

Summary of recent MPS Reviews of Criminal Justice

Thematic Inspection into Youth Justice		
<p>Scope:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persistent Young Offenders – compliance with MPS timescales. 2. Compliance with 24-hour timescale for PYO warrant execution. 3. Management of Youth Case Papers. 4. Referral to Youth Offender Teams (YOTS). 5. Quality control of decision making in cases disposed of as NFA. 	<p>Status and Recommendations:</p> <p>A preliminary report of the findings in relation to items (i) – (iii) was submitted in December 2000. Emerging findings for items (iv) and (v) are being reviewed for factual accuracy.</p>	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p>This report was written in two stages because the Home Secretary was pushing for improved performance with PYOs. Findings from Part 1 were circulated to BOCU commanders and TP Commanders straightaway and a Notice was issued soon after, tightening up on lots of procedures that covered many of the findings.</p> <p>The emerging findings from Part 2 formed part of the MPS response to the Home Secretary's questions. CO30 are closely monitoring results/statistics from the BOCUs to see if the time is being reduced by the new procedures. There was also a new system for PYO and youth warrants in these procedures to speed up execution – see warrants below.</p>
An assessment of the extent to which key recommendations and endorsements of the Masefield Scrutiny (Reducing administrative burdens on police in the context of the Criminal Justice System) have been implemented in the MPS.		
<p>Scope:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the arrangements for the production of written records of tape recorded interviews (ROTIs); 2. Case file preparation and use of Abbreviated Files; 3. Use of Short Overnight Bail; 4. Victim Support Scheme and The Victims Charter; 5. Victim and witness care; 6. Reduction of police witness costs; 7. Joint Performance Management – the quality and timeliness of case files; 8. Discontinuance. 	<p>Status and Recommendations:</p> <p>Inspectorate Report published (2/98).</p>	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p>(1) revisit to issue covered in previous report (see below)</p> <p>(2) and (3) were introduced as part of the Narey changes that were just about to happen when the inspection finished.</p> <p>(4), (5) and (6) - Many of the CJUs now have a witness liaison officer to improve relations in the above areas and for these purposes.</p> <p>(7) is under continuous review by the CPS and MPS. The current focus is on youth justice and the need to get the paperwork to the court quicker (but was also reviewed as part of Narey and Glidewell).</p> <p>(8) has really been overtaken by the Narey initiative. (CPS lawyers now attend boroughs regularly to give advice on evidence and case papers and this should negate/reduce the need for constant liaison about the reasons for</p>

		discontinuances.)
Review of Criminal Justice Unit Functions (prosecution and non prosecution)		
Scope: Conducted by visits to 13 CJUs (covering inner, semi-inner and outer divisions), preparatory to the implementation of the <i>Glidewell Report</i> .	Status and Recommendations: Inspection report published, 23/98 (December 1998)	Outcomes: This work was done as a preparatory measure for the establishment of joint MPS and CPS admin sections, as suggested by the Glidewell report. The report identified those functions that could transfer to the new combined unit and those that still needed a police input. The Glidewell amalgamations are still to happen and this work awaits the final moves.
Inspection of Non Appearance Warrants		
Scope:	Status and Recommendations: Inspection Report Published 14/98 (December 1999). 12 page Best Practice Guide produced	Outcomes: The Best Practice Guide (BPG), prepared by the inspection team, was included in the final report and published as a separate document. A copy of the full inspection report (incorporating the guide) was sent to every BOCU commander and CJU manager. Sufficient copies of the BPG were sent to CJU managers for distribution to all warrant officers in the CJUs and all Prosecution Liaison Officers (PLOs) at the courts. DAC Ghaffur also reinforced this report by highlighting it as part of his Clearing the Decks initiative. The subject is planned for re-inspection towards the end of 2001.
A Service Wide Review of Written Records of Tape Recorded Interviews		
Scope:	Status and Recommendations: Inspection Report Published 3/97 Parts 1 and 2. Recommendation for the introduction of dedicated civil staff summarisers for the MPS.	Outcomes: This report was published in 1997. Action on the recommendations has been slow and varied. The recommended system has potential to realise large notional savings and to release police officers from paperwork. This issue is currently being revisited.

“Level 3” Criminal Justice inspections by the Performance Review Unit		
<p>Scope:</p> <p>(1) Warrants (ILU3/56/99)</p> <p>(2) Judicial Disposal of Non Accident Process (end 1999).</p> <p>(3) Use of Prisoner Escort Record Forms (May 1999).</p>	<p>Status and Recommendations:</p> <p>Warrants - Identification of good practice and areas for improvement following an examination of North London BOCUs in Jul/Aug 2000.</p>	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p>As a result of analysis of the ten Level 2 High Risk Self Inspections, the PRU will shortly be commencing (in consultation with Internal Audit) an inspection of the two Property themes, Custody Suite and Property Store.</p>
CJU Staffing, Workloads and Comparative Efficiency		
<p>Scope:</p> <p>A Review of CJU Staffing, Workloads and Comparative Efficiency, for the three-month period May to July 2000. This updated a twelve-month study undertaken fifteen months previously.</p>	<p>Status and Recommendations:</p>	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p>Future staffing and workload analysis will depend on the division of functions as the implementation of Glidewell recommendations takes effect. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Separate Trial Unit for the Central Criminal Court, ii) Separate Trial Unit for each Crown Court, iii) Separate Youth Case Unit, <p>Merged Borough joint police and CPS CJUs.</p>
Current vacancy levels of civil staff within Criminal Justice Units		
<p>Scope:</p> <p>Review of staff vacancies in each borough CJU</p>	<p>Status and Recommendations:</p> <p>PRC Paper (01)29, March 2001</p> <p>Most vacancies within Borough CJUs are for civil staff only.</p> <p>Currently there is a shortage of 5 Grade 10s, 57 Grade 12s, 9 grade 13s and 10 typists. There are no fully fit operational police officers filling unfilled civil staff posts in CJUs.</p>	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p>The Grade 12 Admin Officers vacancies represent a shortage of 5.8%. This is higher than the overall shortage of Grade 12s in the MPS, which is running at 4.8%. The Civil Staff Recruitment Centre is searching all current civil staff applications received to assist those Boroughs with vacancies in CJUs. Vacancies are being filled through a combination of central and local recruitment. Where Boroughs cannot fill vacancies through applicants being passed from the Recruitment Centre they are advertising locally.</p>