



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

Agenda Item 4

REPORT TO: British Transport Police Authority
DATE: 4 March 2008
SUBJECT: Chief Constable's Report
SPONSOR: Chief Constable
AUTHOR: T/Chief Inspector Nicholas Barker

1. PERFORMANCE AGAINST 2007-08 POLICING PLAN

- 1.1 There has been significant progress in achieving local targets since January's Police Authority meeting.
- 1.2 75 of the 100 2007-08 Policing Plan targets are currently being achieved (1 April 2007 to 31 January 2008). Attached at Appendix A is a table detailing performance against all of the operational targets.
- 1.3 9 of the 16 common objectives, common targets are being achieved. Key areas to note are:
 - Fatality management – There have been 156 fatalities on the overground rail network this year, with an average clearance time of 74 minutes, against a target of 90 minutes. All Areas are achieving this target.
 - Cable related offences – 246 offenders have been detected for cable related offences, against a target of 186. A more detailed update on cable theft is included in Appendix B of this report.
 - Serious football related offences – the target is to reduce the number of serious football related offences by 5%. To date, 48 offences have been recorded against a target of 55.
 - There has been some significant improvement in the target related to Persistent Young Offenders but this continues to be a challenge.



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- 1.4 38 of the 44 common objectives, local targets are being achieved. Key areas to note are:
- All Areas are now meeting their targets for Violent and Sexual Offences.
 - Almost all Areas have achieved their target relating to detecting Hate Crime, with only Wales and Western and Scotland failing by a very small margin.
 - Route crime, Staff Assaults and Anti-Social Behaviour targets currently have some Areas failing. However, significant progress has been made since the last report and the Areas continue to focus their efforts in ensuring all targets are met.
- 1.5 29 of the 40 local objectives, local targets are being achieved. Key areas to note are:
- North Eastern, London South and Scotland Areas are achieving all their local objectives, local targets. North Western is falling short in one target area.
 - London North and Wales and Western set challenging targets and have made considerable progress in their efforts to achieve them.
- 1.6 The total number of recorded offences fell by 12% against the same period last year, reducing from 104,666 to 92,186. There were 59,206 notifiable offences and 32,980 non-notifiable offences during April to January 2008. The detection rate has also increased to 26.4%, against 24.6% last year, with 15,609 notifiable offences detected so far this year.

2. OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

- 2.1 On 6 February at a meeting with the Department for Transport (DfT), it was agreed that the funding for a new police station at Stratford will not be met out of the Olympic budget. It has been made clear that DfT will not pay for any legacy issues. However, the bid for the new station is still being made through Capital Funds via DfT.
- 2.2 The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between British Transport Police (BTP) and the Olympic Security Directorate is still with the MPS Commissioner awaiting his approval. It is



hoped that this Agreement will give ACC Steve Thomas responsibility for preparing the National Transport Policing Plan for all transport across the UK. This will put BTP in a strong negotiating position on behalf of the rail network.

- 2.3 A Ministerial meeting will be held on 18 March where it is hoped that a funding arrangement will be determined for all forces.
- 2.4 Gold and Silver Commanders for the events have now been identified and there will be a seminar in April to discuss the policing of the event. Views from the rail industry and Transec are also being sought in preparation for the event.

3. FRONTLINEFIRST

- 3.1 As part of the *Frontlinefirst* programme's governance arrangements an Efficiency Register has been developed. This will assist BTP in meeting its commitment to 2% savings across BTP in 2007-08.
- 3.2 Reviews are now underway into a number of key areas in pursuit of further efficiency in BTP. Current areas of focus are:
- Human Resources – Following a draft PricewaterhouseCoopers HR Efficiency Review Report and discussion at the Force Management Team (FMT), consultation took place with HR staff. A two day workshop was held 21 and 22 February to develop an implementation plan for change to ensure BTP meets its target of 20% saving over three years.
 - Strategic Development Department – A review of business practices has resulted in the reduction of two members of staff realising a saving of £75,380 for 2008-09 (This equates to a 5.4% reduction in SDD's base budget for 2008-09). Further work is underway to identify options for further efficiencies.



- Reviews into other business areas including, Information and Communication Technology, Finance, Procurement, Fleet, Estates, Media and Communications are all ongoing and will look to provide updates and efficiency recommendations at the end of April.

4. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- 4.1 The Chairman and Chief Constable met with Dr Mike Mitchell on 13 February at the DfT. A number of areas were discussed including the Olympics, Strategic Plan launch and a Contingency Reserve which BTP are trying to build by making savings. Also under discussion was DfT assessment of the developments in the rail industry as they may affect BTP, and the efforts of BTP, jointly with the industry, to create a clearer CCTV strategy and to improve BTP's use of this valuable asset.
- 4.2 BTP has received a number of requests from MPs to visit BTP. These include Boris Johnson MP who visited MICC, Theresa Villiers MP, Shadow Transport Secretary, who is interested to find out more of the work of BTP, and David Ruffley MP, Shadow Minister for Police Reform, who has asked to see how PDA's are being used and receive a briefing on the work of BTP.
- 4.3 The Police Authority will recall that the Chief Constable is an adviser to, but not a member of, the Lord Stevens Committee on Border Security. The recommendations of this Committee, at one point, looked like having potential implications for the whole of BTP. As far as BTP is concerned, its focus is now only on a relatively minor role at the CTRL terminal at St Pancras. The Committee is likely to report its findings in the next two months and the release of their report will be fronted by David Cameron.



5. HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTOR OF CONSTABULARY INSPECTION

- 5.1 Currently inspections are taking place for Neighbourhood Policing, and Serious and Organised Crime and Major Crime.

- 5.2 In relation to Neighbourhood Policing, HMIC have conducted interviews at FHQ and are conducting fieldwork in London South and Wales and Western. A comprehensive review is continuing and a number of focus areas have already been identified, including project governance, the location of Neighbourhood Teams, the corporate definition and who constitutes the Railway Community.

- 5.3 The Serious and Organised Crime and Major Crime inspection has so far involved interviews with approximately fifty BTP employees, members of the Police Authority and an ATOC focus group. A debrief has been sought but HMIC have requested a trip to North Eastern Area first.

6. OPERATIONAL POLICING OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Attached for information at Appendix B is an overview of some policing operations, incidents and convictions that took place in January.

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APPENDIX A

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Common Objectives - Common Targets

		Fatalities - average time cleared (min)	CBR Profiling - number conducted	% Force Trained as CBR(N) Responders (January 2008 data)	Visible Policing (Op Alert) - time spent by police officers at location (January 2008)	Visible Policing (Op Alert) - time spent by PCSOs at location (January 2008 data)	Cable Related Offences - offenders detected	PYO's - average arrest to sentence (days) (October data)	Football Banning Orders - number obtained (Full Year Targets)	Football Banning Orders - % applied for	Serious Football Related Offences - number recorded	Quality of Service - overall satisfaction rate	Offences Brought to Justice - performance
London	Actual	73		7%	2378:30:23	1734:22:27	9	109	3			76%	23.3%
	PYTD Target	90		No target set	627:00:00	1812:36:00	18	65	6			80%	22%
London South	Actual	74		8%	1410:56:33	2540:44:47	32	91	3			73%	25.0%
	PYTD Target	90		No target set	501:36:00	1504:48:00	27	65	6			80%	20%
London Underground	Actual			10%	3649:21:58	655:21:23	4	105	4			82%	19.9%
	PYTD Target			No target set	1630:12:00	877:48:00	7	65	6			80%	20%
North Eastern	Actual	75		12%	530:13:14	150:53:58	103	95	2			86%	28.7%
	PYTD Target	90		No target set	250:48:00	250:48:00	78	65	6			80%	22%
North Western	Actual	61		9%	1525:01:39	490:32:49	44	50	8			84%	40.7%
	PYTD Target	90		No target set	376:12:00	501:36:00	23	65	6			80%	27%
Scottish	Actual	90		9%	2244:34:54		14		2			84%	
	PYTD Target	90		No target set	501:36:00		5		6			80%	
Wales and Western	Actual	74		15%	1175:45:31	344:05:40	40	70	12			77%	30.0%
	PYTD Target	90		No target set	513:00:00	381:54:00	29	65	6			80%	24%
Force	Actual	74	925	11%	12914:24:12	5916:01:04	246	91	34	99%	48	79%	25.7%
	PYTD Target	90	567	8%	4400:24:00	5329:30:00	186	65	42	90%	55	80%	22%

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Common Objectives - Local Targets

