

North York Moors National Park Authority

28 September 2026

Item 10, Feedback from lead Members on Committees and Forums

1. The Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee took place on 1 September 2026. A written report from Colin Williamson is attached at **appendix 1**.

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Appendix 1, Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee, 1 September 2026

- Colin Williamson was re-elected as Chair
- Heather Moorhouse was also re-elected as Deputy Chair

The public minutes of the meeting on the 18 May 2026 was taken as read and confirmed

External Audit

Forvis Mazars joined on teams.

They gave the Committee a rundown on time scale and how the Audit would be taken forward and completed hopefully before Christmas.

Internal Audit

The Internal Audit work programme for 26/27 taken mainly in Q3 and Q4.

The main areas to be looked into are:

- Grant Management
- Payroll and pensions
- Retail strategy and operations
- Follow up of previous agreed actions
- Client support, advice and liaison

External Funding

For the year 26/27 Grant funding has reached just short of £5 million.

Members noted progress with the Linking Levisham Landscape Recovery pilot. Following the completion of the 2-year Project Development phase, funded by the £701,910 landscape Recovery grant, the submission for the 20-year project implementation phase was sent in during April. Members will need to approve final implementation proposals. Authority to act as Single Legal Entity for project which has some risk for NPA.

The committee then received updates on all other projects.

The project portfolio Health Summary.

With 71% delivery broadly on target and 29% needing specific risks require active management.

Members noted the content of the report and agreed the current work being done to secure external funding.

Quarterly performance scorecard

Notably the visitor centres are doing well with good attendance.

We are still waiting on the results of Q1 of the trial from ANPR introduced at Newton under Roseberry to help noncompliance rates at the car park.

The New Headquarters Building continues at pace with small adjustments being made as work progresses.

Best Value Duty

Purpose of the report - To update FRASC on recent proposed changes to government guidance for best value Authorities.

The guidance areas are:

- Local Accountability
- Openness to challenge and support
- Expectations
- Prevention
- Empowering Local ownership
- Meeting the cost of failure

The guidance describes seven overlapping themes that represent Best Value.

Risk Register update

Risk assessments remain the same.

Major Incidents was a new risk added this year following the wildfire last year.

Health and Safety update

Sickness absence with a target of 2% absence rate is good with a rate of 2.77% inclusive of long-term absence.

Accidents, Incidents, and Near Misses

- Between 1 April and 30 June.
- There were 6 accidents, 5 incidents, and 1 near miss reported.
- The first was a rotten timber on a bridge which gave way beneath a walker causing injury.
- A burn from a coffee cup caused another.
- On one incident a volunteer collapsed on a task either because of the task or weather conditions were too much.

Fire safety checks have now been carried out for Danby Lodge and Sutton Bank which have also covered additional health and safety reviews.

From the Health and Safety Action Plan for 2026/27, which covers the centralising reporting, fire safety reports, home office setups and new the headquarters build, we must also ensure training requirements are picked up in the training matrix.