



AUDIT & INSPECTION COMMITTEE VISITS

BACKGROUND

The main area of work for GMPA's Audit & Inspection Committee is to scrutinise reports provided by various inspection bodies. The committee then gains assurances from the Force and the Authority that issues raised in the reports have been appropriately dealt with. Here are a few examples of how they do this:

- Look at GMPA's plans to manage risk and implement effective anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements.
- Consider the reports of external audit and inspection agencies and ensure action is being taken on any risk-related issues which may have been identified.
- Ensure the Authority has in place statements which are required by law (for example the Annual Governance Statement).
- Ensure the statements (referred to above) properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it.
- Monitor the performance of and approve the work strategy and plans for the Internal Audit team.
- Receive the annual report of the Head of Internal Audit.
- Ensure there are effective relationships between external and internal audit teams.

GMPA ACTION

The Audit & Inspection Committee felt that the work being undertaken did not go far enough and requested that a process be set up to review any actions which are taken as a result of inspections and audits. The process is called Post Implementation Reviews (PIRs). Under PIR arrangements, site visits are now undertaken where Members review recommendations made and are shown evidence of how the recommendations have been put into practice. Since this process began, Members have undertaken PIRs at the Drugs Unit, Armed Crime Unit, Fingerprint Unit, Major Investigation Team, Automatic Number Plate Recognition, Volume Crime Unit and the Custody Suite at Ashton-Under-Lyne.

OUTCOMES

The process and practice of undertaking PIRs have been recognised by the Audit Commission as an area of good practice.