and their children, to better cope with the immediate impacts of domestic abuse, empowering them to make informed choices about their safety, and rebuilding resilience to move forward from the harm experienced.

The OPFCC continue to with police colleagues to ensure that victims of sexual offences receive an appropriate and timely offer of support. A pilot is currently taking place whereby victims of sexual offences are automatically referred into the [Supporting Victims Team](#) who will offer a referral to an appropriate support service to meet their needs, including but not limited to ISVA, Women's Centre or Exploitation Services.

The OPFCC has commissioned a new Exploitation Support Service which commenced on 13th May 2024, delivered by St. Giles Trust. The new support service will work with those aged 10-25yrs and will offer gender-specific support for women and girls. The new service model will offer support to those who have been victims of exploitation and also have a focus on prevention and early intervention.

We continue to see growing need and demand for more timely mental health support for victims and survivors; pathways have now been established with 34 "first contact workers" who are mental health professionals based in 74 GP surgeries across North Yorkshire offering up to 4 sessions of support. The OPFCC has also continued to secure additional funding from the Ministry of Justice Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Fund (until 31st March 2025) for both commissioned and non-commissioned specialist support services to provide additional counselling, trauma therapy and EMDR sessions in 2024/25.

The OPFCC has signed up to the 7-force 'Transparency in Supply Chains' Statement in respect of procurement and commissioning. The Modern Slavery Partnership Terms of Reference were refreshed in 2023, including governance and accountability arrangements, to ensure it supports effective identification and offer of support for victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

The Partnership now produces quarterly reports to feedback to Community Safety Partnerships and has contributed content to Safeguarding Week 2023 and campaign for Anti-Slavery Day 2023.

The National Referral Mechanism is the national framework for identifying and referring victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support. The Single Competent Authority administers it, which is part of the Home Office. North Yorkshire Police are fully engaged in the National Referral Mechanism for both adults (with consent) who are referred to the national Single Competent Authority and for children (no consent required) who are discussed via a local multi agency panel, acting on behalf of the Single Competent Authority.

Objective 6: Facilitating Behaviour Change by Perpetrators

Outcome 6.1: Increase availability of interventions for perpetrators of VAWG offences that focus on both enforcement and rehabilitation

The OPFCC piloted a support offer for low-risk perpetrators who are willing to voluntarily address their stalking behaviours from January 2022 until March 2024; the OPFCC funded a Stalking Project Worker who was co-located with the North Yorkshire Police specialist Stalking Team to identify and contact 16 suitable individuals, supporting the three of which who agreed to engage with the +Choices Perpetrator Programme, with one successfully completing the programme.

A Stalking Perpetrator Problem Profile has been completed by North Yorkshire to inform commissioning options of a new specialist stalking perpetrator behaviour change programme, including options for this to be delivered as a (mandatory) Positive Requirement attached to Stalking Prevention Orders. The OPFCC are also working with Commissioners across the wider Yorkshire and the Humber Region to identify options for a regional approach to increase service accessibility and resilience and provide greater value for money.

The recently commissioned new +Choices: Services for Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse from April 2024 now includes an offer of support for perpetrators who pose a high risk of serious harm, and who are willing to engage through a new bespoke 1:1 behaviour change programme based on the Respect accredited Drive model.

The OPFCC is now focussed on commissioning and funding opportunities to deliver a pilot provision of a mandatory brief intervention for low risk perpetrators of domestic abuse. This will include an Out of Court Resolution route for North Yorkshire Police to issue Conditional Cautions for standard risk domestic abuse offences. We hope to have this in place from early 2025; in the interim North Yorkshire Police will continue to issue Simple Cautions for standard risk domestic abuse cases where appropriate alongside voluntary referrals (with consent) into +Choices: Services for Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse and/or the Crossroads Diversion Scheme.

The Halo Project have been awarded Community Fund to redevelop their [‘Talk, Listen, Change’](#) programme for delivery in York and North Yorkshire; this will be co-produced with survivors of Illegal Cultural Harms, into a trauma informed community education perpetrator programme which will be piloted in York and North Yorkshire to a minimum of 10 perpetrators.

