

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE AUTHORITY

Report to: Stakeholder Relations & Consultation Strategy

Date: 20th January 2009

Subject: Draft Neighbourhood Policing Evaluation Report

Sponsor: Chief Executive & Clerk

For: Information

1. PURPOSE OF PAPER

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on progress with the current evaluation of BTP's approach to Neighbourhood Policing (NP).
- 1.2 To present an early draft of the report to the Committee for information and comment.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Authority, via this Committee, decided to undertake an in depth review of the Force's approach to developing and delivering a NP style of policing for the railways.
- 2.2 The DfT review of BTP in 2005/6 recommended that the Force and Authority explore ways in which to deliver a railway focussed policing service which would enable further development of partnership working with its stakeholders from railway community. The Force's approach has not evolved in isolation but has been greatly influenced by the Home Office's Neighbourhood Policing Programme (see Agenda Item 7 for further details).
- 2.3 As a result of this review and the results delivered by reassurance policing on the London Underground; NP has been a significant area of investment for BTP. This investment has been provided through increases in the revenue budget, additional funding via enhanced PSAs and most importantly as a result of the Force's redirection of resources via its Frontline First efficiency programme.
- 2.4 This evaluation project therefore seeks to gather and evaluate evidence of the following;
 - The extent to which the key aims of the BTP NP Strategy and these have been achieved to date
 - Progress with roll out of NP teams across the Force

- What NP has delivered for BTP (for example reductions in crime, increases in detections, increased intelligence, improved relations)
- What NP has delivered for industry and passenger stakeholders
- What challenges exist for BTP NP in the future

2.5 Another important outcome of the evaluation is the development of a robust source of evidence for the Authority to use in the future as it considers appropriate policing styles for the railways in the medium to long term. This will be even more important in the context of medium term financial planning.

3. PROGRESS TO DATE

3.1 The following table summarises progress with the evaluation project to date;

Stage	Task	Status	Owner	Likely completion date
1. Setting up the project	Agree brief, set up scope project	Complete	BTP project manager	Complete
	Agree work packages and allocate	Complete	BTP project manager	Complete
2. Data collection & QA process	Focus group work	Complete	BTP QoS manager	Complete
	Collection and analysis of crime data	In progress - first draft received further work being carried out	BTP analyst	23.01.09
	Collection of evidence from partners	Complete – feedback received from Southeastern and Arriva	BTP analyst	Complete
	Identify suitable material for literature review chapter and produce a draft	Complete	BTPA Research Manager	Complete
3. Drafting the report	Chapter 1: Introduction	Open – will be final chapter	BTPA	w/e 13.02.09
	Chapter 2: Summary of Findings	Open will be second to last chapter	BTPA	w/e 13.02.09
	Chapter 3: Literature Review	Complete	BTPA	Complete
	Chapter 4: NP on the railways	First draft produced	BTPA	w/e 30.01.09
	Chapter 5: Focus group outputs	First draft produced and circulated for comment	BTPA	w/e 30.01.09
	Chapter 6: Impact on Crime	Open – awaiting further information from BTP	BTPA	w/e 06.02.09
	Chapter 7: Impact on	Open – data	BTPA	w/e 06.02.09

	travelling public	received from BTP		
	Chapter 8: Impact on partners	Open – data received from BTP	BTPA	w/e 13.02.09
	Chapter 9: Impact on problem solving	Open – data received from BTP	BTPA	w/e 13.02.09
	Chapter 10: Impact on resources	Open – data received from BTP	BTPA	w/e 13.02.09
	Chapter 11: HMIC Inspection reports	First draft produced	BTPA	w/e 30.01.09
	Chapter 12: Evaluation of BTPA's role	First draft produced and circulated for comment	BTPA	w/e 30.01.09
	Additional Chapter: Methodology	Open	BTPA (with assistance from BTP)	w/e 13.02.09
	FINAL REPORT	Structure developed – chapters being drafted	BTPA	w/e 20.02.09

- 3.2 A draft of the skeleton report is attached at Appendix A; we would welcome feedback from Members on the suggested structure and content and whether there are any obvious gaps in the planned final report.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 The timetable for assembling a first draft of the report is set out in section 3.1 above. Following completing of a draft by BTPA, we suggest the following as a timetable for bringing a substantive first draft to the full Authority meeting;
- First draft completed by BTPA by 20th February 2009
 - Draft circulated to BTP and Chair of Stakeholder Committee (and others where appropriate) for comment by 20th February 2009
 - Final comments received by 27th February 2009
 - Final amendments completed and Authority papers circulated by 6th March
- 4.2 It is highly likely that in completing the analysis and writing up of the final report that a number of issues will be identified that are beyond the scope of the project but on which Members may wish to commission further work. Opportunities for further work/research will therefore be highlighted in the final draft report for Member comment and discussion.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from the update provided by this paper.

6. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Due to current pressure on resources at the Secretariat there is a risk that a draft report will not be completed in time to be presented to the full Authority on 12th March. Progress to date has been reviewed internally and a detailed plan for completion has been prepared, therefore the Secretariat is confident that a sufficiently complete and detailed interim report can be prepared for presentation to the Authority on 12th March.
- 6.2 There is an additional risk that the reliability and robustness of the project findings may be open to challenge. While no research findings can ever be 100% conclusive or absolute proof of relationships between sets of data steps have been taken throughout to project to quality assure the methods used, the data collected and the conclusions drawn.

7. DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 7.1 In considering and reflecting on its approach to an evaluation of Neighbourhood Policing, the Authority will want to reassure itself that diversity issues are given appropriate consideration both as areas for scrutiny and in recommendations made by the evaluation. For example the report and its recommendations should include consideration of issues such as delivery of training, accessibility of community engagement/consultation techniques, priority setting, and performance monitoring.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Members are asked to note progress with the NP evaluation and to review and comment on the draft document attached at Appendix A.