

**REVIEW OF THE
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK**

INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE

21 JUNE 2022

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide members of the Independent Audit Committee with the outcomes of the internal review of the Corporate Governance Framework completed in May 2022.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Corporate Governance Framework for North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority was first published in April 2019. It consists of:
- **A Statement of Corporate Governance** - making reference to the statutory framework and local policy
 - **Code of Corporate Governance** - setting out how the core principles will be implemented
 - **Scheme of Corporate Governance** – defining the parameters within which the corporation sole will conduct their business including delegations and consents

3.0 REVIEWS AND REVISIONS

- 3.1 In March 2021, the Corporate Governance Framework was comprehensively reviewed by Statutory Officers and proposed changes taken forward to the Independent Audit Committee In June 2021 for approval. These changes were reflected in the Version 8 and published on the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner’s website.

- 3.2 Statutory officers met on 19 May 2022 to complete this year’s annual review of the Corporate Governance Framework. The Framework was considered fit for purpose, subject to expansion of the definition of “Statutory Officer” on page 4, to include the Chief Fire Officer, where context so requires.

“Statutory Officer”

The Chief Executive, the Treasurer/PFCC Chief Finance Officer collectively or individually as the context dictates **and the Chief Fire Officer (as the Head of Paid Service for the Fire and Rescue Service, where context so requires)**

- 3.3 Recent publication and content of the Home Office White Paper ‘Reforming Our Fire and Rescue Service – Building professionalism, boosting performance and strengthening governance’, and appointment of a new Chief Fire Officer in June 2022 would likely result in changes to internal governance arrangements. It was therefore agreed that the Framework should be reviewed over the current financial year with a report to the Independent Audit

Committee in March 2023 and an updated version in place for the start of the next financial year.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND KEY ACTIONS

4.1 Members are asked to consider and approve the minor revision detailed at paragraph 3.2.

4.2 For the Corporate Governance Framework to be reviewed over the current financial year with a report to Committee in March 2023 and an updated Framework to be in place at the start of the next financial year.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority, Corporate Governance Framework, Version 8. <https://www.northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk/fire-oversight/governance/nyfrs-framework/>

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