Outcome 6.2: Increase availability of interventions for those with Dual Status and those with Multiple Unmet Need

Crossroads offers a Gender Specific Diversion Scheme and uses a gender specific needs assessment for women who offend to identify common intersectional needs; the latest cohort report shows that those women who have completed Crossroads in a Planned way saw a 70% reduction in (re)offending and those who exited in an unplanned way saw a 57% reduction in (re)offending.

The OPFCC secured funding through the Ministry of Justice Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Fund for a StopSO registered therapist (until 31st March 2025) to offer counselling to adult survivors of rape, sexual assault or child sexual abuse who are also perpetrators of sexual offences, including those who have made or downloaded or shared indecent images of children as well as contact offences. The OPFCC continue to explore interventions and funding options for perpetrators of sexual offences, particularly online sexual offending.

Partners have committed to working together to develop a ‘Whole System Approach for Women’ across North Yorkshire and City of York with the aim of improving the response to women with multiple unmet needs, those who have been victims, or at risk of violence and those who are involved with, or at risk of involvement with the Criminal Justice System. Additional funding has been secured through the Home Office Safer Streets Fund for a Coordinator post until March 2025 who will coordinate the development of the Whole System Approach including reviewing Hub and Spoke services in line with any changes in local need and demand and supported by Outreach Workers. Home Office Safer Streets Funding has also been secured to purchase materials to enhance the drop-in sessions which have been established.

A steering group has been established as part of the Whole System Approach to Women to lead on the development of a trauma-informed, end-to-end dedicated pathway for women who offend. In September 2024, a Whole System Approach Strategic meeting was held at HMP Askham Grange which was attended by a wide-range of partners who came together to agree a set of shared outcomes which will focus on women in the Criminal Justice System, gender-specific substance use provision, increased provision and parity of support and trauma-informed care.

The OPFCC will continue to monitor individual outcomes for women supported through the Crossroads Gender Specific Diversion Scheme to identify common intersectional needs and improve the local evidence base of underlying and contributory factors to women offending, responding to the distinct needs of women, including any VAWG offences they may have been subjected to.

How can you support the VAWG Strategy?

- Participate at the VAWG Summit on 25th November – invitations to be sent shortly
- Promote and raise awareness of the VAWG Survey: [What should be done to STOP Violence Against Women and Girls?](#)
- Promote and encourage licensed premises, restaurants and other local businesses to sign up for the free ‘Safer Streets’ training - [Safer Streets - Business & Night Time Economy - Free Online Training Courses](#)
- Promote and raise awareness of OPFCC Funded Projects and Initiatives aimed at reducing VAWG and other violence:
[Serious Violence Duty Funding – Projects](#)
[Community Safety Services Fund - Projects](#)
[Community Fund - Projects](#)

York and North Yorkshire Victims’ Centre

Background

The new Victims’ Centre will include the York and North Yorkshire’s Sexual Assault Referral Centre (“SARC”) and Child Sexual Assault Assessment Services (“CSAAS”) facilities, alongside

two new Video-Recorded (“VRI”) Interview suites will be utilised by North Yorkshire Police to take statements from these and other vulnerable victims and witnesses including children and young people.

The purpose of a SARC is to co-ordinate and simplify the pathway for victims of rape and sexual assault to access wider healthcare, social care, and criminal justice processes to improve individual health and well-being, as well as criminal justice outcomes. SARC (for adults) and the CSAAS (for children) typically provide three main services following disclosure of an offence:

- immediate healthcare;
- forensic examinations and collection of evidence; and
- visually recorded interviews, supporting Achieving Best Evidence (“ABE”) guidelines.

The Forensic Science Regulator (“FSR”) ensures that the provision of forensic science services across the criminal justice system (including SARC and CSAAS) is subject to an appropriate regime of scientific quality standards. In 2020 a new requirement for all SARC/CSAAS to be accredited by the UK Accreditation Service (“UKAS”) under ISO 15189 was announced. Failure to meet the accreditation standards by October 2025 must be disclosed in any subsequent criminal justice proceedings; this accreditation deadline was extended from October 2023 as publication of the revised ISO and supporting Code of Practice was delayed until late 2022/23. Non-compliance would result in increased risk of unsuccessful prosecution of sexual offences, decreased public confidence in the justice process and in turn the possibility of fewer disclosures by victims of rape and sexual assault.

