

**Audit Panel
June 2002**

Metropolitan Police Authority



DISTRICT AUDIT

delivering public audit
for the Audit Commission

Progress Report

Jon Hayes

Audit Manager

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to inform the Audit Panel of progress with the audit. It covers the work included in the Audit Plan agreed by the Panel for the 2001/2002 audit.

We would welcome any comments on how the presentation of this information could be improved.

Please see overleaf for the position on the audit.

Protocol

We have recently agreed a reporting protocol with MPA/MPS staff to improve the speed of response to our draft reports. A copy of the protocol is appended to this report as **appendix 1**. We would welcome assistance from the Panel in agreeing the project sponsors for the pieces of work in this years' audit plan.

2000/01 plan outstanding matters

Since we last reported to the Audit Panel a number of pieces of work have been finalised:

- Estates Management, this report has been to the Estates Sub-Committee
- Service and Financial Planning, which has been to Finance, Planning and Best Value
- Client Side Management
- Community Safety follow up.

The only outstanding matters relating to the 2000/2001 audit are as follows:

- Review of Internal Consultancy, we have only just received final comments on the action plan, this response has been outstanding for some time
- Employment Tribunals, we are still awaiting final comments from HR, this draft report has been with the MPS for some 8 months now
- Overtime, we have only just received a response on this, again the report has been with the MPS for some considerable period of time.

Area	Audit work	Timing of work	Progress	Output
Planning				
Audit Plan	Prepare and agree an Audit Plan which is risk based, adds value to the Authority and meets the Code of Audit Practice requirements	October to January	Complete	Audit plan
Opinion				
Core Processes	Review of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main accounting system • Budgetary control • Closedown procedures 	May to July	Work largely complete, report being drafted.	Report
Statutory Accounts	Audit of accounts	August to October	We are aiming to complete our work much earlier this year. To some extent our ability to achieve this depends on the timely production of accounts and working papers by the MPA/MPS.	Audit opinion and Report

Area	Audit work	Timing of work	Progress	Output
Corporate Governance				
Internal Financial Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up review of Internal Audit 	July to September		Report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall assessment of arrangements and controls over C3i project 	May to September	Work in progress	Report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up and assess work done in response to our Regular as Clockwork review 	May to August	Work in progress	Report
Arrangements to Prevent and Detect Fraud and Corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall arrangements to prevent and detect fraud and corruption 	May to August	Work in progress	Report
Financial Standing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of arrangements to ensure the financial standing 	June to September		Included in Annual Audit Letter
Legality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of arrangements to ensure the legality of transactions 	June to September		Included in Annual Audit Letter
Use of Resources				
IT management arrangements	Review of the extent to which the arrangements in place will assist the MPA/MPS to meet e-targets. This will include assessment of the linkages between the e-strategy and other IT strategies.	March to September	Work in progress.	Report

Area	Audit work	Timing of work	Progress	Output
Procurement	Assessment of the way existing arrangements assist in securing optimal procurement solutions. This will include a specific probe into the way external consultants are procured across the organisation.	July to September		Report
Abstractions	Assessment of the extent to which these can reduce the ability to manage the service being provided to the public, focuses on training, court appearances and sickness.	June to October	Work in progress.	Report
Best Value Performance Plan and arrangements to deliver Best Value	Review of the Plan and commentary on the arrangements in place.	March to July	Work in progress.	Report
Service and Financial Planning II	Further consideration of the impact of MPA/MPS work to better integrate service and financial planning.	July to October		Report
Internal Inspection	Assessment of the extent to which the MPS is maximising the return on the resources input to this activity.	May to August	Work in progress	Report
Appraisal	Review of the new arrangements being put into place	May to September	Work in progress	Report
Activity Based Costing	Assessment of progress made on this national project.	July to October		Report
Performance information				
Performance indicators	Audit opinions on statutory PIs	July to August		Will be included in Best Value report

Area	Audit work	Timing of work	Progress	Output
Reporting				
Annual Audit Letter	Letter to Members summarising work on the 2001/2002 audit	November		Annual Audit Letter