



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

Agenda Item 3

REPORT TO: British Transport Police Authority
DATE: 21 January 2010
SUBJECT: Chief Constable's Report
SPONSOR: Chief Constable
AUTHOR: DI John McBride

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of activity within British Transport Police (BTP) since the last Police Authority meeting in December.

2. PERFORMANCE AGAINST 2009-10 POLICING PLAN

2.1 As BTP enter a new decade it is pleasing to report that crime on the railway network continues to fall while detections have increased. 13 of the 14 national targets were being achieved during the Policing Plan period from 1 April to 5 January.

2.2 Key areas of performance to note include:

- Notifiable crime continues to fall, with 43,585 recorded offences in the year to date against (47,170 for the same period last year) a decrease of 7.6%
- The current detection rate for notifiable crime is 35%
- 31,147 people have been arrested or reported by BTP
- There have been 616 live cable related offences, 30% below the year to date target of 884
- 540 offenders have been detected for football related offences against a year to date target of 372.

2.3 During the period 1 April to 5 January 63 of the 75 local targets were being achieved. Key areas of performance to note include:

- London North Area has participated in 128 joint operations with rail industry partners against a target of 80. These operations include level crossing operations and high profile Anti



Social Behaviour and revenue protection operations which increase staff confidence and reassure the travelling public

- London South has recorded 775 violent offences. This is 18% below the target of 952. The deployment of Neighbourhood Policing Teams at key locations has had a visible effect and the increased presence while reassuring the public and staff also acts as a deterrent
- The North Eastern Area is currently detecting 66% of all Violent and Sexual offences against a year to date target of 57%
- North Western Area has detected 283 offences where aggression has been shown towards staff against a target of 202. This represents an increase of 87 additional detections compared to the same period last year. Utilising CCTV images from on-train and station systems to obtain suspect images assists greatly with identification of suspects. These detections improve staff confidence and high visibility policing reassures passengers and staff
- Wales and Western Area has detected 901 Anti-Social Behaviour offences against a year to date target of 721. Operation Tranquillity, targeting problematic areas agreed with partners, is addressing local concerns
- London Underground Area is detecting 26% of all graffiti crime committed on the Underground, significantly above the target of 12%. The Area made innovative use of bail conditions on targeted offenders over Christmas to disrupt criminal activity.
- Stakeholder satisfaction, a measure agreed with partners and used in Scotland, is achieving a rate of 83%, against a target of 70%.

2.4 From April to December there were 51,965 notifiable crimes (this includes police generated offences such as possession of knives and drugs) and 29,004 non-notifiable offences. This corresponds to reductions of 7.5% and 8.4% respectively against the same period last year.

2.5 Attached at Appendix A is a table detailing current performance against all targets.



3. VISITS AND MEETINGS

- 3.1 The Chief Constable hosted a commendation ceremony on 18 December. Officers were presented with Chief Constable's commendation certificates, Long Service and Good Conduct Medals and Royal Humane Society Awards.
- 3.2 On 14 December the Chief Constable met with representatives from the London Organising Committee Olympic Games (LOCOG) and visited the Olympic Park site.
- 3.3 The Chief Constable met with senior colleagues from the Metropolitan Police Service and the Transport Commissioner for London, Mr Peter Hendy and discussed plans for the New Year's Eve policing operation.
- 3.4 On 6 January the Chief Constable met with the Home Office Director of Police Policy and Operations, Mr Tyson Hepple. Items discussed included the user pays principle, BTP's approach to counter terrorism work and neighbourhood policing teams.

4. 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

- 4.1 The BTP 2008-13 Olympic budget requirement now stands at £24.8 million. ACC Stephen Thomas and TRANSEC colleagues appeared before the Department for Transport (DfT) Rail Investment Board on 18 November 2009 when this budget was agreed, subject to a direction that efforts be made to reduce it to the originally agreed £23.8 million.
- 4.2 ACC Thomas continues his role as the Olympic Security Directorate's Transport Security Project Lead and National Co-ordinator for Cross Modal Olympic Transport Security, is works closely with the DfT, TRANSEC, Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA), London Organising Committee (LOCOG), TfL and rail colleagues to ensure that all of the necessary transport security arrangements are in place.