Creating a new dedicated Victims’ Centre for York and North Yorkshire will:

- ensure our SARC/CSAAS facilities will be able to achieve UKAS Accreditation;
- ensure continued delivery of these services for victims of rape and sexual assault to support them to recover, heal and rebuild their lives;
- provide accessible facilities for those with mobility needs;
- improve the overall experience of all victims using these facilities;
- support officers in achieving best evidence when interviewing victims and witnesses by helping them feel more assured and comfortable; and
- assist North Yorkshire Police in effectively meeting the requirements of Sections 27 and 28 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 in respect of facilitating video recorded interviews, cross-examination and re-examination of witnesses.

Progress to Date

A commercial property was purchased in May 2022 which could be refurbished to meet the operational and accreditation requirements for both SARC/CSAAS and VRI facilities; the new premises are located in a small private business park on the outskirts of York, close to key transport links. The building has private outside space and a car park, with a designated, accessible parking bay; the building also has a lift and accessible toilets and will be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1999.

There will be two dedicated forensic examination suites providing age-appropriate environments for the (Adult) SARC and Child Services (CSAAS); consisting of a forensically clean waiting room, medical examination room and shower room with toilet facilities along with separate family/visitor waiting rooms with ‘kitchenette’ and toilet facilities. There will also be a non-forensic medical

examination room for non-recent cases. There will be designated office space and ample storage for use by the SARC/CSAAS provider/s, including secure storage and freezer facilities for forensic samples collected for self-referral (Adult only) clients.

There will be two self-contained VRI suites, also with separate family/visitor waiting rooms with 'kitchenette' and toilet facilities, and dedicated office space and storage for use by North Yorkshire Police.

There will also be a meeting room, hot desk facilities and a 1-to-1/Quiet room which can be utilised by other partners and support service providers such as Social Workers, ISVAs or Counselling services. There will also be staff shower facilities, kitchen and break-out areas that can be used by all staff using the building.

Consultation workshops were initially held in June 2022 with key stakeholders including North Yorkshire Police, Regional Scientific Support, NHS England, ISVA Service Managers, current SARC/CSAAS provider and Registered Intermediary Services to review the Architects' concept drawings. The OPFCC have continued to work closely with these stakeholders and national subject matter experts including the FSR and National Police Chiefs' Council's Forensic Capability Network to input into architectural and design plans to ensure the new facilities will both meet the UKAS accreditation requirements and provide welcoming, modern facilities to better meet the needs of victims and vulnerable witnesses to support them to recover, heal and rebuild their lives.

A revised ISO 15189 was published in December 2022, and updated FSR Codes of Practice and supporting guidance issued in March 2023 which resulted in several re-designs to ensure the facilities would be compliant with essential forensic requirements. This has delayed planned progress and lengthened implementation timeframes overall.

The Building Contract was awarded in December 2023, and work having commenced on site in February 2024, is now well underway and due to be completed in December 2024. However, issues identified on site once works commenced have necessitated further revisions to the design plans to ensure Building Control compliance, with increased costs incurred as a result.

We are now finalising a revised Mobilisation Plan in partnership with the North Yorkshire Police Estates Team and current SARC/CSAAS provider to ensure all other operational requirements will be in place, including furnishing and decorating the Centre and ensure a smooth transfer from the existing facilities. This includes exploring appropriate opportunities to consult with victims and survivors in a trauma-informed way on proposed colour schemes, furniture options and other items to help make them feel more comfortable.

We anticipate the new Victims' Centre will be open and able to accept victims from January 2025.

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POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	10 th October 2024
Report Title	Hate Crime Update

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Office of the Police, Fire, Crime and Commissioning at info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk.

1.0 Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to update the Police, Fire and Crime Panel on Hate Crime within York and North Yorkshire. Providing updates from both the Office of Police, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (OPFCC) and North Yorkshire Police (NYP).

