

MOPACMAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME**METROPOLITAN
POLICE****TOTAL POLICING**

MPS-MOPAC JOINT AUDIT PANEL

8 January 2020

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) in the third quarter of 2019/20, which includes internal audit risk and assurance reviews, systems development and advisory work and counterfraud activity. There is also a forward look to planned activity.

Key Considerations for the Panel

- Eleven reviews have been finalised since the Panel last met, five receiving a limited assurance and six adequate. The OCSAE follow up has remained rated as limited, progress has been made with key new process recently introduced, the effectiveness of the framework will increase as they become embedded. The review of Vetting and Security Clearance, rated limited, also showed improvement on previous reviews but is not yet fully effective.
- A further six reviews are at draft report and 14 in progress, which include; the BCU Programme incorporating front line delivery of Safeguarding, Financial Assurance Programme and Business Continuity Framework.
- Key work planned includes; Gun Crime Resources, Deployment and Capability; Risk Management Alignment with Business Plan, Transformation Governance Benefits Realisation, MOPAC Commissioning and follow up reviews of Decision Making and Physical Security.
- Counter Fraud activity has included the continued work on the National Fraud Initiative data matching exercise where £195K has been identified for recovery to date.

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 Met risk assessments considered by the Panel. Treasury Management and Well-being (Health and Safety Update) are DARA reviews completed this quarter, particularly relevant to the agenda for this meeting.

Recommendations

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

1. Supporting Information

Third Quarter Activity

- 1.1. Eleven reviews have been finalised since the Panel last met this quarter, a further six reviews are at draft report stage and 14 in progress. **Appendix 1** details the outcome of the audit reviews and summarises Counter Fraud activity and systems development and advisory work.
- 1.2. Key reviews finalised include; Wellbeing Strategy and Implementation, Leading for London, Security Vetting and Clearance and Smarter Working Asset Management and follow up reviews of MOPAC Transparency and Reporting and the MPS On-Line Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Command. Those at draft report include; Diversity and Inclusion Framework, Framework Supporting Release Under Investigation, Disclosure – Case File Management and Forensic Management Control Framework. Key review underway include; SIAM2 Programme Management Framework, Alignment of Planning with Control Strategy and follow ups of Business Continuity Arrangements and Transformation Business Change Governance.
- 1.3. The output of the CRSA exercise undertaken with Met Local Resilience Teams dealing with Missing Persons is being used within the safeguarding portfolio and by the Transformation Portfolio to inform ongoing development. Key issues around policy compliance and consistency, clarifying roles and responsibilities across stakeholder groups and resourcing and training of the teams were identified. To build upon the work already performed, DARA are currently working with the Met to map out a generic key control framework supporting an end to end investigative framework. This sets out the key interventions necessary at each stage of the process to provide assurance over the effective delivery of safeguarding outcomes, supporting the work initiated by the team to build first line resilience and assurance within the frontline Safeguarding portfolio. DARA have also developed and agreed the terms of reference for our safeguarding delivery work programme, which is currently underway and will focus on strengthening first line controls and assurance.
- 1.4. DARA continue to advise and support the strengthening and development of the Met's Procurement framework, liaising with the recent consultant engaged to help develop the Commercial Life Cycle, to ensure lessons learnt from recent reviews are embedded in the revised process. DARA attended the Fleet Programme Board and meetings with the Fleet Programme manager as the framework for future delivery reaches a key stage of development. DARA also attended the Property Services Directorate Next Generation Steering Group at the request of the Director of Property Services.
- 1.5. Counter Fraud work has continued on the National Fraud Initiative. This year's exercise has to date, identified 3,557 potential matches (268 Payroll related, 2,092 Pension and 1,197 Creditor) of which 71 remain under investigation. A total of £195k has been identified for recovery to date. Counter Fraud activity is contained within the Appendix. The fact-finding review of a MPS procurement has continued with the outcome currently being drafted.

- 1.6. Work progressed this quarter to further develop the Strategy to support the use of data analytical tools for the DARA pro-active review programme. The Strategy has been drafted, a data analytical tool procured and training provided. The new analytical tool and approach is currently being piloted.
- 1.7. DARA continue to support the development of internal audit across the policing sector and wider public sector. The Director chairs meetings of a sub group of the CIPFA Financial Excellence in Policing Programme, which aims to enhance governance, audit, risk and assurance arrangements across the sector. The Director has also supported the Chair of the Audit Panel in consulting with MOPAC and the MPS on the role of the Panel as it enters its second term.

Fourth Quarter Planned Activity

- 1.8. DARA intend to finalise reports at draft and report on those reviews in progress. Key work planned includes; Gun Crime - Resources, Deployment and Capability, Risk Management Alignment with Business Plan, Transformation Governance Benefits Realisation and Performance, Corporate Assurance Framework and MOAPC Commissioning. Follow up reviews of Decision Making, Physical Security, Public Order and MOPAC Evidence and Insight and MOPAC Oversight will also take place.
- 1.9. Planning for the 2020/21 Audit Programme will commence early in the new year with a draft plan being presented to the Panel at the next meeting in March 2020.

DARA Performance

- 1.10. A total of 61% of reviews planned to date are at report stage with 39% in progress. In liaison with the MPS Chief of Corporate Services, the DARA Senior Leadership Team continue to work on enhancing the effectiveness of engagement with Internal Audit to ensure timely progression through the Plan. Time is being spent broadly as planned across the areas of DARA review and advisory activity.
- 1.11. Action has been taken to address the remaining recommendations from the EQA of DARA reported to the Panel in June 2019. As described above the data analytical strategy has now been drafted and is currently being piloted. DARA web content is being revised and risk workshops activity planned. DARA intend to consult on our Communication and Engagement Strategy as part of the planning process for 2020/21.

2. Equality and Diversity Impact

The MOPAC and MPS commitment to equality and diversity 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 Quarterly Activity (official sensitive)