

AGENDA ITEM

INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE

September 2024

NYFRS HMICFRS UPDATE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report is to provide the Independent Audit Committee with an update on the progress against our HMICFRS Action Plan and on the latest national HMICFRS reports released.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The last HMICFRS specific meeting was held on, 1 August 2024. The actions were reviewed against the causes of concern as well as the Area's for Improvement to achieve closure of them as per the strategic timeline at appendix B.

2.2 Meeting members were also updated on how the State of Fire Report links to the improvement plan and on the release of the Handling of Misconduct in the FRS report.

3.0 HMICFRS FORUM

3.1 The Head of Assurance and Inspection Officer hosted the third of our recorded Open Forums on, 1 August. This was to explore the work that has already been delivered and our progress against the HMICFRS question; how well the FRS understands the risk of fire and other emergencies.

3.2 The Director for Service Improvement & Assurance, supported by Fiona Kinnear, provided an overview of the improvement plan. They answered direct questions framed from our previous inspection report and/or HMICFRS characteristics of good. Benchmarking against other FRS reports was also used. It was positive to hear the extent of the work that has already been completed across these areas.

3.3 The attendance for this meeting continues to improve and it was pleasing that operational managers took the time to log into the meeting. The forums are publicised ahead of the planned date and each of the forums are recorded, saved to SharePoint and communicated.

3.4 The next session is scheduled for 5 September at 11am and will cover:

- promoting the right values and culture
- ensuring fairness and promoting diversity

- 3.5 Additional awareness raising forums are being planned for managers, so they can share the information and knowledge with their staff in preparation for the round three inspection.

4.0 DATA COLLECTION

- 4.1 We have received some questions regarding the Spring data collection submission which need to be submitted by 16 August. The Head of Assurance and Inspection Officer are working through the questions with specific people. The questions relate to, people data, appliance availability and response.
- 4.2 We continue to ensure that our data submissions are improving in accuracy and historical definitions, for example, critical levels of appliance availability are improved prior to future submission.

5.0 NATIONAL REPORT

- 5.1 The Handling of Misconduct in the FRS report was released on, 1 August. The Head of Assurance and Inspection Officer have completed an initial review of the report and the 15 recommendations are being assigned, as per the agreed process, to senior responsible owners (SRO). The Values and Culture report recommendations evidence will be used to support the SRO in completing their allocated recommendations.

6.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 Members to note the contents of the report

Appendix B