		Route - recorded	Route - detected	Route - det. rate	Theft of Passenger Property - recorded	Theft of Passenger Property - detected	Theft of Passenger Property - det. rate	Violent & Sexual Offences - recorded	Violent & Sexual Offences - det. rate	Hate - recorded	Hate - det. rate	Anti-Social Behaviour - detected (inc. PND's issued)	Anti-Social Behaviour - offenders detected (inc. PND's issued)	Staff Assaults - recorded	Staff Assaults - det. rate
London	Actual			9%		131			46%		55%		1604		54%
North	PYTD Target			12%		101			45%		46%		1258		53%
London	Actual			12%	3291				47%		43%	1706			46%
South	PYTD Target			10%	3933				45%		42%	1745			40%
London	Actual	137			6268		5%	671		424			5650	589	41%
Underground	PYTD Target	113			6697		5%	723		483			5319	708	42%
North	Actual			18%			6%		55%		63%		1548		73%
Eastern	PYTD Target			14%			5%		55%		55%		1258		58%
North	Actual	381					6%		56%		58%		1538		67%
Western	PYTD Target	438					4%		51%		52%		1341		53%
Scottish	Actual	236			328				67%		64%		1550		64%
	PYTD Target	272			392				63%		65%		1460		61%
Wales and	Actual		903				4%		61%		51%		1708		59%
Western	PYTD Target		770				4%		57%		53%		1641		50%



Local Objectives - Local Targets

		Trespass - detected (inc. PND's issued)	Driving Offences at L/Crossings - detected	Robbery - detection rate	Notifiable Fraud - detected	Non-Notifiable Fraud - detected	M/Vehicle Crime (exc. CTRL) - recorded	M/Vehicle Crime (inc. CTRL) - det. rate	Graffiti - detected	Cycle Crime-detection rate
London North	Actual	423	112	30%	133	482	965	9%	86	4%
	PYTD Target	210	84	33%	113	461	1371	12%	62	4%
		Graffiti (value of damage £1000 or more) - recorded	Neighbourhood Policing - detected notifiable offences	Robbery - recorded	Robbery - det. rate	Serious Staff Assaults - recorded	Trespass - detected (inc. PND's issued)			
London South	Actual	70	284	319	48%	106	274			
	PYTD Target	139	135	646	33%	106	157			
		Graffiti - recorded	Notifiable Offences - recorded	Robbery - recorded	Robbery - det. rate	Offensive Weapons - detected				
London Underground	Actual	1366	13816	168	27%	112				
	PYTD Target	1643	15188	335	33%	117				
		Graffiti - detected	Staff Assaults (Northern Rail) - recorded	Theft of Passenger Property (Trans Pennine Express) - recorded	Non-Notifiable Fraud - detected					
North Eastern	Actual	67	39	153	218					
	PYTD Target	39	51	183	143					

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		Anti-Social Behaviour (Merseyrail) - detected	Anti-Social Behaviour (Virgin) - detected	Route Crime (Trans Pennine Express) - detection rate	Staff Assaults (Northern Rail) - recorded							
North Western	Actual	502	56	48%	45							
	PYTD Target	503	56	26%	49							
		Failing to Obey Road Traffic Signs at Level Crossings - detected	Graffiti - detected									
Scottish	Actual	62	68									
	PYTD Target	54	38									
		Anti-Social Behaviour (Cardiff Central Station) - recorded	Anti-Social Behaviour (Cardiff Central Station) - offenders detected	Graffiti (South Western Sector) - detected	Robbery (West Midlands Sector) - detection rate	Serious Staff Assaults (West Midlands Sector) - recorded	Serious Staff Assaults (West Midlands Sector) - detected	Serious Staff Assaults (Welsh Sector) - recorded	Serious Staff Assaults (Welsh Sector) - detected	Anti-Social Behaviour (Virgin Trains) - recorded	Anti-Social Behaviour (Virgin Trains) - detected	
Wales & Western	Actual	120	112	27	74%	15	9	7	6	192	114	
	PYTD Target	96	88	37	36%	12	3	4	3	169	108	



APPENDIX B

OPERATIONAL POLICING OVERVIEW – JANUARY 2008

1. LEICESTERSHIRE RAIL CRASH

1.1 On 1 February a train driver was injured and rail services were disrupted when a lorry crashed into a footbridge causing debris to fall on the line. The train from East Midland Services traveling from Nottingham to Norwich hit debris at Barrow Upon-Soar. The driver suffered serious leg injuries and needed to be cut from the train by fire crews. There were six passengers on the train at the time and only one minor injury was reported. Investigation by BTP is on going and a decision is currently being sought from the CPS.

