

Report to: Authority  
Agenda: 14  
Date: 23 June 2021  
Subject: Cover paper to the Board Effectiveness Evaluation Report  
Sponsor: Chief Executive  
Author: Head of Governance & Compliance  
For: Decision

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## 1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 To present Members of the Authority with the final 2020/21 Board Effectiveness Evaluation (BEE) Report and action plan for approval.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 The Authority completes an evaluation of its effectiveness annually, with independent input acquired at less frequent intervals. This is in accordance with HMG's Corporate Governance in Central Government Departments: Code of good practice.
- 2.2 The purpose of the exercise is to gain insight into the ways in which the Authority can operate more effectively and implement improvements where required. This is achieved through thematic analysis of the perspectives of Members, the senior leadership team within the Authority Executive and the Chief Officer Group (COG) within British Transport Police (BTP).
- 2.3 The final report and action plan will be published and submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT), in accordance with the Framework Document, which sets out the broad framework within which the Authority operates.

## 3. Report and Action Plan

- 3.1 The report and appendices are attached.
- 3.2 The findings within the report were identified through thematic analysis of various strands of feedback as set out therein.
- 3.3 The initial themes which emerged from the responses were explored with Members through a debrief session on 31 March. The Board Development session on 19 May provided a further opportunity to discuss the direction or travel in more detail and also take into account the commentary subsequently submitted by BTP.
- 3.4 The documents have been presented with a view to being endorsed. Members are invited to consider whether there are any elements which should feature more prominently within the findings and/or action plan.
- 3.5 The Executive will report to the Authority on progress against the action plan throughout the year.

- 3.6 The Code of Governance will be updated following approval of the BEE and the corresponding elements of the action plan are implemented. As referenced at agenda item 15, the intention is that the Code of Governance will be subject to more substantive revisions following the conclusion of the financial governance work which is currently being commissioned. It will therefore be re-presented later in the year once this work is complete.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Members are asked to approve the final report and action plan for publication and submission to the Department.