



Report Title	Chief Executive's Report
Author	Peter Reading, Chief Executive
Accountable Director	Peter Reading, Chief Executive
Previous committees/groups	None
Recommended action(s)	Information/ Assurance
Purpose of the paper	To brief Board members on some important matters for the Trust, some of which may be covered in more detail elsewhere in the Public or Private meetings of the Board.
Executive Summary	<p>The Chief Executive's Report provides Board members with a briefing on key developments, achievements, and challenges across Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) during the recent period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) remains in the top segment of NHS England's new Oversight Framework, ranking third nationally among ambulance trusts, despite a slight decrease in its score. The framework's performance measures highlight YAS's strong category 2 response times, staff engagement, and financial management, while identifying areas for improvement such as sickness absence rates and patient conveyance to emergency departments.</li><li>• Initiatives include the 'Right Pathways First' campaign, aimed at helping staff access the most suitable care pathways for patients, including Same Day Emergency Care and urgent community response routes.</li><li>• Investment in the Patient Transport Service continues, with the introduction of 25 powered stair chairs to enhance safety and efficiency for patients and staff.</li><li>• Updated guidance now ensures assistance dogs can be accommodated on emergency ambulances.</li><li>• Community engagement and fundraising efforts are highlighted by cardiac arrest survivor Mike Duck and his wife Jenny, who raised £3,000 for the YAS Charity.</li><li>• Staff achievements are celebrated, notably paramedic Adil Mohammed's award for his campaign to install community defibrillators in Tinsley.</li><li>• The Trust has adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism, reinforcing its commitment to inclusivity and staff wellbeing.</li><li>• Former colleague Dr Alison Walker has been honoured with the King's Ambulance Medal for her contributions to the profession.</li><li>• The BBC's Ambulance series, filmed in Yorkshire, will continue with new series in 2026, showcasing the work of staff and volunteers.</li></ul>

- Recent community engagement activities reached over 3,000 people, with targeted support for young people and offenders due for release.
- Sustainability projects are underway, including the installation of solar panels and battery storage across Trust sites, supporting energy resilience and cost savings.
- Upgrades to ambulance stations are progressing, with new facilities in Hull, Thirsk, and Scarborough scheduled for completion in 2026.
- The Trust's electric Patient Transport Service fleet has been expanded and recognised with a national award.
- Leadership continuity is ensured with the re-appointment of Martin Havenhand as Chair until March 2029.

Recommendation(s)	To note the update from the Chief Executive
Link to Board Assurance Framework Risks (board and level 2 committees only)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver a timely response to patients.</li> <li>6. Develop and sustain an open and positive workplace culture.</li> <li>9. Develop and sustain improvements in leadership and staff training and development.</li> </ol>

## Chief Executive's Report

### 1. SUMMARY

1.1 This paper briefs Board members on some important matters for the Trust, some of which may be covered in more detail elsewhere in the Public or Private meetings of the Board. Board members are invited to discuss any of these items, as they choose, and to note them for information.

### 2. NHS OVERSIGHT FRAMEWORK – QUARTER 2

2.1 NHS England have recently published the second quarter of the new [NHS Oversight Framework](#) which has included [performance league tables](#). Yorkshire Ambulance Service remains in the top Segment (Segment 1) and third in the 'ambulance league table'. Our score has dropped slightly, by 0.02 from 1.86 to 1.88.

2.2 The framework gives a view on how NHS organisations are performing and compares trusts with others across England. Trusts are placed into one of four core segments - segment 1, where YAS is placed, represents the organisations with the narrowest range of challenges, while segment 4 contains those with the broadest.

2.3 The scores are compiled from a range of measures and at YAS we perform well in a number of areas including our category 2 response time, NHS Staff Survey engagement scores, and finance, among others. However, it has also highlighted areas of focus and improvement including our sickness absence rates and the number of patients we convey to emergency departments. The Trust will be focusing on these areas and continue to reflect on performance as the rankings are recalculated each quarter, to reflect overall changes in relative performance across the NHS.