2. CABLE THEFT

2.1 A national day of action took place on 28 January. All BTP Areas and participating Home Office forces targeted scrap metal thefts, and visited rail depots to raise awareness and help with crime reduction. There were also some covert operations. The results are detailed below.

2.2

Day of Action Activity	Results
Scrap Metal Yard visits	65
CRO Inspections	15
Arrests	11
Detections	4
ANPR hits	163
Metal seizures	2
Vehicle seizures	11
Other Information	66 Fines/Fixed Penalty Notices



2.3 This was a significant step forward in getting Home Office Forces to raise the level of priority they give to this serious crime.

3. TERRORISM

3.1 A 51 year old male has been jailed for trying to shut down London main line stations by making bomb threats. The hoax calls, made between December 2006 and January 2007 targeted Kings Cross, Euston and Paddington Stations and caused major delays. Swift investigation led to him being tracked down using CCTV and a voice expert who matched his voice to recordings. He denied the charges but was convicted by a jury.

3.2 The national threat level for railways remains Severe. This means that an attack is highly likely. BTP continues to work with DfT (Transec) on a range of projects including an extension of the earlier trials of passenger screening methods suitable for busy stations.

3.3 The use of s44 Terrorism Act Stop and Search powers has generated considerable publicity in Scotland but continues to attract a very low number of public complaints.

3.4 BTP has recently provided information to the Boys-Smith review of personnel security in the transport sector and together with the Authority has recently contributed to the HMIC inspection of regional Counter Terrorism hubs.

4. LONDON UNDERGROUND

4.1 On 4 February plain clothes officers noticed that a skimming device had been attached to a multi fare ticket machine at Paddington LU station. Officers waited in the vicinity, and a short time later two males approached the machine and removed the device. Both males were arrested for possessing articles with intent to commit fraud. They pleaded guilty at Magistrates Court and



have been sent to Crown Court for sentencing. Enquiries continue as this may involve a wider organized criminal network.

- 4.2 On 24 January officers from the Area Support Group (ASG) took part in a joint MPS, Thames Valley Police and BTP operation in Slough working in partnership with Immigration and Social Services – Operation Golf. The Operation targeted suspects for theft offences and people suspected of children trafficking within the Romanian Community. The ASG searched two addresses and this resulted in three arrests and two children being taken into protective custody.

5. LONDON SOUTH

- 5.1 Three suspects have been arrested in connection with a series of seven offences of robbery committed between Forest Hill and Croydon. One of the offences resulted in the victim sustaining a broken nose and serious facial injuries.
- 5.2 A male has been charged with Arson with Intent to Endanger Life following a media appeal. The male had set a bundle of newspapers alight in a train carriage near to where a mother sat with her baby in a pushchair.
- 5.3 Two Football Banning Orders were successfully obtained after an incident at London Bridge station prior to the Millwall v Oldham game in December. Two males racially abused and threatened a group of railway cleaners. The offenders were arrested and charged and following conviction they were both fined £400 and made to pay £60 costs. Although initially refused, a Banning Order was eventually granted, effective for three years, with conditions not to enter any railway or underground premises when Millwall or England are playing a football fixture. They are also not to go within three miles of The New Den when Millwall are playing a home fixture.



6. LONDON NORTH

- 6.1 A cycle thief was jailed for five months after committing various cycle related crimes at Basildon and Billericay stations. The male was arrested on 16 January by Operaton Globe officers a day after stealing a bicycle from Basildon station. The male appeared at Basildon Magistrates Court on 17 January where he was jailed for a total of five months and two weeks.
- 6.2 Two brothers from Canvey Island were jailed for a vicious attack on a member of public at Southend Central Station. The victim was at the station with friends in July last year when one of the brothers accused the victim of staring at him. The brothers then launched a frenzied and unprovoked attack, punching, kicking and biting the victim. The victim suffered extensive bruising and cuts to the face and neck. After viewing the CCTV, the judge sentenced the brothers to eighteen months and fifteen months imprisonment.
- 6.3 Two PCSO's were on a routine patrol near Elstree and Borehamwood station when they noticed a male asleep underneath a nearby bridge. The PCSO's asked the male, who had been drinking, to move along. As they did this the male became racially abusive and increasingly aggressive towards them. The male then punched one of the PCSO's in the face, causing a cut lip and bruising. Both PCSO's restrained the male and requested emergency assistance. As the male struggled, he kicked the window of a nearby law firm causing it to shatter. Hertfordshire Police attended the scene and arrested the male. He was later charged with two counts of assault on PCSO's, criminal damage and racially aggravated public order offences. This incident is a good example of the level of exposure to violence that our PCSO's face.

