BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE

Report to:	**British Transport Police Authority Audit & Risk Assurance Committee**
Agenda item:	**7**
Date:	**27ᵗʰ November 2013**
Subject:	**HMIC Inspection Status Update**
Sponsor:	**Deputy Chief Constable**
For:	**Information**

1. PURPOSE OF PAPER

1.1 To provide the British Transport Police Authority (BTPA) Audit & Risk Assurance Committee with an update in relation to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) activity.

2. BTP INSPECTION STATUS UPDATE

2.1 <u>Valuing the Police</u>

2.1.1 BTP has received the draft force feedback report for factual accuracy checking. It should be noted that there have been minor issues in relation to the workforce data captured in the report. HMIC generally uses workforce data provided by a force to the Home Office as part of their Annual Data Return (ADR601), however unlike other forces BTP is not required to complete this return. As a result the workforce data used in the report is from the Police Objective Analysis (POA) estimates submitted by BTP to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

2.1.2 Following discussions with HMIC in relation to the POA workforce data an executive decision has been taken for BTP to internally complete the POA actuals to replace the estimate data captured in the report which will provide a more accurate picture for the force. It is anticipated that the final report will be issued in December.

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2.2   <u>Stop & Search</u>

2.2.1   Following the review of the Stop & Search Improvement plan at Integrity & Compliance Board (ICB) on the 25 November 2013, it is to be noted that the Stop & Search Manual of Guidance has now been launched. All aspects of encounters, whether Stop & Account or Stop & Search are covered in the manual. Describing what can be considered reasonable grounds for a stop, it highlights the need for objective criteria, such as a suspect description, intelligence or the person's behaviour.

2.2.2   Area/Divisional stop & search champions have been appointed and will continue to have responsibility for all stop & search activity including monitoring. The new process for managing stop & search forms will not go live immediately; further details in relation to this element will be communicated forcewide in due course. Therefore, there is currently no change to how stop & search forms are currently being processed and stored on Areas.

2.2.3   Territorial Policing Support Department has designed a new paper based stop & search form. The newly designed forms will provide a link to an electronic stop & search survey so people can easily provide feedback in relation to their encounter. Following FEB approval the forms will be introduced during the early part of next year.

2.2.4   Full details in relation to progress against the Improvement Plan can be found at Appendix A. It should be noted that future ownership of the plan is yet to be agreed following the recent changes to the force structure and personnel.

2.3   <u>Undercover Policing Thematic Inspection</u>

2.3.1   HMIC have notified BTP that work has been commissioned to conduct a national thematic inspection into the effectiveness of the undercover policing arrangements in all forces in England and Wales together with all regional and national policing units.

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2.3.2 The inspection will be based around the effectiveness of following elements:

- The quality, availability and take-up of training for officers undertaking undercover operations and for those at all levels of the planning and authorisation of such operations;

- The way undercover officers operate in practice in order to explore their understanding and compliance with RIPA and the APP;

- The supervision, day-to-day management, support and tasking of officers deployed undercover by police forces and SOCA;

- The decision-making processes, guidance and support framework for those at all levels of the planning and authorisation of undercover operations, particularly in making difficult and potentially high-impact decisions;

- The strategic leadership and direction setting of those at the highest levels of police forces and SOCA for their officers conducting undercover operations;

- The adequacy of the police's and SOCA's response to the scrutiny of undercover operations put in place by the Office of the Surveillance Commissioners, including the effectiveness of arrangements for the sharing of best practice and learning of lessons.

2.3.3 The programme of work will include data collection and force inspections leading to an analysis and assessment of the findings and provision of individual force feedback and a thematic report. The fieldwork element of the inspection will involve interviews with chief officer leads, authorising officers, SIO's, heads of covert units, advanced and foundation undercover officers as well as covert internet investigators. HMIC will contact BTP again in the next few weeks with further details of the inspection methodology and the likely timescales. It is to be noted that HMIC have requested that in addition to BTP's HMIC Liaison Officer Lisa Brooks, details be provided of an appropriately vetted individual to act as a single point of contact for this inspection. For BTP this will be Senior Investigating Officer DCI Simon Taylor.

3.   MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS PUBLISHED BY HMIC

3.1   SDD, Audit & Compliance monitor all national reports published by HMIC. Where BTP have not been involved in the relevant area of inspection theses reports are disseminated to appropriate departments internally via SDD, Audit & Compliance in order to ascertain BTP's current position, risk implications, and impact. Action Plans are put in place locally with recommendations reviewed and monitored at Force level via ICB and/or submitted to BTPA Audit & Risk Assurance Committee for informational purposes. It should be noted that since the last Committee meeting there have been no relevant policing reports published by HMIC that require actioning by BTP.

4.   RECOMMENDATION

4.1   Members to note the update provided in this paper.

Summary of Reports -The below table summaries the reports published by HMIC since the last Audit & Risk Assurance Committee.

Report Title	Summary	BTP Position	Report recommendations to be progressed by BTP
Working Together: A review of the arrangements for collaboration between the five East Midlands police forces, commissioned by the police and crime commissioners for the region	The report provides the PCCs for the East Midlands region (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire) with high-level assurance on the overall approach to collaboration between, and by, forces within the East Midlands policing region; by assessing current arrangements; by assessing what is being developed and by considering future possibilities.	Circulated to Head of Business Change.	N/A
South Yorkshire Police's Response to Child Sexual Exploitation – Findings of an inspection commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner	HMIC assessed the effectiveness of South Yorkshire Police's approach to protecting children from sexual exploitation, and as a result develop recommendations for improvements.	Circulated to Head of Crime.	N/A
Dyfed-Powys – Joint inspection of police custody suites	This report is one of a series on police custody inspections carried out jointly by HMIC and HMI Prisons. The inspection looks at strategy, treatment and conditions, individual rights and health care. **Note:** where good practice is found on an inspection it is collated in a good practice document published by HMIC. This document is regularly updated.	Custody Directorate have been made aware of HMIC's Police Custody: good practice examples which they review accordingly.	N/A

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