2.0 PFCC/OPFCC Activity Update

- 2.1 Hate crime is a priority for the OPFCC. The Supporting Victims service continues to offer support to people who have experienced crimes such as hate crimes with assistance provided by skilled Victim Care Co-ordinators. They are also an Independent Reporting Centre for Hate Crime, providing a 'report and support' service: [I or someone I know is experiencing personal abuse | Supporting Victims | North Yorkshire](#)
- 2.2 The office has commissioned Restorative Solutions who offer a Hate Crime Awareness Course for perpetrators as a Community Resolution Disposal for low level and first time offending with hate crime. This has been completed by 40 perpetrators over the last 12 months.
- 2.3 The OPFCC has funded Stop Hate UK to develop the Start Safe, Stay Safe app and whilst the focus is more on Violence against women and girls (VAWG), it will link to hate crime too. The App will offer direct links to the police in case of emergency and allows the capturing of audio, video, or photographic evidence in support of their report. The Stop Hate UK 24-hour support team will use their expertise to advise and collaborate with key partners to ensure people get the best support. This will be launched October 2024.
- 2.4 Hate Crime Awareness week begins on the 14th of October and the OPFCC communications team will be doing joint comms, with NYP and partners, to promote and provide advice, signposting, and messages.

3.0 North Yorkshire Police Activity Update

- 3.1 The Hate Crime Coordinator Team within North Yorkshire Police (NYP) are part of the Local Policing Support Team, previously known as the Partnership Hub and consult directly with partners including North Yorkshire County Council; York City Council and the Crown Prosecution Service to ensure that victims receive the appropriate support and after care.
- 3.2 The Hate Crime Coordinator Team is made up of one Sergeant, two hate crime coordinators and a hate crime Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). Together they engage with communities and ensure victims of hate crime and hate occurrences receive the best service NYP can offer by reviewing all incidents of hate crime, offering investigative advice and specialist knowledge along with training for officers, outside agencies, and community groups.
- 3.3 The team review all reports of hate crime that are reported across the county and provide officers with bespoke and detailed investigative advice on how these enquiries should be completed. This in turn save response officers vital time in relation to having to keep re-visiting victims and witnesses to complete forms. The Hate Crime team make themselves available as a point of contact to the Office in Charge for any questions or any assistance that is required.
- 3.4 The team also co-ordinate the Strategic Independent Advisory Group (SIAG) which is comprised of members of the public with diverse backgrounds who advise NYP and us help look at policing issues from different perspectives. This diversity of thought is vital to help to continually improve working practices including those regarding hate crime.
- 3.5 Training has continued with delivery of Hate Crime Training to Student Officers, Special Constables, PCSO's and the Force Control Room. This increases awareness and enables people to recognise what constitutes a hate crime and equally important the best way to respond.
- 3.6 The team frequently scrutinise reporting statistics and these also appear in the Hate Crime Problem Profile. Increased reporting can be an indicator of increased confidence but also helps NYP to tailor the response which may differ significantly across communities, victims, offenders, and locations.
- 3.7 The Hate Crime Team attended York Pride and conducted surveys with the LGBTQ+ community to try and better understand the barriers to reporting hate crime within the community. NYP and the Hate Crime Team will continue attendance and support for Pride events across the force.
- 3.8 There is an ongoing piece of research work being undertaken by post graduate students at University of York to better understand the barriers to reporting disability hate crime as it is believed this is greatly underreported both locally and nationally. This research will be fed back directly to NYP.

4.0 Victim Care

- 4.1 Supporting Victims contact every victim of hate crime to offer onwards referrals into Victim Support if needed.
- 4.2 The Hate Crime Team continue send out victim care packs to every victim of hate crime upon them making a report to NYP. The pack includes a letter from the Assistant Chief Constable, addressed personally to the victim. There is also

supporting hate crime literature and signposting to local and national support organisations

4.3 NYP’s Victim Satisfaction Survey is continuing with victims being called back by independent volunteers to gauge how they were dealt with and are asked a specific set of questions. Results are anonymised but themes and feedback are highlighted and acted upon. Such as a need for more regular updates, this also falls in line with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) Enhanced service principles.

4.4 NYP have implemented OP Hampshire [Hate Occurrence and Crime Procedure \(northyorkshire.police.uk\)](http://northyorkshire.police.uk) for Police Officers now which means they will be supported better and treated like any other victim and can be referred into staff support networks, Welfare teams and external signposting to support services. Additionally, they are contacted by the Hate Crime Team who can be a point of contact for repeat victims.

5.0 Champions

5.1 There has been further training in Delivery of Community Champions Training to third sector organisations.

5.2 NYP have designated Hate Crime Champions who are subject matter experts to assist colleagues in dealing with reports of hate crime as they do not have capacity to provide Continuing Professional Development (CPD) certification training to all officers and staff.

