HMICFRS FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE INSPECTIONS 2018/19 – UPDATE

REPORT OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

For Information

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide Members with an update on the HMICFRS Inspections programme 2018/19 as outlined in the letter from the HM Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members are asked to note the report, specifically the timetable for HMICFRS Tranche 3 inspection activities for the Authority, as detailed at Appendix 1.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 As part of its reform agenda, the Government has introduced an independent inspection regime for Fire and Rescue Authorities in England – and the fire and rescue service they oversee. The inspections are delivered by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS). The chief fire and rescue inspector and inspectors of fire and rescue authorities in England have powers of inspection given to them by the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2017.

3.2 The inspectorate provides a crucial assurance function to consider how effective and efficient fire and rescue authorities are, how well they manage their people and whether they are fulfilling their statutory obligations. The inspectorate also highlights good practice and identifies areas where improvement is needed so that remedial or constructive action can be taken.

3.3 The first tranche of inspections commenced in June 2018 and were undertaken in 14 fire and rescue services. A summary of findings was published in December 2018 and reported to the Executive Committee at its meeting on 25 January 2019 and the full Fire Authority on 15 February 2019.

3.4 Tranche Two inspections commenced in September 2018 and the findings are currently being analysed. A draft service report is due to be completed by late April, with the final reports and a national summary expected to be published in early summer.

4. INSPECTION TIMETABLE FOR CLEVELAND

4.1 As previously reported, Cleveland Fire Authority will be inspected in the third tranche and the timetable of activity has now been finalised by the HMICFRS to take place in Summer 2019 as follows:

	INSPECTION ACTIVITY FOR CLEVELAND			
	Discovery	**Strategic Briefing**	**Fieldwork**	**Proposed Hot Debrief**
Week Commencing	13 May	19 June	8 July	15 July

IAN HAYTON
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

KAREN WINTER
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES