

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE AUTHORITY

Report to: Professional Standards Committee

Date: 20th April 2009

Subject: Dip-Sampling Protocol

Sponsor: Wendy Towers

For: Approval

1. PURPOSE OF PAPER

Following the discussion at the meeting of 26 October 2008 on the dip sampling protocol, it was agreed that a sub committee comprising the chair, a member of PSD and the Business Support Manager would conduct an in depth review of the protocol in March and bring recommendations to the committee in April. This paper details the results of the review.

2. CONSIDERATIONS

Concerns had previously been expressed about some items on the APA dip sampling checklist. In addition, the introduction of the Taylor reforms meant it was timely to review the objectives of dip sampling.

The aim of the dip-sampling is to help to ensure public confidence in the police complaints system and while it remains important to monitor that proper procedures are being followed it was considered appropriate now for the committee members to focus on the importance of timeliness, proportionality and learning the lessons during the dip sampling review.

The dip sampling guidelines have therefore been redrafted, they have been streamlined, adjusted to reflect practice and the need to refocus. In addition the checklist has been rewritten to address the concerns expressed initially, the experience built up during the past year and the refocus of the new discipline procedures.

3. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee review the attached revised protocol on Dip Sampling and approve it for immediate use.

Wendy Towers

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