6.0 Recorded Data for York and North Yorkshire

6.1 Reported incidents and type.

Recorded Strand/Characteristic	Number Reported (02/09/2023-02/09/2024)
Age Related	6
Asylum Seeker/Migrant worker	6
Disability	94
Gypsy/Traveller	7
Misogyny	40
Racial	729
Religion	58
Sexual Orientation	218
Transphobic	50
Vulnerable	11
Total	1,219

6.2 Reported incidents by area.

District	Number Reported (02/09/2023-02/09/2024)
Craven	54
Hambleton	83
Harrogate	190
Richmond	27
Ryedale	44
Scarborough	251
Selby	87
York	479

POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	10 th October 2024
Report Title	Risk and Resource Model Update

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Office of the Police, Fire, Crime and Commissioning at info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk.

1.0 Purpose of this report

To provide an update on the implementation of the Risk and Resource Model (RRM) proposals which were approved in September 2022, following extensive public consultation.

2.0 The Risk and Resource Model (2022-25)

The Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), known locally as the Risk and Resource Model 2022-25 sets out the risk in York and North Yorkshire, and the services and resources provided by North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) to prevent and respond to emergencies and protect our communities.

The Chief Fire Officer (CFO) is delegated to prepare the RRM for approval of the Commissioner. In future, this will be for approval of the Mayor.

2.1 RRM Resource Change Proposals

In March 2022 NYFRS published its Community Risk Profile (CRP) based on an extensive methodology which underpinned the Risk and Resource Model. This was the most comprehensive assessment of risk ever conducted by NYFRS, taking into account not only five years of incident data, but also demographic, socio-economic and infrastructure data, including partner data, to ensure a robust understanding of risk in communities.

NYFRS brought change proposals for the new Risk and Resource Model to the Commissioner's Executive Board in March 2022.¹ These proposals were based upon extensive analyses of risk and data, together with resource modelling and rationale. At this meeting, the Commissioner adopted five options to be taken to formal consultation (framed as four proposals given the similarity of the changes proposed at Harrogate and Scarborough).

Following a three-month public consultation, the Commissioner made the decision to approve all the former Chief Fire Officer's change proposals with any efficiencies from the changes being re-invested

¹ <https://www.northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk/for-you/decisions/executive-board/minutes/executive-board-minutes-29-march-2022/>

into vital Service areas. Full details on the Commissioner's decisions can be found in the Decision Notice.²

2.2 RRM Implementation Update

1. Improving our prevention and protection work

Permanently increase the specialist staff in our prevention and protection departments and increase prevention and protection activities across NYFRS.

Over half of the savings from the RRM changes to date (c£700k) have been reallocated to Prevention and Protection functions. This has allowed the design and implementation of a sustainable infrastructure, with investment in people and roles (operational and non-operational), vehicles, estate and equipment. As a result, all Prevention and Protection objectives in the RRM are being delivered effectively through new strategies³ for both functions.

There are significant benefits to the increase and expansion of roles across these functions, including the increased provision of training and competency of all frontline staff to deliver interventions in domestic and commercial settings. The improved use of data means better targeting of individuals and premises that present the greatest risk, especially those furthest away from an emergency response.

Further information on the investment into the Protection and Prevention teams and interventions and activities to help keep our communities and buildings safe was presented at the Deputy Mayor's last Online Public Meeting⁴ on 19 September 2024.

It is worth noting that resourcing of the Prevention and Protection functions is lower than many other fire and rescue services.

2. Managing attendance to Automatic Fire Alarms

Reduce response to low-risk Automatic Fire Alarms (AFAs) which are often unwanted fire signals (an alarm activated by something other than a fire).

At the start of the last financial year (from 1 April 2023), the Automatic Fire Alarm attendance policy was changed to reduce fire engine attendance to unwanted automatic fire alarms. Crews have also increased the level of advice and education to building owners to reduce unnecessary attendance.

Positively, as a result, there has been a 20% reduction in AFAs attended at commercial and retail properties over the last financial year (2023/24) when compared to the previous 12 months (2022/23).

Work is ongoing to finalise a charge for repeat, unnecessary callouts.

