

JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE

MARCH 2025

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023/2024
AREAs FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS REPORT**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This paper provides the Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC) with a brief summary of the progress made with the areas for development captured in the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2023/2024. This report pertains to the “Internal Control Environment” aspect of the JIAC terms of reference.

2. AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

- 2.1 There were three areas for development identified during the review of governance arrangements undertaken to inform the AGS for 2023/2024. A summary of the progress made with each of those is set out in the table below:

2.2 Areas for Development for 2024/25

The key areas for development during 2024/25 are summarised below;

Area for Development	Owner	Target date	Remarks
<p>Carried forward from 2023/24</p> <p>Ensure that the Fire and Police enabling services collaboration governance, resources and performance deliver an efficient and effective service through undertaking a review and acting on the findings.</p>	Chief Constable	31 December 2024	Support Services have conducted an in-depth review, and presented the recommendations to the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer and their respective Chief Officer Teams. The Chiefs have given direction against those recommendations and refinement of the options is ongoing. The outcome of which will recommend a restructured Support Services aligned to delivering our strategic priorities. This will include an uplift in resources in some areas of the Support Services which will be aligned to the Financial & Business Planning Cycle.
<p>Carried forward from 2023/24</p> <p>Ensure that the force financial governance documents reflect current practice and that regular review arrangements are introduced.</p>	Chief Constable's Chief Finance Officer	31 December 2024	The Development Resource Manual (DRM) is under review and in accordance with internal audit reports in 2023/24 and 24/25 as well as the newly formed York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority on 7 th May 2024, the DRM will be updated by 31 March 2025.

Carried forward from 2023/24 Review and refresh the Chief Constables / Mayor's memorandum of understanding.	Corporate Director of York and North Yorkshire PFCC	31 December 2024	The Corporate Director for Police, Fire and Crime, Simon Dennis has now left the Combined Authority. The Monitoring Officer has picked up this action with effect from 2 January 2025. A review of this action has been carried out and this review/refresh will be completed by 31 March 2025.
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3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Committee are invited to consider the report and:

- Express any views on the Areas for Improvement progress during the year 2024/25

Risk Manager (Inspection and Strategic Planning, Corporate Development)

Date: March 2025