7. WALES & WESTERN

- 7.1 On 5 and 6 January an operation took place targeting football disorder at Derby and Aston Villa. Over this weekend nineteen offenders were arrested whilst on the railway system for football related offences at these two locations. The offences varied from public disorder offences,



including one of which was racially aggravated, possession of Class A drugs and offensive weapons. This was a successful operation that utilized both Force Headquarters and Areas' resources.

- 7.2 Birmingham New Street has recently experienced a marked increase in theft of personal property from trains and platforms. On 21 January an operation was mounted to detect offenders. The initiative was resourced by both uniform and CID officers and one offender was detected with a stolen suitcase on the second day of the operation. The offender was remanded in custody charged with seven offences of theft of personal property. A second offender was arrested on 2008 February and charged with seven additional charges. This successful operation has reduced the number of reported personal property crimes at Birmingham.

8. NORTH WESTERN

- 8.1 A total of nine men have received Football Banning Orders and one man has been jailed following serious football related disorder on board a train last year. The disorder followed the Wrexham v Liverpool pre-season friendly which took place in Wrexham. Two victims from North Wales were punched and kicked repeatedly by a large group of Liverpool supporters. A total of ten people were convicted in relation to this incident with eight receiving Banning Orders for three years each. In addition one male received five months prison sentence and a six year Football Banning Order. Liverpool FC gave their full support to BTP and promised that anyone proven to be a Liverpool fan would be banned for life.
- 8.2 A prolific pickpocket was jailed for thirty months after a BTP officer recognised him from CCTV footage. The male was sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court after stealing purses from elderly passengers at Lime Street Station on a number of occasions. He boarded the trains and mingled with the passengers, always carrying a rucksack and jacket over his arm. The male was eventually charged with nine offences including theft, fraud and drugs.



9. NORTH EASTERN

- 9.1 On 16 January a male dressed in CBRN (Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear) uniform, including respirator was reported at Darlington Station with what appeared to be a weapon. He was telling staff and passengers there was a bomb on the train. As a result of further enquiries and intelligence received from Durham Police, a male was arrested. The male was a member of the Territorial Army. The male has been charged under sec 51 Criminal Law Act 1977 (Bomb Hoax).
- 9.2 On 26 January at Chapeltown, Sheffield there was a firearm incident between two groups of youths. As the Leeds to Sheffield train pulled into Chapeltown Station a group of ten youths on board the train were preparing to alight. A similar number of youths were on the station platform. As the train slowed down the group on the platform walked alongside the train in parallel with the group on board. The platform group then started to throw ballast and bottles at the train breaking four windows. The train conductor did not open the doors in order to prevent a confrontation. He also heard a 'popping' noise and saw one youth with what he thought was a firearm inside his trousers. BTP and a South Yorkshire Police Firearm Unit attended and an air pistol was discovered in the toilet. One youth was arrested on suspicion of possession of the firearm. The group on the platform fled prior to police arrival but CCTV has been seized and enquiries continue.

10. SCOTLAND

- 10.1 On 10 January a shopping trolley was thrown from an over-bridge on the outskirts of Lanark striking the overhead lines and a passing train. A search of the local area and liaison with the local Force revealed descriptions of two males of similar appearance that had been stopped earlier in the evening. Both were detained and one was subsequently charged with Culpable and Reckless Conduct.



- 10.2 On 10 February a report was received of persons cutting and stealing lengths of rail. Officers attended the scene and three males were detained close by. All three were interviewed and later charged with theft.
- 10.3 On 11 February a male was stopped at Glasgow Central station under the Misuse of Drugs Act. Although no drugs were found, further checks revealed the male was a French Algerian with a forged passport and was a failed asylum seeker. The male was also in possession of several mobile phones, a number of false identities and was an absconder from Immigration. The male was detained and Immigration expects to deport the male.