

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	AGC/23/15
MEETING	AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	21 JULY 2023
SUBJECT OF REPORT	HIS MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY & FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS) AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN UPDATE
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Fire Officer
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the Committee reviews progress in delivery of the action plan.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>On Wednesday 27th July 2022, HMICFRS published the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (DSFRS) 2022 inspection report. The inspection report identified one Cause of Concern and 14 Areas for Improvement (AFIs). Of these AFIs, four have been linked to the Audit and Governance Committee.</p> <p>The paper appended to this report outlines the progress that has been made against the HMICFRS Areas for Improvement action plan since the last update in April 2023. The key highlights are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Area for Improvement, HMI-2.2-202207b (Response – Technology and Future Innovation) is currently recorded as 'In Progress – Off Track'. This is because action 07b.03 'Investigate which systems involving response activity are currently paper based and make recommendations for improvements' has not been completed in the required timeframe.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Considered within the Action Plan where appropriate.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	Considered within the Action Plan where appropriate.
APPENDICES	A. HMI Audit and Governance Committee Update
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

HMICFRS ACTION PLAN – AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. On Wednesday 27th July 2022 HMICFRS published the DSFRS 2022 inspection report. The inspection report identified one Cause of Concern and 14 Areas for Improvement (AFIs).
- 1.2. This report provides an update on the Areas For Improvement action plan that has been produced following the inspection, which concluded in October 2021.

2. AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN COMPLETION STATUS

- 2.1. Table 1 lists the Areas For Improvement linked to the Audit and Governance Committee and their individual implementation status.

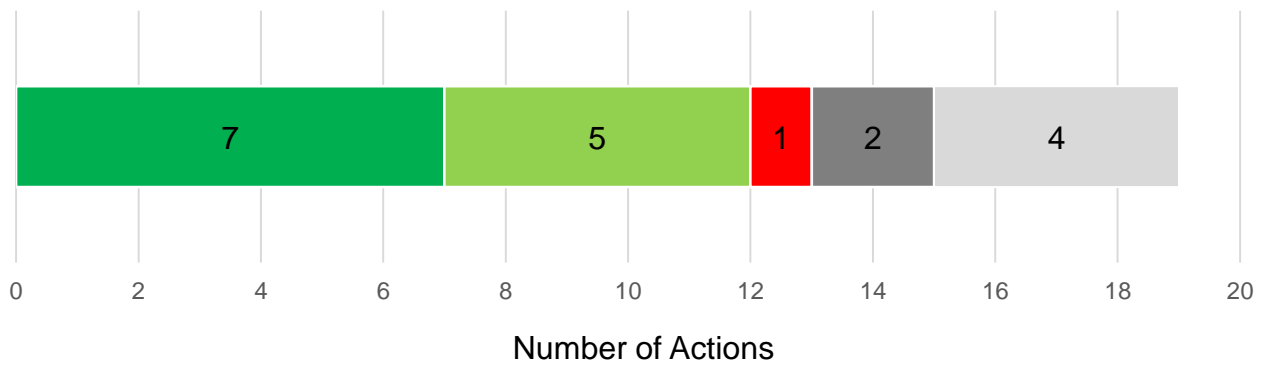
Table 1:

Reference	Description	Target Completion	Status
HMI-1.1-202202	The service should make sure its integrated risk management plan includes clear outcomes that show the public how it is currently mitigating risk.	31/01/2024*	In Progress – On Track
HMI-1.3-202205	The service should make sure it has an effective quality assurance process, so staff carry out audits and fire safety checks to an appropriate standard.	30/09/2023	In Progress – On Track
HMI-2.2-202207a	Prevention and Protection – The service should be aware of, and invest in, developments in technology and future innovation to help improve and sustain operational efficiency and effectiveness.	30/04/2025	In Progress – On Track
HMI-2.2-202207b	Response – The service should be aware of, and invest in, developments in technology and future innovation to help improve and sustain operational efficiency and effectiveness.	31/10/2023	In Progress – Off Track

* target completion date previously incorrectly reported as 31/12/2023 due to an admin error.

- 2.2. Figure 1 overleaf outlines the completion status of all actions designed to address the Areas For Improvement linked to the Audit and Governance Committee, as outlined above

Figure 1: Audit and Governance Committee Action Status - July 2023



- Completed
- In Progress - On Track
- In Progress - Off Track
- Not Started - On Track
- Not Started - On Track (Evidence and Assurance)

2.3. Table 2 below outlines the completion status of all actions designed to address the Areas For Improvement linked to the Audit and Governance Committee.

Table 2: Summary of progress against the 19 individual actions					
Areas For Improvement (Audit and Governance Committee)					
Not started (on track)	Not started (off track)	In progress (on track)	In progress (off track)	Completed	Closed
6 (↓ from 8)	0 (→ at 0)	5 (→ at 5)	1 (↑ from 0)	7 (↑ from 6)	0 (→ at 0)

* Please note that 4 of the actions which have not yet started are the evidence and assurance required once all other actions have been completed.

3. AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT WHICH ARE ‘OFF-TRACK’

3.1. Table 3 below outlines the improvement areas which are currently marked as ‘In Progress – Off Track’.

Table 3:

Improvement Area	Status
HMI-2.2-202207b – Response – Technology and Future Innovation (Area for Improvement)	In Progress – Off Track
Factors impacting delivery	
Paper based systems have been identified and action is now being taken to review these and make recommendations for improvements. This action will remain as ‘In Progress – Off Track’ as the target completion date has now passed and the action has not been completed within the required timeframe.	