² <https://www.northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk/decision-notice/dn-16-2022-rrm/>

³ <https://www.northyorksfire.gov.uk/about-us/who-and-what/strategies-policies-and-procedures/>

3. Response resource in the York area

Change Huntington to an On-call fire station to rebalance the emergency response resource with the risk that exists in the York area.

Huntington changed to an On-call fire station in November 2023. However, the first wholetime appliance was removed entirely at the end of January 2024. Positive staff engagement with Huntington’s wholetime firefighters and representative bodies led to their successful redeployment to alternative locations.

NYFRS expressed within the public consultation document, a predicted average additional response time of 3 minutes and 47 seconds to incidents in the Huntington station area. This was to account for the crew turn out time of the On-call fire engine.

The average response time in the Huntington station area since the change to On-call only (between 1 February and 31 July 2024) was 13 minutes 30 seconds, an average increase of 3 minutes and 3 seconds (compared to 1 April 2023 - 31 January 2024). The wholetime fire engines at York and Acomb have continued to provide a primary emergency response (i.e. the first engine to respond to an incident), across the whole Huntington station area.

Since the start of the financial year (1 April – 30 June 2024), the average response time to all incidents across York and North Yorkshire was 12 minutes and 7 seconds compared to the year previous which was 13 minutes and 4 seconds.⁴ . In York and Selby districts the average response time was 10 minutes and 46 seconds in the same period.

The table below shows the number and type of incidents in the Huntington Station area that North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has responded to over six months between 1 February and 31 July 2024. This reflects a similar level of demand and incident profile to that of other On-call fire station areas across York and North Yorkshire. The most recent assessment of risk and demand supports the rationale for this original proposal.

Table 1: Incident Profile: Huntington Fire Station Area

Incident Type	1 February - 31 July 2024
False Alarms	65
Fires	29
Special Services (non-fire incidents)	48
Total	142

Huntington’s on-call fire engine availability was at 71% for the month of November 2023, prior to removal of the wholetime appliance. In August 2024, availability was at 56%. The average on-call station availability across York and North Yorkshire for the first financial quarter of the year was 68%. Availability has been monitored closely since the station change and a targeted recruitment exercise has taken place in the Huntington area.

The recent recruitment campaign has resulted in an additional 11 On-call firefighter applications for Huntington. As an additional measure, Acomb (the nearest supporting fire engine) have 14 firefighters (equating to an FTE of 10.5).

Huntington currently has 8 On-Call Firefighters providing a full time equivalent (FTE) of 5.75. The station has a full complement of supervisory managers, with 1 Watch Manager, and 2 Crew Managers.

⁴ [Fire statistics data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/fire-statistics-data-tables)

The Aerial Ladder Platform has been retained in York at Acomb fire station.

Prevention and Protection activities with higher risk individuals and premises in the Huntington area have continued and several focussed prevention activities have been undertaken in Huntington, in line with the risk-based inspection and intervention programmes.

4. Response resource in Harrogate and Scarborough

Replace the Tactical Response fire engines with the usual B-type fire engines crewed during the time when emergencies are most likely to happen.

This change will take place at Harrogate first and, on completion of a full review of the implementation, this will be extended to Scarborough. NYFRS Managers are engaging with staff and the representative bodies to design an option which provides a workable crewing model for the second fire engine at Harrogate fire station. The length of this engagement period is delaying the implementation of this proposal.

3.0 OPFCC activity

The Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (OPFCC) supports service improvement and effective holding to account arrangements, as part of the broader assurance framework of the OPFCC.⁵ Regular Service updates are sought on the implementation and impact of the proposals.

RRM Implementation progress is detailed in the Annual Report 2023-24, which the Panel has had sight of. In addition, performance is regularly monitored at the Deputy Mayor's Online Public Meetings⁶.

⁵ Assurance Framework <https://www.northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk/fire-oversight/governance/assurance-framework/>

⁶ Link to Online Public Meetings <https://www.northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk/police-oversight/governance/governance-process/corporate-scrutiny-board/>

POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL REPORT

Meeting Date	10 th October 2024
Report Title	Consultation outline for Police and Crime and Fire and Rescue Plans

Information should be accessible for all. If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the Office of the Police, Fire, Crime and Commissioning at info@northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk.