4.3 The BTP Olympic Project continues to take forward its 105 work packages (50 already complete) that will ensure that all necessary planning and security tasks are completed and robust and proportionate plans in place for 2012. The Project works closely with the Olympic Security Directorate's Transport Security Project, TfL, London Underground, DLR, Network Rail and rail operators.

4.4 Discussions continue with Network Rail to identify 'business as usual' accommodation requirements at Stratford Regional Station. In addition, Olympic specific discussions are taking place with other agencies regarding briefing, feeding and rest facilities at Stratford during the Olympic Games.

5. 2014 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

5.1 The 2014 Commonwealth Games will be held in Glasgow between 23 July and 3 August 2014. 11 days of competition are planned however, the games period is expected to extend from 10 July until 10 August 2014.

5.2 There will be 6,000 athletes, from 71 commonwealth countries, participating in 17 sporting events. A large proportion of the venues, including the athletes' village are served by the rail and/ or subway network. Spectator numbers are anticipated to be in excess of 1.4 million.

5.3 In line with Commonwealth Games Federation directives, a multi agency security directorate has been formed. This will be chaired by colleagues from Strathclyde Police. The first meeting is scheduled for 27 January and BTP will be represented.

5.4 In addition, BTP is currently represented on the following groups:

- Commonwealth Games Planning Practitioners Sub-Group
- Commonwealth Games Transport and Environment Steering Group
- Commonwealth Games Transport Strategy Steering Group



6. PORTFOLIO CHANGES

- 6.1 Members received an update at the December Police Authority meeting on the preliminary work to review Chief Officers' portfolios. This work is now maturing and a management plan has been agreed to effect the following changes by 1 April 2010.
- 6.2 Assistant Chief Constable Crime changes to Assistant Chief Constable Protective Services. In addition to the areas of work previously undertaken, the portfolio will have responsibility for Counter Terrorism and Special Movements which move from the old Operations portfolio.
- 6.3 Assistant Chief Constable Operations changes to Assistant Chief Constable Territorial Operations. In addition to the areas of work previously undertaken, the portfolio now encompasses; Area and Force Level Tasking and Area Intelligence functions which move from the old Crime portfolio, as well as responsibility for territorial policing across all BTP Areas in England and Wales.
- 6.4 Assistant Chief Constable London and Olympics changes to Assistant Chief Constable Operational Support. In addition to the previous areas of work, the portfolio will have responsibility for public order and public safety, event planning, football, driving standards and police dogs.
- 6.5 CCTV and mobile data have been added to the Deputy Chief Constable's portfolio. All other portfolios are unaltered.

7. TASER

- 7.1 In September and December the Police Authority received updates on BTP's preparation for the piloting of TASER. This included the training for trainers and officers as well as the scope and duration of the pilot.



7.2 There have been four deployments of TASER during the pilot period, where it was considered, by the officer, to be the most appropriate tactical option. None of the deployments resulted in the TASER being discharged.

7.3 Should the information obtained during the TASER pilot, to determine its suitability for use by BTP officers, be assessed as insufficient, consideration will be given to extending the pilot beyond the end date which is 17 February.

8. FRONTLINEFIRST 2

8.1 The progress against the efficiency programme was fully reported to Members at the December 2009 Authority meeting.

8.2 The strategy for the programme was fully presented to the Strategy, Budget and Performance Monitoring (SB&PM) Committee on 11 November and the risks were set out at the Audit and Corporate Governance (A&CG) Committee on 15 December.

8.3 I would propose future detailed updates on the Programme be reported through these two committees.

9. OPERATIONAL POLICING OVERVIEW

9.1 The following section provides an overview of some of the recent operations and investigations that have taken place across BTP. The aim of this section of the report is to provide members with an overview of the type of crime that occurs on the rail network and the investigation that subsequently follows.

9.2 THEFT PERSONAL PROPERTY MERSEYRAIL AND WEST COAST MAINLINE

Following a series of offences on both Merseyrail and West Coast Mainline (WCML) services, BTP officers utilised on board and station CCTV to identify suspects which subsequently led to arrests. The suspects targeted overhead luggage racks and designated luggage areas in



carriages. Two men appeared at Liverpool Crown Court charged with seven theft offences and were found guilty. One was sentenced to two years imprisonment and had an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) attached to the sentence banning him from entering any railway station or train for four years. The other received a one year term of imprisonment, suspended for two years, 100 hours of Community Service and a requirement to attend a drug addiction programme.

9.3 NEW YEARS EVE POLICING OPERATION

BTP worked with colleagues from the MPS to ensure a successful New Year's Eve policing operation for celebrations held in London. An estimated 350,000 people attended the designated viewing areas. The BTP policing operation involved 679 officers (98 fewer than last year) and passed off successfully with only a small number of arrests for drunkenness.

9.4 GRAFFITI

Two Polish nationals were identified following protracted enquiries by BTP officers and Merseyside Police after a number of graffiti attacks on trains in Merseyside. The two were charged with 10 offences of criminal damage. The damage caused amounted to over £15,000. One of the offenders was arrested in possession of articles associated with graffiti by London Underground officers on Christmas Day. On 7 January the two offenders appeared in court in Merseyside and have entered guilty pleas.

9.5 SEXUAL ASSAULT MINORS - UPDATE

This case was reported to Authority Members in December and involved a man who sexually assaulted a number of school girls on an Underground train between Covent Garden and Knightsbridge. The defendant appeared at Westminster Magistrates' Court on 3 December, was found guilty of three counts of sexual assault and was sentenced to a five year Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO). He was remanded to Wandsworth Prison until a bed becomes available at a hospital where he will be held under Section 37 of the Mental Health Act. The defendant, who suffers from paranoid schizophrenia is subject to the following SOPO conditions:



- He is not to travel on any London Underground train or enter any London Underground station at any time, unless previously obtaining written permission from the Public Protection Unit managing him
- He is not to travel by any means of public transport between the hours of 8am and 10am and between 3pm and 5pm
- He is not to reside or stay over night in the same household or premises as any child under 16 years of age
- He is not to undertake any work, paid, unpaid or voluntary which by its nature is likely to bring him into contact with children under 16 years of age.

9.6 OPERATION LANDMARK – CABLE THEFT

This operation commenced as a result of cable thefts in the Milton Keynes area on the West Coast Main Line. The offenders originate from the Derbyshire area and have been offending in the North Eastern and Wales and Western Areas.

The investigation has, over the past few months, utilised the Force surveillance team on a number of occasions and made extensive use of covert assets at various locations. Telephony work indicated that the team had been primarily offending along the M1 corridor from Doncaster to Watford. Investigators made use of ANPR, CCTV at petrol stations and fast food outlets to identify the offenders. The BTP WCML motorcycle team were also utilised on a regular basis to locate vehicles used by the offenders.

The arrest and search phase took place on 16 December and involved over 40 officers. These included SOCO, rapid entry officers, dog handler, and Organised Crime Team and Derbyshire Constabulary officers. 10 addresses, including a scrap yard, were searched under the power of warrants. Officers recovered cable, cable sheathing, phones, and clothing. The offenders have been bailed and investigators are seeking CPS agreement for conspiracy to steal charges.



9.7 ARREST – ATTACK ON GUIDE DOG

Following media appeals, London North investigators arrested a suspect following an attack on a guide dog by a terrier cross-breed dog. The incident occurred at Cricklewood station in October, when a 57-year-old blind lady was walking through the station. The cross-breed terrier attacked the labrador in a vicious fashion, causing great concern and fear to the owner. The incident ended with the suspect kicking and punching his dog to get it off the labrador. Following the successful media appeal information was obtained that identified the owner and he was subsequently arrested. He was charged with an offence under the Dangerous Dogs Act and will appear at Highbury Corner Magistrates' court on 2 February.

