

# Policing Plan

## North West area



**13/14**

# North West foreword



## Ch Supt Peter Holden

### North West Area Commander British Transport Police

The railways continue to play a vital role in the economic well being of the north west and with the most significant investment in the region's rail infrastructure for years underway, it is vital that the safety, security and confidence of those working upon and using the system is maintained.

Crime levels have fallen for the seventh successive year and this is excellent news, especially given the additional challenges faced last year arising from the policing of the London Olympic and Paralympics games.

As well as successfully meeting the challenges posed by a busy calendar of events, I am particularly pleased with the work undertaken to reduce disruption on the network. A continued focus on metal theft has seen offences reduce by 40% whilst a revised approach to dealing with railway fatalities has helped reduce associated delays. Disruption arising from police related incidents has reduced by 21%,

with significant benefits to the industry and the travelling public.

Assaults against staff were also reduced, and this will remain a specific area of focus for 2013/14.

Whilst the results achieved during 2012/13 are testament to the efforts of staff, key to this success are the effective partnerships developed with our industry partners and other agencies. We will continue to build upon these relationships to further drive down crime and meet the challenges posed by policing such a unique environment.

We will also continue to seek new ways of working with and communicating with the travelling public. A text service which allows passengers to report anti-social behaviour which might otherwise go unreported has recently been launched. This will give us a greater insight into what is happening on the network, and we will need to direct our resources accordingly.

Targets contained within this plan will ensure we get the best from our resources, ensuring that they are visible when and where they are most needed to best deal with the anticipated rise in demand and provide appropriate reassurance to rail users.

We will focus on reducing overall crime levels, particularly in the areas of assaults on staff, serious violence and theft of passenger property, ensuring that we are tackling those incidents which have the greatest personal impact on those who work and travel upon the railway.

We will continue to focus on reducing disruption arising from police related activity and fatalities across the network, and where crime does take place we will endeavour to bring offenders to justice. We will focus activity around public order and football related offences in our drive to tackle anti-social behaviour, with a particular emphasis on working with our industry partners to combat alcohol related offences.

The targets contained within this Policing Plan are wide ranging and ensure that we will face demands on our resource and expertise.

I look forward to working with you all to successfully meet the challenges of 2013/14 and further contribute to the success of the region's railways.

## Area resources

Unit	PCSO	Police Officer	Police Staff	Special Const.*
Area Intelligence Bureau		10	15	
Area Commander		1		
Area Supervision		3		
Carlisle		12	1	1
Central Operations Unit		21		
CID		28		
Crewe	4	20	1	1
Crime Management Centre		0	5	
Dog Section		3		
Finance and Administration			6	
Lancaster	1	4		
Liverpool		48	2	7
Liverpool NPT	4	4		
Manchester		46	2	5
Manchester NPT	10	16		
Operations			2	
Ops Support			6	
Preston	3	21	1	3
Prosecutions		1	17	
Secondments		0		

Unit	PCSO	Police Officer	Police Staff	Special Const.*
Secretary			2	
Southport NPT	4	7		
Wigan		9	1	1
Wirral NPT	6	3		
<b>Core policing total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>EPSA funded posts</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>18</b>

\* **Special constables** are excluded from the charging model

# Area targets

## Disruption

**Reduce the number of minutes lost for police related disruption on six key routes**

This will complement the national objective of reducing police related disruption by at least 3% by focusing on six key routes within the North West, chosen in collaboration with Network Rail. To further enhance partnership working, BTP will work within the Network Rail JPIP process on the following routes.

**Locations selected:**

Edge Hill to Huyton  
Euxton to Wigan  
Stoke to Stone  
Hunts Cross to Widnes  
Stockport to Slade Lane  
Salford Crescent to Bolton

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## Staff Assaults

**Reduce staff assaults from the 2012/13 level**

Assaults on rail staff affect the confidence and morale of staff on the frontline and this is why a reduction target is vitally important. We look to build upon the successive reductions since 2009/10 by continuing to work closely with our industry partners, seeking proportionate judicial outcomes and providing appropriate feedback to TOCs.

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## Theft of Passenger Property

**Reduce offences by 5% from the the 2012/13 level**

Theft of passenger property contributes significantly to our overall crime rate on the Area and each crime represents a victim whose journey experience has been irrevocably damaged as a result of this criminal activity. We will look to engage with passengers, other BTP Areas and TOCs to support this activity.

## **Anti-social behaviour**

**Complete a minimum of 12 significant joint industry operations combating alcohol-related anti-social behaviour**

While society debates how best to address the availability of cheap alcohol, public transport providers all too often have to deal with the arising consequence in terms of public safety and public disorder. These operations will involve joint working with industry partners to address these issues at locations and on routes identified by TOCs in conjunction with BTP via the tasking process.

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## **Football-related offences**

**Increase the detection rate from the 2012/13 level**

Over a quarter of the 92 Premiership and Football League clubs are based within Area which represents a significant resource commitment for BTP. While joint planning with industry partners mitigates potential issues arising, there are still opportunities for us to work towards improving behaviour among the minority of fans who engage in anti-social behaviour and disorder. We will continue to target the key problem clubs throughout the forthcoming season, building upon the excellent partnerships already in place.

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## **Serious violence against person, sexual and robbery offences**

**Reduce recorded offences from the 2012/13 level**

While these offences are relatively low in number across the region's network, the impact on the victim and the wider railway community can be profound and wide-ranging. We are determined to reduce offences where serious violence is used, but when they do happen we will strive to bring offenders to justice in an effort to further improve safety and reassure passengers and staff.

**For additional information  
on the 2013-14 national  
and local policing plans,  
please visit:**

[www.btpa.police.uk](http://www.btpa.police.uk)

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