1.0 Purpose of this report

To provide the Panel with an update on the plans for consultation to be undertaken for the development of the statutory Police and Crime Plan and the Fire and Rescue Plan. The Fire and Rescue Plan is not a statutory plan but is being approached as if it is, the priorities of which will feed into the Community Risk Management Plan.

2.0 Background

The formation of the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan is a critical component of the Mayor's/Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime (DMPFC) role. The plans communicate the Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's vision, objectives and intentions for both services over the next four years to the public, partner agencies and stakeholders.

2.1.1 The Police and Crime Plan

The Police and Crime Plan will set out clearly the priorities for policing for the force area of York and North Yorkshire. This includes objectives for policing, reducing crime and how policing resources will be allocated and agreements for funding. It will also set out and how the Mayor/DMPFC will hold the Chief Constable to account for this.

2.1.2 The Fire and Rescue Plan

The Mayor's priorities and objectives for North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) will form part of the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), in a section to be known as the Fire and Rescue Plan. The Mayor approves the CRMP but delegates its development to the Chief Fire Officer, to define the risk and resourcing across the service area.

2.2 Developing the Plans

The plans are designed around public need and expectations therefore it is right that the Mayor/DMPFC obtains the view of the community through public consultation.

2.2.1 Consultation Approach

The Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (OPFCC) is taking a collaborative approach to consulting the public, partners and stakeholders. The objectives of the consultation are:

- To deliver an inclusive public consultation in line with legal requirements and the Gunning Principles.
- To identify key priorities for inclusion in the new plans.
- For NYFRS - to assess public, partner, stakeholder, businesses and employee support for the proposed CRMP planning principles and response time standard.

The OPFCC has set out the following timeline for the consultation:



2.2.2 Methodologies

Insight Workshops

The OPFCC commissioned an independent social research agency to run four separate insight workshops with:

- The Mayor and DMPFC
- NYP senior leadership team
- NYFRS senior leadership team
- OPFCC Executive management team

These workshops consulted key stakeholders on their priorities and thoughts for development and content of the upcoming plans.

Headline feedback from these insight groups are below and helped form the survey questions;

Format of Strategic Plans has to change ...



Current Plan is

- ✘ Too long....
- ✘ Too vague....
- ✘ Too many overlapping priorities....
- ✘ Too hard for our public to understand....

New Plan must

- ✔ Limit length to 10-12 simple pages....
- ✔ Include more specific objectives and clearer indications of how progress will be assessed....
- ✔ Minimise areas of overlap and confusion....
- ✔ Simple English; simple graphics....

Best practice examples given were West Yorks; Thames Valley

7

Common Emergent Themes



01

Prevention is a high priority for each stakeholder. It plays to reducing risk and driving efficiencies by reducing the need for direct interventions or events. It is acknowledged that prevention is a long-term aspiration but as a number one priority it brings unity.

02

Collaboration was also placed high on each stakeholders agenda. While efficiency is again a driver behind this focus, it plays in a political and response context. A new Combined Authority has a real chance of establishing multi-agency collaboration and data sharing.

03

Technology and Data are seen as a way of targeting activity; deploying resources more effectively and thereby building efficiency. There is a recognition that investment will be needed and barriers to data sharing will exist in some aspects of service delivery. Data is also seen as the best way to measure effectiveness.



Stakeholders further recognize that the public are unaware of the true nature of risk, threat and vulnerability they face. In this consultative context the ignorance or low awareness of where potential risk really lies can undermine strategic planning. Misunderstanding leads to misallocations of resource and can undermine where the real service and support priorities are needed



Surveys

The OPFCC has designed two surveys, to consult the public on the Police and Crime Plan and the Fire and Rescue Plan. These surveys aim to understand the key concerns of the public and reflect the issues that communities want the services to prioritise.

The surveys are easily accessible to all and open to anyone who lives or works in York and North Yorkshire. The OPFCC communications and engagement have a communications plan to promote the survey widely, through social media, press releases and e-communications, to engage with a range of audiences.

The survey will be live from the week commencing 30th September and run for 6 weeks until 18th November 2024.

Focus groups

The OPFCC will be running several focus groups with seldom heard groups including faith groups.