### 3. RIGHT PATHWAYS FIRST CAMPAIGN

3.1 As part of our work to ensuring we get the right care for our patients, in the right place and at the right time, we are focusing on ensuring our staff can access the right pathways for patients. Our staff can access more pathways than ever before and through this campaign, we are supporting them so they know which pathways are available, where and how to access them and how to make effective referrals. The aim is to ensure our staff can make clinical decisions easier, giving the best care possible.

3.2 We're focusing on a range of different pathways, explaining what they can be used for, which patients would benefit from them including Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC), urgent community response and respiratory pathways. Working within our Safer Right Care framework, this ensures that all the relevant alternatives are considered for our patients.

### 4. INVESTMENT IN NEW EQUIPMENT IN NON-EMERGENCY PATIENT TRANSPORT SERVICE

4.1 As part of investment in our non-emergency Patient Transport Service, (PTS), the Trust has invested in 25 new Compact PowerTraxx Chairs. These chairs provide a powered stair track system which reduces manual lifting and improves safety, supporting patients who need to be moved through narrow staircases and around tight corners. Having trialled the chairs already, feedback from patients and staff has been positive, and led to efficiencies, as the chairs reduce the numbers of staff required to move some patients and help to

reduce muscular-skeletal injuries to staff. The chairs will be rolled across PTS over the next few months.

## **5. ASSISTANCE DOGS IN EMERGENCY AMBULANCES**

5.1 The Trust has recently reviewed and refreshed its guidance on transporting patients with an assistance dog, in conjunction with the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives Assistance Dog Project PAWs guiding principles ([link here](#)) The [YAS Guidance](#) ensures that, wherever possible, our staff will take the assistance dog with the patient in an emergency ambulance and that they are safely secured in our vehicles. The Trust already has guidance in place to transport patients and their assistance dogs as part of our Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service, as part of outpatient appointments. This new guidance goes live from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026.

## **6. PATIENT THANKS AND CHARITY FUNDRAISING**

6.1 Cardiac arrest survivor Mike Duck and his wife Jenny have raised £3,000 for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service Charity following Mike's life-saving treatment by ambulance staff. Their fundraising, supported by matched donations from Jenny's employer, will be used to help fund community defibrillators and CPR training, directly supporting life-saving initiatives across the region, as well as staff wellbeing.

6.2 The couple's efforts were celebrated in a reunion with the paramedics who responded to their emergency, as they presented their donation to the YAS Charity, with more information available on our [website](#).

## **7. AWARD FOR YAS PARAMEDIC AT YORKSHIRE ASIAN YOUNG ACHIEVERS**

7.1 Sheffield-based paramedic Adil Mohammed has recently been awarded the Achievement in Health, Mental Health or Healthcare in recognition for his work leading a campaign to install community defibrillators in Tinsley, raising funds and working with local organisations to make the life-saving equipment accessible for the first time in the area. 24-year-old Adil grew up in a deprived area of Sheffield and, despite the lack of role models, earned a first-class honours degree in Paramedic Practice and wanted to give something back to his community. The awards celebrated the achievements of young people aged 16 to 35 of South Asian heritage who were born in or live and work in Yorkshire, and who have overcome deprivation and disadvantage, or overcome barriers to become successful in their chosen fields.

## **8. ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE (IHRA) DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM**

8.1 The Trust has adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Definition of Antisemitism, as part of our support for staff, volunteers and communities and our commitment to tackle racism, discrimination or abuse of any kind.. You can read more about our commitment to creating a workplace where everyone feels safe, valued and supported on our [website](#).

## **9. KING'S AMBULANCE MEDAL AWARDED**

9.1 One of our previous colleagues, Dr Alison Walker, received the Kings Ambulance Medal for her work in the ambulance sector in the New Years Honours list. Alison became Medical Director with West Yorkshire Metropolitan Ambulance Service in 2005 before taking up the same role with YAS the following year, then moving on to become Medical Director for West Midlands Ambulance Service in 2010. She also responds as a BASICS (British Association

for Immediate Care) emergency doctor and continues to work as Consultant in Emergency Medicine at Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust. Congratulations to Alison on the well-deserved recognition of her role in the development of ambulance services and paramedic profession.