9.8 POSSESSION OF A FIREARM – ABBEY WOOD

On 7 February, a male carrying a bag entered Abbey Wood railway station where officers from the Lewisham Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) were assisting revenue staff. As a result of his evasive behaviour, officers carried out a search of him and his property. Officers found a handgun which was loaded with live ammunition. He was arrested and charged with possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life. The suspect appeared at Woolwich Crown Court and was found guilty of possessing a firearm with ammunition with intent to endanger life and sentenced to nine years' imprisonment.

A separate report from the National Ballistics Intelligence Service also revealed that the gun was used in a shooting in the London Fields area of east London in May 2008.

9.9 DOUBLE FATALITY - RUMNEY

In the early hours of 9 December, an Arriva train was travelling at 70mph along the main line from Cardiff to London. Near to Maerdy Road Bridge the driver heard an enormous bang and a flash. He had not seen anything prior to the impact and the area was in total darkness. The train was brought to a halt. It was not seriously damaged. Nearby a local resident was awakened by someone banging at her door. Two young men said their friends had been killed on the railway and asked her to call an ambulance. Attending paramedics found two damaged



quad bikes on the side of the track and the bodies of two young men. BTP officers were called and a full investigation commenced with South Wales Police colleagues. It was quickly established that a nearby large retail outlet adjacent to the railway had been forcibly entered and a large quantity of clothing stolen. This clothing was found alongside the quad bikes. Examination of CCTV for the premises showed four men entering the premises from the railway line with a quad bike which was used to smash down a door. They then left the premises via the railway line. Four men have been arrested on suspicion of Burglary and Endangering Safety and police bailed until February 2010.

9.10 LEVEL CROSSINGS

Level crossing incidents have steadily increased over the last three years from 4,884 in 2005-06 to 5,519 in 2008-09. There have been 211 deaths at level crossings since 2005.

In June 2009 BTP initiated Operation Galley in support of Network Rail's 'Don't Run the Risk' campaign. This is an enforcement and education operation aimed at level crossing misuse hotspots across the country. This initiative is aimed at increasing people's awareness of the dangers of misusing level crossings, educating people how to properly use them and to take action against those that misuse them.

Since November BTP has carried out 31 operations at level crossing misuse hotspot locations across the country, which resulted in 106 offenders being reported for Road Traffic Act offences and 14 motorists reported for driving without due care and attention (using a mobile phone whilst driving).

BTP is working with RAIB, ORR, Network Rail, RSSB, and train operators to jointly look at safety and enforcement issues. Nationally there is a joint action plan between BTP and Network Rail from which a large part of the activity detailed above has flowed. This document sets out the process for joint working between the Network Rail Route Operations Risk Teams and the corresponding BTP sectors, addressing level crossing misuse at the network's most abused level crossings through delivery of targeted action plans.



Following consultation with the rail industry, BTP will include a target to tackle incidents at high risk level crossings in the 2010-11 Policing Plan. This will be the first time BTP has set this as a national target, it has been included following discussion with Network Rail and train operators about making this one of BTP's policing priorities.

However, with 7,600 level crossings across the country, enforcement can only be a part of the solution. Research into sustainable technological solutions needs to be explored, and BTP is working with the industry to assess use of systems such as CCTV.

9.11 **OPERATION NIGHTBIRD – HIGH VALUE THEFT**

Operation Nightbird is the investigation into a high-value theft that took place at Glasgow Central on 5 November, in which jewellery with a retail value in excess of £500,000 was stolen. A similar offence took place during August in the Tayside Police area, the value of which was over £1m. Use of CCTV has allowed BTP and Tayside investigators to establish that the same people are responsible for both crimes. Distribution of a national bulletin to all UK police forces has revealed other potentially linked crimes.

