

# North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

7 July 2025

## 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	1 May 2025	81 / Members' Questions	Request for data regarding referrals for therapeutic support for victims to the SARC and other services.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A.
2	1 May 2025	81 / Members' Questions	Further information requested on the NPCC guidance for policing following the Supreme Court ruling on the legal definition of a woman.	27.06.2025	In progress. See Appendix A.
3	1 May 2025	81 / Members' Questions	Info to be provided on changes to the organisational structure and senior roles at MCA.	07.07.2025	In progress. See Appendix A.
4	1 May 2025	82 / Rural and Wildlife Crime	Data requested on NYP's performance on enforcement of legislation for hunting with hounds.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A.
5	1 May 2025	82 / Rural and Wildlife Crime	Clarification sought on govt funding to tackle rural and wildlife crime.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A.

6	1 May 2025	82 / Rural and Wildlife Crime	To receive update from Deputy Mayor following discussions with CPS on securing prosecutions for wildlife crime.	07.07.2025	In progress. See Appendix A.
7	1 May 2025	82 / Rural and Wildlife Crime	Data requested on number of Criminal Behaviour Orders issued for wildlife crime in last two years.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A.
8	1 May 2025	82 / Rural and Wildlife Crime	Info regarding link between the prevalence of firearms and domestic violence.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A.
9	1 May 2025	83 / Domestic violence in rural areas	To receive details of work commissioned in Derbyshire on domestic abuse in rural areas.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A.
10	1 May 2025	83 / Domestic violence in rural areas	Seek collaboration with the Deputy Mayor on representations to govt regarding removal of firearms from individuals arrested on suspicion of serious sexual violence.	27.06.2026	In progress. See Appendix A.
11	1 May 2025	83 / Domestic violence in rural areas	Response sought on low conviction rates for domestic violence and how Deputy Mayor is seeking to address this.	27.06.2025	Completed – see Appendix A

### 3.0 Financial Implications

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

### 4.0 Legal Implications

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

### 5.0 Equalities Implications

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

### 6.0 Climate Change Implications

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

## **7.0 Recommendations**

7.1 It is recommended that the Panel:

(a) notes the report

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

### **Appendices:**

Appendix A: Updates against issues raised by the Panel.

**Background Documents:** None.

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
25 June 2025

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

	<b>Query raised</b>	<b>Response from the Policing, Fire and Crime Team (YNYCA)</b>
1	Request for data regarding referrals for therapeutic support for victims to the SARC and other services.	<p>In the main, Mountain Healthcare Ltd, who provide the SARC service, refer on to support services such as the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) service which is provided by IDAS in York and North Yorkshire and/or sexual health services, rather than counselling. This is because the SARC offer a crisis support service where victims are not usually at the stage where they are suitable/ready for counselling. It will be then the ISVA service who make a referral to counselling via the Supporting Victims team, once a victim is ready to engage with this type of support.</p> <p>In 24/25 the SARC made 120 referrals into the ISVA service. 778 referrals were made into our commissioned counselling services in 24/25, a significant proportion of these referrals were for victims/survivors of sexual violence.</p>
2	Further information requested on the NPCC guidance for policing following the Supreme Court ruling on the legal definition of a woman.	North Yorkshire Police (NYP) have adopted the guidance provided by the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and are compliant with the law as it has been determined by parliament. As and when further guidance issued as a result of review the necessary changes will be implemented.
3	Info to be provided on changes to the organisational structure and senior roles at MCA.	The organisational structure of the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) is currently under review and as such it isn't possible to provide an update report at this stage. A further update will be provided to the Panel once this has concluded.

4	Data requested on NYP's performance on enforcement of legislation for hunting with hounds.	Arrests for Hunting with a Hound. Since 2012 there have been seven recorded arrests in relation to this offence type. It is important to point out that there are likely to have been other offences that have been subject to an investigation, but that may have been progressed via a voluntary interview as opposed to arrest. Equally there will have been offences that have been reported and investigated but for which no suspect has been identified. The arrest numbers therefore only represent part of the picture where offences of this nature are reported.
5	Clarification sought on govt funding to tackle rural and wildlife crime.	<a href="#">More funding to combat rural and wildlife crime - GOV.UK</a> At present it is not expected that any of this money will come directly to York and North Yorkshire. However, this will be monitored as there may be elements of the funding that will be provided for specific items. For example, to fund the latest technology.
6	To receive update from Deputy Mayor following discussions with CPS on securing prosecutions for wildlife crime.	These discussions have not yet taken place and as such a further update will be provided in due course.
7	Data requested on number of Criminal Behaviour Orders issued for wildlife crime in last two years.	NYP have not utilised any Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) on conviction for wildlife crime offences within the last two years. The last CBO that that was sought and issued was in 2022. There is a focus on charging substantive offences where the evidence exists to support a charge.
8	Info regarding link between the prevalence of firearms and domestic violence.	NYP have robust procedures in place in relation to the review of licence holders who are involved in incidents. As well as an initial review by the officer in the case and their supervision at the time, the Firearms Licensing team conduct a secondary risk assessment following the incident. In addition, specialist safeguarding teams are involved to ensure checks are conducted where licensed firearms holder are involved.  The prevalence of firearms use during domestic incidents is not a specific area NYP collate data on, or one which has been subject to in-depth analysis to date, most likely as a result of the lack of prevalence of such incidents.

		Where offences of domestic violence are reported, and there is appropriate evidence to support these allegations, revocation of licenses will be properly considered.
9	To receive details of work commissioned in Derbyshire on domestic abuse in rural areas.	The charity Rural Action Derbyshire commissioned a film titled ' <a href="#">The Willows – Dawn's Story</a> ' which is a rural domestic abuse training film. The film highlights how rural domestic abuse is different, the sense of isolation, of being alone potentially without access to support services or the means to travel to a place of safety.
10	Seek collaboration with the Deputy Mayor on representations to govt regarding removal of firearms from individuals arrested on suspicion of serious sexual violence.	<p>The Panel wrote to the Deputy Mayor on 21 May 2025 requesting that representations are made to central government that in order to protect the most vulnerable in our communities there needs to be a standardisation of approach to ensuring all firearms licences are suspended or revoked where an individual is under arrest on suspicion of rape or serious sexual violence.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor is awaiting further details from the Panel regarding the specifics of the case referred to in order that NYP may review.</p>
11	Response sought on the extent to which the police are responsible for low conviction rates for domestic violence and how the Deputy Mayor is ensuring steps are taken forward to improve this.	<p>The underlying reasons for conviction rates are complex. NYP have one of the highest domestic violence arrest rates in the country and are victim-led in their prosecution of offences (dependent on the severity of the offences reported). NYP work closely with the third sector and commissioned services to understand the reasons for the outcome rates and how force performance can be improved. Through performance management and governance structures NYP are continually seeking to identify how to improve the service to victims which includes standards of victim care, police response, safeguarding, ongoing victims support and where appropriate criminal proceedings.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor chairs the Local Criminal Justice Partnership for York and North Yorkshire. This partnership brings together local Criminal Justice leaders to maintain oversight of the system and promote a collaborative approach to addressing its challenges. This includes improving the experiences of victims and witnesses. A Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel is also in place in York and North Yorkshire, led by the Police, Fire and Crime directorate, which examines domestic abuse cases which have received a 'no further action' outcome. The multi-agency panel provides an opportunity to highlight learning opportunities for the police and partner agencies and increase transparency for victims/survivors.</p>