## **10. BBC AMBULANCE**

10.1 Series 16 of the BBC's Ambulance programme was filmed in Yorkshire during 2025 and the series is expected to be broadcast in Spring of this year. Following the success of the filming last year, the BBC have commissioned a further two series of the programme based in Yorkshire and filming for series 17 and 18 by Dragonfly Productions, will begin filming in February 2026. Based across South, West and North Yorkshire, cameras will be following our staff out in communities, as well as following our colleagues as they take calls and dispatch ambulances in our Emergency Operations Centres in Wakefield and York. We will be providing more detailed briefings for partners to ensure the necessary agreements are in place around any filming and confidentiality and look forward to again showcasing the work of our staff and volunteers. All previous episodes are available on [BBC iPlayer](#)

## **11. LATEST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY**

11.1 A summary of the latest round-up of community engagement for the period covering October to December 2025 has just been published. The report highlights the number and range of activities that have been undertaken over the autumn period, with 3,109 people reached through 69 different events and activities. During this quarter, we delivered the final session of our engagement course at HMP Wealstun, a unique programme working with offenders due for release. We also worked with community groups including Together Women Bridlington, the Refugee Council in Leeds and a range of community groups delivering first aid training.

11.2 During Autumn 2026, we delivered the latest of our King's Trust 'Get Started' programmes which sees a week-long programme to support young people not in work or education to gain a range of skills. The Trust has developed the programme to provide support in completing job applications and practice interview sessions. The support is translating into success with 11 of the October attendees applying for roles across the Trust, and previous course attendee, Trayvon Allen, shared his experience and success in becoming an Ambulance Support Worker. You can read the [report](#) on our website.

## **12. SOLAR PANELS AND BATTERY STORAGE INSTALLATION**

12.1 In 2025, the Trust was awarded £1.4m to install solar panels and battery storage across several sites and work begins this month to install the panels, approximately 1,200 in total. Work will start on our contact centres at Fairfield in York and at Callflex in Rotherham, before moving to our Headquarters in Wakefield. They will generate approximately 500 MWh of power, making savings in our energy costs, enabling funds to be redirected to patient care and improving energy resilience with battery storage. As part of our new ambulance station in Hull, a solar panel canopy is being created alongside the installation of electric vehicle charging, contributing to our progress of achieving net zero.

## **13. STATION INVESTMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

13.1 Improvements are underway at a number of our ambulance stations, which have been prioritised for investment. Work is progressing well on our new station in Hull, as work now moves inside the building to prepare it for our staff to move in later in Summer 2026. Following damage from a fallen tree to our station in Thirsk in December 2024, our new

building is expected to be completed by the end of March with much improved facilities for staff and a carbon neutral design progressing well

13.2 In Scarborough, work is beginning on converting an existing building across the road from our current station into a new station which will provide new staff welfare facilities, training room and increased parking, accommodating approximately 90 staff across our 999 Operations and Patient Transport Service. The site should be ready for colleagues to move in by April.

#### **14. AWARD FOR PTS GREEN FLEET**

14.1 YAS has been recognised for the roll-out of our fleet of [35 electric Patient Transport Service vehicles](#), the largest ambulance-sized electric PTS fleet in any ambulance Trust. At the GREENFLEET Awards in December, the Trust was awarded the Public Sector Commercial Fleet of the Year award and with a further 25 vehicles now being procured, the fleet is being further expanded, ensure that we improve patient experience in modern and up to date vehicles.

#### **15. OTHER UPDATES**

##### **Board Update**

15.1 Martin Havenhand has been re-appointed as Chair of Yorkshire Ambulance Service for a further three years, until 31 March 2029. His current tenure as Chair was due to finish at the end of March 2026 and his re-appointed by NHS England from 1 April 2026 will mean the Trust will continue to benefit from Martin's extensive experience and strong leadership of the Board. More information about Martin's re-appointment is available on our [website](#).

#### **16. RECOMMENDATION**

16.1 It is recommended that the Board:

- Note the Chief Executive's Report