The suspects are believed to be South American. From telephony work investigators have identified two suspects. Warrants for their arrest have been applied for and granted and work continues to trace these individuals.

9.12 **PUBLIC ORDER AND EVENTS**

London Underground Area undertook a Policing Operation at Harrow and Wealdstone and Harrow on the Hill London Underground Stations in response to a planned protest outside the Mosque in Station Approach Harrow. The protest was planned by Stop the Islamification of Europe (SIOE) and was attended by members of the English Defence League (EDL).



Due to the proximity of the two Underground stations to the protest BTP officers had a significant part in the successful policing of the protest. 100 BTP officers were deployed including specialist public order and NPT officers. The high visibility provided reassurance to the travelling public and as a result of this presence no incidents or crimes were recorded.

10. COUNTER TERRORISM AND DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

10.1 BTP is working with colleagues to better understand the planned method of attack and preparation and chemicals used in the attempted Delta Airlines aviation plot on Christmas Day in order to understand what, if any, implications there may be for the railway.

11. INQUESTS

11.1 BTP has commenced planning for the Coroner's inquest into the London bombings on 7 July 2005 which will be held later this year. A preliminary hearing with the Coroner is due in March 2010, when the scope of the inquest will be determined. BTP is preparing evidence for the Coroner in collaboration with the Metropolitan Police and City of London Police.

Detective Superintendent Ashley Croft is leading a team that will collate the information that the Coroner, Lady Justice Hallett, is likely to require.

Fifty six people, including the four suicide bombers, died in the explosions. Their identities were established and the inquest adjourned whilst criminal proceedings took place against alleged associates of the bombers. These have now been concluded enabling the Coroner to set a timetable for the inquest.

11.2 BTP has received notification that the inquest into the Potters Bar Rail Accident is most likely to be held in June 2010. His Honour Judge Baker QC has been appointed to conduct the inquest into the deaths of the seven people who died.



Judge Baker has been appointed as the Assistant Deputy Coroner for Hertfordshire and the inquest will be held at a suitable venue within the county.

Judge Baker is to hold a pre-inquest management hearing on 25 January for properly interested parties where he will hear submissions on, the areas of the inquiry, disclosure and document management, lay and expert witnesses and timetabling.

12. HER MAJESTY'S NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST

12.1 Three members of BTP were recognised in HM New Years Honours List. Assistant Chief Constable Steve Thomas and Detective Chief Superintendent Michael Field were awarded the Queens Police Medal (QPM) and Superintendent John Hennigan was awarded an MBE.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 That Members note the contents of this paper.

2009-10 POLICING PLAN: NATIONAL TARGETS

Updated to: 05 Jan 2010

Targets N1- N3, N5 are updated to: 05 Jan 2010 (Last month to: 16 Nov 2009)
 Targets N4, N6- N7c are updated to: 30 Nov 2009 (Last month to: 31 Oct 2009)

Key:

GREEN	Achieving target
AMBER	Failing target by < 5%
RED	Failing target by ≥ 5%

	LONDON NORTH	LONDON SOUTH	LONDON UNDERGROUND	NORTH EASTERN	NORTH WESTERN	SCOTTISH	WALES & WESTERN	FHQ	BTP TOTAL
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N1 Reduce notifiable crime (excl. "police generated crime")

YTD Performance	9005	10430	10052	4158	3551	1626	4763		43585
YTD Target	9701	11609	10222	4735	3577	1657	4849		46352
Last month performance	7675	8893	8336	3509	2995	1384	4106		36898
Last month target	7969	9536	8397	3890	2938	1362	3983		38075
Better/worse	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑		↑
Same period last year	9967	11958	10109	4945	3656	1717	4818		47170

