

2014/15



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

Policing Plan
B Division
South

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 four 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 Jason Bunyard
Sub-divisional Commander (South), British Transport Police

The new sub-division covers the railways south of the River Thames in London, Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire. The 2014/15 policing year will be challenging but I am confident we have the right people in place to make a real impact.

Theft of passenger property has previously been a concern for all former areas within the Force, but the introduction of Operation Magnum and the hard work of my officers has significantly contributed to a 7% reduction in theft during the past year. We will continue to target thieves as the new sub-division, particularly focusing on those who steal luggage from trains, in order to achieve a challenging 10% reduction in theft.

Working with our industry partners is incredibly important and, on a monthly basis, we meet with these stakeholders at the Railway Crime Tasking and Coordinating Group (RCTCG). The monthly meetings have been a success and have allowed us to share good news stories and improve morale and working relationships with train operating companies. The rail industry has also been able to influence the way police resources have been deployed across the region. We will continue to offer an excellent policing service to our partners in 2014/15.

A lot of work has been done around tackling cycle crime, under the remit of Operation Wiggins, and this will remain a priority for the sub-division during the coming year. Our aim is to reduce theft of, and criminal damage to, pedal cycles by 5%. We will use a range of tactics to reach our target, which will include holding cycle surgeries with the public, working with train operating companies and the cycle industry.

Reducing staff assaults across the region is a key aim for the sub-division this year, as we want our industry partners to feel safe at work and to have confidence in our policing service. We will also be working hard throughout the coming year to bring offenders of violent crime to justice and to engage with the public in order to contribute to the Force achieving a passenger confidence rating of at least 77.5%.

I am sure, during 2014/15, we will build on our previous successes to deliver an exceptional policing service across the whole of B Division.



South 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 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.

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