

2014/15



Policing Plan
B Division
East

Foreword

Chief Superintendent Paul Brogden
Divisional Commander, B Division, British Transport Police

BTP is facing major changes as we head into the 2014/15 policing year, with the creation of three new divisions. The former London North, London South and London Underground areas had a successful 2013/14 and we will now harness the good practice from each area and roll out what works across the newly formed B Division.

Theft of passenger property became a real concern for the pan London areas following an increase in offences during 2012/13. The introduction of Operation Magnum in April last year addressed this problem by reducing theft offences across B Division by 19.4%. We achieved this through a range of tactics including increasing our expert plain clothes deployments, using the media to encourage the public to protect themselves and holding targeted days of action throughout the year. Operation Magnum will continue in 2014/15 as we work to reduce theft by a further 10%.

BTP is also leading Project Guardian, which was set up in April 2013, and aims to improve the levels of reporting among victims of sexual offences. It is a multi-agency initiative involving Metropolitan Police Safer Transport Command, City of London Police and Transport for London. Project Guardian was launched to the public in July 2013 and has seen a 26% increase in the reporting of sexual offences and a 21% increase in the detection of such offences. Project Guardian will also

continue throughout 2014/15 to increase the confidence of victims to report this type of behaviour so we can ultimately reduce the number of sexual offences being committed.

Working with the rail industry is a priority for us and we will be following the former London South Area's lead by expanding the Railway Crime Tasking and Coordinating Group (RCTCG). The RCTCG was set up in 2013 to share good news stories, improve morale and working relationships with train operating companies in the south of England. It also enabled the rail industry to directly influence the way police resources are deployed. This was a huge success in the south so we will be setting up similar groups across B Division.

Cycle crime is an ongoing challenge for certain areas of B Division and our aim is to reduce these thefts by 5%. We will tackle this problem by identifying and arresting those responsible, holding targeted initiatives and engaging with industry partners to provide crime reduction solutions.



Another key focus for us is reducing disruption, which is a priority for our stakeholders. We will specifically target level crossing offences to help meet this target, as well as ensuring fatalities are dealt with efficiently and sensitively.

We have set ourselves demanding targets for 2014/15, but I am confident we will all rise to the challenge. I look forward to working with you as we continue to deliver an exceptional policing service.

Introduction

Superintendent Richard Moffatt
Sub-divisional Commander (East), British Transport Police

Officers, PCSOs and police staff have been working hard to make sure the new B Division is ready for business and able to provide the best possible service to rail staff and passengers.



The new sub-division polices the railways north of the River Thames, including Essex, East Anglia and the Home Counties. One of our key aims is to continue supporting the many train operating companies within this region and to ensure passengers and staff feel safe and secure while travelling on the railway.

The reduction of cycle crime by 5% is a top priority for the sub-division, and will have a direct impact on the Force achieving a 20% overall reduction in crime. We will be engaging with our industry partners to provide crime reduction solutions, as well as holding cycle surgeries to encourage owners of bikes to ensure their property is more secure.

In line with the Force's strategic aims to reduce disruption minutes, tackling level crossing offences will form a significant part of our activity in 2014/15. We take

crime at level crossings and level crossing misuse extremely seriously, as those who behave irresponsibly put lives at risk. We will be working closely with Network Rail to ensure drivers and pedestrians use level crossings properly. Our officers will also be educating the public about the dangers that level crossings can pose.

The number of football fans using the rail network to travel to matches is increasing and we want them to travel safely alongside other passengers. Throughout the coming year we will be taking a proactive approach to football policing by increasing the number of escorted football trains before and after matches. We will also be patrolling stations where large numbers of fans are expected and using football banning orders to target the small minority of fans who are intent on acting in an anti-social or criminal way.

Following the launch of BTP's anti-theft initiative, Operation Magnum, in April 2013, the former London North Area saw a 9.2% reduction in theft offences. As the newly formed sub-division East, we will continue to crackdown on pickpockets, gadget grabbers and luggage thieves in 2014/15. Our aim is to further reduce theft of passenger property by 10% and, in turn, improve passenger confidence in the service we offer.

Rail staff should not have to endure abuse or violence for simply carrying out their job. We will be doing everything we can to reduce these types of offences and to bring offenders to justice in the coming year. At the same time the sub-division is aiming to increase the detection rate of violent crime offences committed on the rail network.

I look forward to working with you all to successfully meet the challenges of the year ahead.

East targets

- **Reduce theft offences by 10% from the 2013/14 level**

Theft of passenger property is a significant challenge for the LU/DLR Area. B Division remains committed to reducing the current level of offences through the work of Operation Magnum. Targeting theft of passenger property is an integral part of BTP's commitment to reduce overall crime levels by 20% by 2019.

- **Reduce aggression and violence against staff to less than the 2013/14 figure**

Staff assaults have a major impact on the confidence of railway staff. Last year the number of staff assaults reduced and we will build upon this success in 2014/15.

- **Reduce cycle theft offences by 5% from the 2013/14 level**

Cycle theft is the second largest volume crime for BTP, with commuters into London often targeted because cycles are left for long periods. Operation Wiggins has promoted crime prevention advice at cycle surgeries as well as targeted thieves at key locations.

- **Deliver 20 successfully run partnership Problem Solving Plans that will target those level crossings judged to be high risk**

Level crossing offences are highly dangerous, with the potential to cause significant loss of life and disruption to services. Following the national roll-out of level crossing enforcement vehicles, in partnership with Network Rail, the division will further build on this success in 2014/15 by enhancing our presence at level crossings judged to be high risk.

- **Improve detection rate of violent crime offences from 2013/14 end of year figure**

Violent offences have a profound effect on victims and their families, as well as a wider impact on the confidence of the public and staff who use the transport network. B Division is committed to bringing those responsible for these types of offences to justice.

- **Increase the number of escorted football trains on 2013/14 end of year figure**

Policing football trains continues to have a significant impact on resources. Last year BTP changed the way football was policed, placing officers on trains travelling with football traffic right through to their destination, to reassure other passengers and rail staff and reduce anti-social behaviour on match days.

- **Maintain/increase percentage of football banning orders from 2013/14 end of year figure**

Football-related disorder is not tolerated by BTP and we will continue to work closely with Home Office police forces, football clubs and the rail industry to ensure the small minority of football fans who continue to cause problems for others are robustly dealt with.

Policing Plan

B Division

East



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