

AGENDA ITEM

INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE

JUNE 2024

NYFRS HMICFRS UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is to provide IAC with an update on the progress against our HMICFRS Action Plan.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The last HMICFRS specific meeting was held on 4 April 2024, with good attendance from Senior Responsible Owners (SRO's). The actions were reviewed against the causes of concern as well as the Area's for Improvement and the Values and Culture recommendations.

3. PROGRESS

- 3.1 The Head of Assurance and Inspection Lead gave an update on all CofC recommendations that are in the final stages of closure and recommended that CofC 2.1 Rec 2, CofC 3.2 Rec 1 and 4 can be closed fully. The Head of Assurance gave an update on Recommendation 4 of the V&C report. HMICFRS have requested further information on what we have provided. This recommendation refers to a professional standards function. We replied with supplementary information prior to the deadline, no further correspondence has been received.
- 3.2 The Head of Assurance has confidence that significant progress will be demonstrated as we move through 2024 with the proposed project plan in place.

4. FUTURE ACTIVITY

- 4.1 The Head of Assurance and Inspection Lead have completed our round 3 inspection preparation from January 2024 to March 2024. This involved self-assessments completed against each of the HMICFRS questions and judgment criteria. This is where the wider improvement activity can be evidenced against the characteristics of good.
- 4.2 They have looked to cross-reference information from existing updates, our current evidence library, using questionnaires, audit, and sampling to gain further evidence. This has allowed them to analyse the findings, gather further improvement updates and provide quality assurance of our current position to support the creation of the Strategic Briefing.

- 4.2 The project plan (Appendix A) shows a timeline of activity throughout 2024 for meetings with SRO's, reality testing, and departmental self-assessments as well as early Strategic Briefing conversations. This proposal of activity was agreed at the HMICFRS specific meeting.
- 4.3 Service wide, open forums have been scheduled with SRO's, the first being the 6th of June 2024. This will cover "How well the Service Responds to Incidents". The session will involve the Head of Assurance and the Inspection Lead questioning the Director for Emergency Response and Training on progress made in this section of the report.
- 4.4 Questions will be framed using the Characteristics of Good and will allow the SRO's to articulate the progress which has been made since last inspection. The intention is to make sure that all areas of the organisation can explain our improvement journey. Each Forum will be recorded

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Members to note the contents of the report

Appendix B

HMICFRS Timeline 2024 - 2025

