

Report to: Police Authority
Agenda: 6
Date: 26 September 2013
Subject: Audit and Risk Assurance Committee
Report
Sponsor: Chair - A&RAC
Author: Authority Finance Director

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1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to update the Authority on the issues discussed at the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (A&RAC) held on 18 September 2013.
- 1.2 The A&RAC also reviewed the strategic risks across both BTPA and BTP which is presented elsewhere on the agenda.

2. Agenda Items

- 2.1 **BTP Interim Director of Corporate Resources report** - the quarterly report was highlighted and the one outstanding internal audit actions from 2011/1 related to the TFL pan London Police Services Agreement which continues to be progressed, albeit slowly with DfT involvement. The A&RAC noted that of the 22 outstanding internal audit recommendations from 2012/13 reported at the previous meeting, 5 remained outstanding. These five recommendations were around disaster recovery, ICT Management controls in Areas, promotions and sourcing and procurement regarding the replacement of the Force multi-functional device. The issues around the E-case and E-custody contract with Northgate were discussed. It was noted that there was also a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) review project on the 234 SOPs currently in place. The Disaster recovery project on the migration project to the Force Control Room, London was also discussed.
- 2.2 **Authority Finance Director Report** - It was noted that the Accounts for 2012/13 had been laid before Parliament in June, shortly after approval by the Authority. It was noted that all the Police Service Agreement (PSA) holders had signed the 2013 PSA with the exception of Virgin West Coast, discussions were ongoing. The risk around challenge to the model was discussed in detail. The gifts and hospitality registers for both the Authority and BTP were reviewed and noted. Copies of the quarterly registers are available on request.

- 2.3 **Health and Safety Report** – The Committee was advised of the emerging themes and issues from a commissioned internal audit of BTP’s Health and Safety functions and proposals for a series of planned improvements to deliver a compliant, efficient and effective function. The details of this work will be dealt with by the People and Standards Committee, with a regular update on progress to the A&RAC.
- 2.4 **Management Assurance Return (MAR)** – The MAR which is required to be submitted to the DfT was reviewed by the A&RAC. It was agreed that this could be signed by the Chief Executive as Accounting Officer when it had been finalised.
- 2.5 **HMIC Inspection update** – The Force updated the meeting on HMIC inspections which are
- Valuing Policing
 - Anti social behaviour
 - Stop and Search
- and miscellaneous reports published by HMIC.
- 2.6 **Internal Audit** - the DfT submitted the following for approval:
- 2013/14 Audit Plan - update
 - Charging Model Audit - assessed as having a Substantial overall assurance rating; and
 - Scheme of Delegation Audit - assessed as having a reasonable overall assurance rating.

3. Diversity issues

- 3.1 There are no significant diversity issues involved in this paper.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended by the Authority note the contents of this report.