

**MOPAC**MAYOR OF LONDON  
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

## **MPS-MOPAC JOINT AUDIT PANEL**

### **3 October 2022**

## **Director of Audit, Risk and Assurance**

### **Progress Report**

Report by: Director of Audit, Risk and Assurance, HIA for MOPAC and the MPS

#### **Report Summary**

This report summarises the work carried out by the Directorate of Audit, Risk and Assurance (DARA) since the Panel last met, which includes internal audit risk and assurance reviews, advisory work and counter fraud activity. There is also a forward look to planned activity for the coming quarter.

#### **Key Considerations for the Panel**

- Seven reviews have been concluded since the Panel last met, five rated adequate (including one follow up review which improved from a limited rating) and two advisory reports. A further five reviews are at draft report and seven in progress/scoping.
- Key reviews concluded include; Financial Assurance Fixed Asset System, Predatory Offender Units, MOPAC Counter Fraud Arrangements and the follow up reviews of the Commercial Lifecycle Framework and Digital Engagement – Online Crime Recording.
- Key pieces of advisory work include; MPS Command Assessment of Standards, Counter Corruption Governance and support for the MPS Turnaround Board established and chaired by the new MPS Commissioner.
- Audits at draft report stage include; Grievance Management, ICT Control Environment – Grey Estate, BCU Framework Supporting Operational Delivery, MOPAC VRU Commissioning Framework and Delivery and the follow up of Domestic Abuse - Management and Deployment of Resources.
- Key audits underway and planned include; Firearms Licensing, Use of ANPR, Use and Deployment of Taser, SO18 Aviation Command, MOPAC ICV Programme and follow up reviews of Met Detention, Exhibits Management, Cyber Security and MOPAC Oversight of Complaints.
- NFI investigation has continued with preparations for the next exercise underway and making good progress.

#### **Interdependencies/Cross Cutting Issues**

DARA review activity informs the MOPAC and Met Governance Improvement Plans being considered at this meeting and provides assurance on key areas of risk identified in the MOPAC and MPS risk assessments.

#### **Recommendations**

The Audit Panel is recommended to consider the outcome of DARA work undertaken to date and the status of current and planned activity.

## 1. Supporting Information

### Audit Activity Undertaken

- 1.1. The outcome of the reviews concluded since the Panel last met are summarised in the **Appendix**, which also details counter fraud activity and advisory work undertaken. A further five reviews are at draft report stage and seven underway.
- 1.2. Key reviews at draft report stage include; Grievance Management, ICT Control Environment – Grey Estate, BCU Framework Supporting Operational Delivery and MOPAC VRU Commissioning Framework and the follow up review of Domestic Abuse – Management and Deployment of Resources.
- 1.3. Since the Panel last met a number of significant pieces of advisory work have continued providing advice to senior management in high priority/risk areas.

- Counter Corruption Governance

DARA are advising to improve the effectiveness of the governance arrangements supporting delivery of Operation Peridot. The operation was established in response to the HMICFRS inspection of MPS counter-corruption arrangements and its management of the Daniel Morgan Independent Panel. A Counter Corruption Learning Group, chaired at AC level aims to provide strategic direction and oversight to support implementation of the 22 recommendations. This is supported at Chief Officer or Director level with action leads from; Frontline Policing, Reference and Vetting, Directorate of Professional Standards, Digital Policing, National Police Chiefs Council and College of Policing.

DARA are also advising on the streamlining of the governance arrangements supporting wider counter corruption and counter fraud activity, an issue discussed at the last Panel meeting with the Commander leading on this work.

- Command Assessments of Standards

DARA are providing advice and assistance to the Rebuilding Trust team leading on the implementation of the Command Assessment of Standards initiative. This pilot self-assessment is part of a wider programme of work aimed at rebuilding trust in the Met Police and focusses on culture and standards. It includes basic core areas such as Gifts and Hospitality, Business Interests and Declarable Associations and aims to drive performance, improve controls and to identify trends/risks and best practice. DARA provided advice on the content of the initial surveys and are now supporting the team with their analysis of the assessment responses. This work will continue through the various analytical stages and will also inform the planned audit review of the framework, taking place in the Autumn, prior to consideration of a wider roll out of the scheme.

- MPS Turnaround Board

The Director of Audit, Risk and Assurance is a member of the Turnaround Board established and chaired by the new MPS Commissioner. The first meeting was held on the 20 September where the Commissioner's Plans

were considered along with proposals to collate and prioritise review activity recommendations and develop plans to address underlying causes. Work undertaken in support of the Internal Audit Annual Report for 2021/22, which highlighted the underlying and reoccurring themes from DARA review activity, considered by the Panel at its last meeting, will inform the work of the Board.

- Property Services Next Generation

In liaison with Property Services, DARA completed an advisory review. This covered the governance, risk management and decision-making arrangements, communications, and business engagement and infrastructure in place to support the procurement and the transition to the new operating arrangements.

- 1.4. In the counter fraud area (Appendix refers), the 2020/21 National Fraud Initiative exercise is underway with 6,101 matches received. DARA have reviewed and cleared 6,053 matches and a further 48 are under review by the third party provider. Voluntary participation in the NFI mortality screening of the pensions payroll data to death records in November 2021, resulted in 41 further matches, currently with the third-party provider for review. DARA also continue to work in liaison with DPS colleagues in identifying areas for pro-active analysis in those areas of the business subject to increased risk of fraudulent activity. Current analytical reviews include; MPS Use of Barclaycard and MPS Residential Accommodation Occupancy of Tenancies with the MOPAC expenses analytical review recently commenced.

#### Planned Activity for the Next Quarter

- 1.5. Reviews at draft report stage and underway will be finalised and work commenced on those reviews planned for the next quarter (**Appendix** refers). This includes; Lord Harris Review – Implementation Framework, SO18 Aviation Command, Funding on MPS Voluntary Organisations, MOPAC ICV Programme and follow ups of Cyber Security and MOPAC Oversight of Complaints.
- 1.6. DARA will continue to support and advise on the MOPAC End to End Process, Counter Corruption Arrangements and the Turnaround Board. DARA will also work with the Met Commander leading on the Rebuilding Trust and Confidence Plan in reviewing the Command Assessment Framework.
- 1.7. The Director of Audit Risk and Assurance will be chairing the national Police Audit Group Conference at Warwick in November 2022. Key developments in the world of auditing and policing will be considered with the input of specialists in the profession and representatives from across policing.

**DARA Performance**

- 1.8. Work is underway in line with that planned with time also being spent across areas of activity as planned.
- 1.9. A successful recruitment exercise for trainee auditors has now concluded with three candidates accepting offers for places within the scheme, subject to vetting. This is an exciting opportunity for the successful applicants and DARA are looking to have the scheme up and running within the next quarter. The two risk and assurance auditor vacant posts have also now been filled.

**2. Equality and Diversity Impact**

The MOPAC and MPS commitment to diversity and inclusion are considered in all activities carried out by DARA. The DARA work plan is designed to provide as wide a range of coverage of MOPAC and the MPS as possible.

**3. Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from the report. There is a risk of loss, fraud, waste and inefficiency if agreed actions arising as a result of audit activity are not implemented effectively. Savings and recoveries made as a result of DARA activity enable funds to be better directed towards core policing.

**4. Legal Implications**

There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.

**5. Risk Implications**

There are no direct risk implications arising from the report. Completion of the audit plan enables the Director of Audit, Risk and Assurance to provide assurance on the effectiveness of risk management arrangements.

**6. Contact Details**

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**7. Appendices and Background Papers**

**Appendix 1** – Summary of DARA Activity – Official Sensitive