N2 Achieve a detection rate of at least 33% for notifiable offences

YTD Performance	35%	34%	28%	37%	44%	39%	39%		35%
Target	33%	32%	30%	34%	43%	38%	34%		33%
Last month performance	35%	34%	28%	35%	43%	39%	38%		34%
Last month target	33%	32%	30%	34%	43%	38%	34%		33%
Better/worse	↓	↑	↓	↑	↑	↑	↑		↑
Same period last year	31%	32%	30%	33%	42%	38%	33%		32%

N3 Reduce live cable related offences by 2% (excl. LU Area)

YTD Performance	87	32	4	311	72	12	102		616
YTD Target	105	79	-	452	71	18	163		884
Last month performance	76	29	2	274	57	11	91		538
Last month target	86	65	-	371	58	15	134		726
Better/worse	↑	↑	-	↑	↓	↑	↑		↑
Same period last year	112	96	12	549	73	20	160		1010

N4 On average, clear fatalities within 90 minutes

YTD Performance (mins)	79	78	67	78	62	78	92		78
Target (mins)	90	90	90	90	90	90	90		90
Last month performance	78	78	67	71	62	84	91		78
Last month target	90	90	90	90	90	90	90		90
Better/worse	↓	↓	↑	↓	↑	↑	↓		↓
Same period last year	69	82	74	78	68	86	71		74

N5 Increase the number of offenders detected for football related offences by 7%

YTD Performance	76	24	35	126	76	41	162		540
YTD Target	28	29	34	80	37	32	78		322
Last month performance	66	19	35	114	53	39	139		465
Last month target	25	19	28	65	29	25	59		252
Better/worse	↑	↓	↓	↓	↑	↓	↓		↓
Same period last year	26	26	31	77	35	31	75		301

N6 Quality of Service: Achieve overall victim satisfaction of at least 80%

YTD Performance	85%	85%	89%	86%	91%	93%	87%		87%
Target	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%		80%
Last month performance	84%	85%	90%	86%	91%	93%	87%		87%
Last month target	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%		80%
Better/worse	↑	↓	↓	↑	↓	↑	↑		↑
Same period last year	77%	73%	84%	84%	84%	82%	80%		79%

N7 Average sickness per employee to be less than eight days

YTD Performance	4.39	4.48	4.55	5.53	6.49	6.63	6.01	5.21	5.13
YTD Target	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33
Last month performance	3.78	4.04	3.77	4.66	5.64	6.23	4.86	4.42	4.39
Last month target	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67
Better/worse	↓	↑	↓	↓	↓	↑	↓	↓	↓
Same period last year	5.19	5.12	4.40	5.17	5.77	8.09	5.97	3.38	4.88

N7a Average sickness per police officer to be less than eight days

YTD Performance	4.93	3.91	3.74	6.25	5.65	7.06	6.70	5.12	5.03
YTD Target	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33
Last month performance	4.29	3.65	3.03	5.36	4.96	6.67	5.23	4.35	4.33
Last month target	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67
Better/worse	↓	↑	↓	↓	↑	↑	↓	↓	↓
Same period last year	5.70	4.30	3.85	5.93	6.16	8.25	7.09	3.39	5.16

N7b Average sickness per PCSO to be less than eight days

YTD Performance	3.36	6.06	10.39	4.92	10.04	N/A	7.89		6.37
YTD Target	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	N/A	5.33		5.33
Last month performance	2.62	4.58	8.84	4.64	8.95	N/A	6.87		5.34
Last month target	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	N/A	4.67		4.67
Better/worse	↓	↓	↓	↑	↑		↓		↓
Same period last year	3.69	9.40	7.38	4.27	2.21	N/A	2.15		4.76

N7c Average sickness per staff employee to be less than eight days

YTD Performance	3.05	6.03	5.68	3.28	8.22	2.75	2.38	5.26	5.05
YTD Target	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.33
Last month performance	2.70	5.42	4.87	2.26	6.74	2.33	2.26	4.45	4.29
Last month target	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67
Better/worse	↑	↑	↓	↓	↓	↓	↑	↓	↓
Same period last year	4.49	5.92	6.11	3.10	6.01	6.75	3.66	3.38	4.29