

**Report to:** Audit Committee  
**Agenda item:** 11.2  
**Date:** 30 May 2014  
**Subject:** HMIC liaison & proposed future  
inspection programme  
**Sponsor:** Chief Executive and Chief Constable  
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**For:** Information and approval

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## 1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 To update the Committee on recent discussions with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) regarding inspection activities for the remainder of 2014/15 and the costs of these inspections.
- 1.2 To invite Members to review, discuss and as appropriate approve the recommendations emerging set out in section 4 below.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 HMIC's relationship with British Transport Police Authority (BTPA) and British Transport Police (BTP) is established by section 63 the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003. The Act identifies HMIC's statutory position as the inspectorate for the Force but does not prescribe the matters on which, nor the frequency with which HMIC, should inspect BTP or indeed BTPA.
- 2.2 A structured process for agreeing an annual inspection plan was first developed by BTP and BTPA in partnership with HMIC in 2011/12 and this has been revisited annually to enable the Authority identify and formalise costs and seek support from the BTP Chief Officer Group about the prioritisation and sequencing of any proposed inspection activities.
- 2.3 The remainder of this paper sets out the inspection proposals for 2014/15 and captures the recommendations emerging from a series of internal discussions.

### 3. Inspection costs

- 3.1 A £60k (net) provision for HMIC inspection costs has been made in the Authority budget for 2014/15 and this figure has been communicated to HMIC. This arrangement helps to provide certainty for BTPA around expected costs and will allow us to track the value being delivered. Subject to the agreement of the recommendations at section 5 we will reconvene with HMIC to understand how much of the intended inspection activity can be accommodated within this budget. Costs of individual inspections will vary dependent on the scale of 'in-force' and 'desk-top analytical' activity and the degree to which an inspection has to be 'bespoked' for BTP's purposes.
- 3.2 Once we have agreed with HMIC the activity to be delivered within our budget, if all agreed inspection activity is not delivered the fee will be reduced accordingly and if additional work is required in year this can be commissioned in partnership with HMIC and a cost for each activity calculated. Wherever possible, HMIC helps us to identify ways in which we can engage in the inspection process which minimises additional costs of 'bespoking' inspection activity but which enables us to explore the issues which are most relevant to us.

### 4. Inspection proposals 2014/15

- 4.1 Following the publication of HMIC's business plan<sup>1</sup> in April 2014, BTP's new HMIC Liaison Officer has been in contact to ascertain whether we would want BTP to participate in a number of the inspections proposed for 2014-15. Following a review of the likely scope and purpose of each of a number of inspections, the following topics were identified as of particular interest to the Force and Authority be this in terms of providing assurance around critical compliance matters or providing evidence of specific work which supports delivery of one of our strategic objectives - in particular improving confidence. Those which are recommended for the coming year are emboldened in Table 1 overleaf.

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<sup>1</sup> HMIC (2014) Business Plan 2014/15 <http://www.hmic.gov.uk/publication/hmic-business-plan-201415/>

**Table 1 – Summary of HMIC Inspections 2014-15**

<b>Inspection Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comments/ recommendations</b>
<b>Valuing the Police (VtP) 4</b>	Part of the rolling programme of VtP inspections in which BTP has previously engaged	HMIC has stated that BTP has not yet been included in phase 4 as VtP3 was only recent finalised. Could be in August if required - <b>recommended.</b>
<b>Crime Data Integrity</b>	Inspection will include HMIC's assessment of the accuracy of crime recording through the various routes that crimes can be reported to the police (such as through calls to control rooms, referrals to specialist investigation departments from other public bodies or directly to officers). The initial findings from phase 1 were published in an interim report, at the end of April 2014.	HMIC has stated that BTP could be added to the end of phase 4 in August if required - <b>recommended.</b>
<b>Police Integrity and Corruption</b>	Inspection will look at the anti-corruption capability of forces, including Professional Standards Departments and will include the capability of forces to gather regular intelligence on corruption matters. This is a follow-up to a previous inspection.	If BTP wants to be included, HMIC has offered the dates of 25/26/27 June or 16/17/18 July- <b>recommended.</b>
Mistakes Were Made	Follow-up to the inspection undertaken in 2013 – BTP provided documentation only.	
<b>Stop and Search</b>	Follow-up inspection	BTP was inspected as part of the original inspection in November 2012; therefore it is expected that BTP will be included as part of the follow-up inspection - <b>recommended.</b>
Protecting vulnerable people programme: missing and groomed children	Inspection will provide an assessment of forces effectiveness in their leadership, strategies, management, staff training and support, compliance and governance	We may wish to consider this inspection once more detail has been released
<b>Police management of information</b>	HMIC will undertake an audit to provide assurances that information is being managed consistently	<b>Recommended.</b>
Police National Database audit	HMIC will audit the PND to provide assurances that information is being managed in a consistent fashion and in accordance with the relevant information standards.	For discussion.

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Inspection Title	Description	Comments/ recommendations
Use of the Police National Computer by non-police organisations	N/A - the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) has asked HMIC to audit non-police organisations which use the PNC, in order to provide assurance that those organisations are complying with required procedures.	N/A
Honour based violence	To inspect how well the police forces, in particular neighbourhood teams, establish, maintain and develop relations with minority communities in a multi-cultural society, find and assist vulnerable people and victims, and encourage increased reporting of crimes.	Await further details
<b>Cyber crime</b>	<p>HMIC intends to inspect how well the police service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ understands the nature and scale of this new threat;</li> <li>▪ have plans in place to tackle it and how effectively forces are tackling it through prevention and detection of crime.</li> </ul> <p>This will include an examination of how well the police use the opportunities provided to them by digital technology.</p>	<p>Potential – this is a topic that is coming more to the fore and is on the ‘radar’ of many of our industry stakeholders. At present through the Crime department, BTP engages with the national structure and has implemented a Cyber Crime board that is responsible for identifying and developing relationships with other stakeholders that can assist in the development of capacity and capabilities.</p> <p><b>Recommended.</b></p>
Firearms licensing	N/A	N/A
Modern Slavery	This will be joint inspections on trafficking and slavery in the 2014/16 CJS programme.	Await further details – unlikely to be a priority
<b>New ‘all-force’ inspection</b>	The detailed shape and content of this programme will be under development during 2014/15, however will be on how well each force cuts crime (from anti-social behaviour to organised crime to protecting vulnerable people); provides a service that is fair (given that the legitimacy of the service is an important part of its effectiveness); and provides value for money (building on our existing Valuing the Police programme).	The Chief Constable attended the HMIC Ref Group that focussed on achieving a shared understanding of how HIME should develop and deliver the all-force assessments.

## 5. Recommendations

- 5.1 That Members review, discuss and approve the proposals for an annual programme of inspections by HMIC as set out in section 4 above.

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