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL

10 October 2024

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 tasks that the Panel must undertake and the priorities defined within the context of the current [Police and Crime Plan](#) and [Fire and Rescue Plan 2022/25](#).
- 3.0 The work programme at Appendix A highlights those issues which have been previously agreed or which have been added since the last meeting in discussion with the Chair and Vice Chair.
- 4.0 The work programme looks at key topics and areas of interest under the rubric of the four CARE principles, as drawn from the current two key statutory plans. These are:
- **Caring about the vulnerable**
 - Includes:- (NYP) Making all women and girls safer; Embed compassion for victims and the vulnerable; Prevent harm before it happens; Tackle hidden harms (e.g. wildlife crime, rural crime).
 - (FRS) Prevent harm and damage before it happens; Enhance our role in achieving wider public safety; Embed compassion for the vulnerable.
 - **Ambitious collaboration**
 - Includes:- (NYP and FRS) Enhance collaboration; Take a whole system approach to tackling core problems.
 - **Realising our potential**
 - Includes:- Maximise funding to improve our services; Properly skill and equip our people; (NYP only) Improve trust and confidence in our police; Develop our people and organisation to meet our communities' needs; (FRS only) Build a diverse and inclusive workforce.
 - **Enhancing our service for the public**
 - Includes:- Embed a customer and community focus; Promote a more visible presence in communities.
- 5.0 It is acknowledged that the Mayor may wish to consider areas of focus and key principles for statutory plans in due course and that these therefore may change and adapt over time. The Panel will look to be responsive to this through its work programme.
- 6.0 There is some statutory business that the Panel has to undertake and slot in to the future work programme such as reviewing the Mayor's precept proposals. However, the topics selected for consideration by the Panel under the CARE principle themes are propositional. As such, Panel members are invited to consider the appropriateness of the suggestions given for forthcoming agendas.

7.0 Members are also reminded that it is preferable for the Panel to agree just a couple of key substantive reports to come to each meeting; and perhaps just one thematic report where this is taken in addition to statutory reporting. This is to ensure that sufficient time can be given to each discussion and also to ensure that the ask of the Commissioner's office is not overly burdensome.

8.0 All full Panel meetings will continue to be held in person and venues are highlighted on the programme where these have been confirmed.

9.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

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

12.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

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

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 That the Panel agrees its outline work programme.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Police, Fire and Crime Panel Work Programme 2024/25

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services
County Hall
Northallerton
2 October 2024

Report Author: Diane Parsons, Principal Scrutiny Officer.

<p>October 2024</p>	<p>Thursday, 10th October 2024 at 10:30am City of York Council's West Offices</p>	<p>Focus on: Caring about the vulnerable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making all women and girls safer: annual update. • Tackling hate crime: annual update. <p><u>Other reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and Rescue Service: Risk and Resource Model review of post-implementation impact and future planning. • Public consultation on the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan
<p>January 2025</p>	<p>Thursday, 16th January 2025 at 10:30am County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>Focus on: Realising our potential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Pre-precept' reports for policing and fire and rescue. • Equality, diversity and inclusivity in both services. <p><u>Other reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel to make recommendations on the Mayor's draft Police and Crime Plan and draft Fire and Rescue Plan.
<p>February 2025</p>	<p>Thursday, 6th February 2025 at 10:30am County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>Precept proposals for policing and fire and rescue.</p> <p>Focus on: Enhancing our service for the public</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Force Control Room performance update including review of efficacy of response triage (Right Care, Right Person update), liaison with YAS and channel shift. <p><u>Other reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline recruitment process for independent co-opted members during 2025 (for agreement).
	<p>Thursday, 20th February 2025 at 1:30pm County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>Precept reserve meeting (if needed).</p>

<p>May 2025</p>	<p>Thursday, 1st May 2025 at 10:30am Selby Civic Centre, Selby.</p>	<p>Focus on: Tackling hidden harms <i>(may include)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress update on tackling wildlife and rural crime. • Domestic violence, particularly in rural areas.
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OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- Cross-border collaboration by the Mayor and North Yorkshire Police: *in relation to both preventing and tackling crime as well as delivering organisational efficiencies through collaborative working. (deferred from 12th June)*
- Working in partnership to tackle County Lines and pervasive drug crime.
- Fire and rescue service: *collaboration work with partners to maximise efficiency and resilience.*