North York Moors National Park Authority

Item 5, Public minutes of the Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 1 September 2026

Present

George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Heather Moorhouse, Clive Pearson, John Ritchie, Janet Waggott, Colin Williamson, Keith Wilkinson (Independent Person), Jim Bailey, Jane Harper (by Teams)

Apologies

Malcolm Bowes

Officers in attendance

Tom Hind (Chief Executive), Pete Williams, (Director of Corporate Services), Chris France (Director of Planning), Briony Fox (Director of Conservation & Climate Change), Clare Roberts (Head of People) Simon Baum (ICT Manager).

Copies of all documents considered are in the minute book

33/26 Election of Chair

Resolved: That Colin Williamson be elected Chair of FRASC to take office until the first meeting of FRASC following the Annual General Meeting of the Authority.

Colin Williamson in the chair

34/26 Election of Deputy Chair

Resolved: That Heather Moorhouse be elected Deputy Chair of FRASC to take office until the first meeting of FRASC following the Annual General Meeting of the Authority.

35/26 Minutes

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2026, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

36/26 Members Interests

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interests relating to any agenda item prior to its consideration.

37/26 Exclusion of the public

Resolved: That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Items 20 &21, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 & 2 of Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

38/26 External Audit – verbal update

Considered:

A verbal update by the external auditors.

Members noted that the external audit is on track for completion with the audit partner expecting to conclude all aspects of the audit within the timetable indicated.

39/26 Internal Audit 2026/27 – Internal Audit Programme

Considered:

The report of the internal auditor.

Tom Absolom of Veritau Ltd presented the draft internal audit programme for 2026/27. Members sought clarification of the Officer report on the change of payroll provider and the scope of the internal audit relating to the volunteer strategy and operations.

Resolved: That Members approve the 2026/27 Internal audit programme.

40/26 External Funding and Project Progress update

Considered:

The report of the External funding Manager and the Project Development Manager.

Members enquired about the progress of the Linking Levisham Landscape Recovery pilot, including likely decision points for the Authority. The CEO provided a brief summary and update. Members noted the short timescales associated with the Peatland grant scheme restoration funding of Fylingdales Moor.

Resolved: That Members note the content of the report and agree the current work being done to secure external funding.

That Members monitor quarterly progress, especially for pending and opportunity funding, to ensure the Authority's Business Plan objectives are met.

41/26 Quarterly Performance Scorecard

Considered:

The report of the Information and Reporting Officer.

Members enquired about the exclusion of long-term absence rates from the sickness KPI, noting details were provided in the Health and Safety report. A discussion was held on volunteer KPIs and respective definitions volunteer hours and days. Members were keen to hold a separate training session with Officers on the selection and use of KPIs with the CEO noting that there was likely to be some change in KPIs with the adoption of a new strategy and business plan over the next year.

Action: Officers to organise training session for FRASC Members on scorecard and Authority KPIs

Resolved: That Members note the scorecard.

42/26 Quarter 1 Finance update

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services (S151)

Members noted the significant one-off increase in income and expenditure relative to original budget for 2026/27 as a result of additional peatland restoration grant funding being secured and enquired about the management of resources where colleagues are required to flex workloads towards project delivery. Members also sought an update on savings targets and progress.

Resolved: That Members note the content of the report.

43/26 Property update

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services and the Property Manager.

Members congratulated Officers for their project management of the construction of the new headquarters building**.** They noted the additional areas of expenditure, offset by savings, that were covered within the approved contingency amounts.

Resolved: That Members note the content of the report.

44/26 Best Value Duty

Considered:

The report of the Chief Executive Officer.

Resolved: That Members note the content of this report and comment on the Officer assessment of adherence to the seven Best Value themes summarised in **appendix 1**.

45/26 Corporate Risk Register

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services.

Members asked for further information regarding the risk relating to crisis management and organisational resilience.

Resolved: That Members note the update on the risk register.

46/26 Health and Safety

Considered:

The report of the Director of Corporate Services.

Members asked whether the Authority had sufficient numbers of trained first aiders. The Director of Corporate Services gave assurance to this effect.

Resolved: That Members note the contents of this report.

47/26 Other business

George Jabbour noted the financial support provided by the Authority to sponsor the forthcoming Tour of Britain cycle race starting in Helmsley. He also noted the contribution to St Michael's church at Cold Kirby to become overnight guest accommodation for walkers and other visitors.

.....(Chair)
16 November 2026

Public Summary of items considered "in private" at the meeting of the Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee on 1 September 2026

Private minutes

Members agreed that the private minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2026 having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Complaints and complaints

Members noted the compliments and complaints registered in quarter 1 2025/26.