

2014/15



BRITISH
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POLICE

Policing Plan
B Division

TfL

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 Matt Wratten
Sub-divisional Commander (TfL), British Transport Police

There will be numerous challenges facing the new sub-division, which delivers policing within the Transport for London network, including London Underground, Docklands Light Railway and London Overground.



Operation Magnum launched Forcewide in April last year following a successful pilot on the London Underground network, and has seen a 29.4% reduction in theft offences. We achieved this by directly engaging passengers with anti-theft advice, high visibility Neighbourhood Policing operations and increasing patrols of our specialist, plain clothes, pickpocket squads on trains and at stations. We also issued video clips on the Operation Magnum website and YouTube channel, to help passengers protect themselves from becoming victims of crime by showing thieves' 13 most commonly used tactics.

Despite the success Operation Magnum has achieved across B Division and Forcewide, we will not become complacent and will continue to crackdown on theft offences in 2014/15. Our aim is to improve passenger journeys by reducing theft by a further 10%.

We will also be focusing on increasing detections for crimes where a skimming device has been used to steal people's bank card details. Specialist officers will be out on patrol checking ticket machines and cash points, as well as observing

behaviour in order to interrupt fraud and arrest offenders.

Our key aims for 2014/15 also include increasing detections for violent offences and reducing incidents of staff assault. These offences are taken extremely seriously and we will be working hard with our partners to reduce assaults, identify offenders and bring them to justice.

Project Guardian was launched across B Division last year to tackle sexual offences committed on the Tube and rail network. Hundreds of officers have now been specially trained to deal with these types of cases, which has led to a 21% increase in the detection of sexual offences. One of our targets is to continue increasing detections and this will be achieved by increasing the confidence of victims so they feel confident in, not only reporting such crimes to us, but also our ability to deliver a professional service.

We will also be working closely with the Docklands Light Railway to increase the number of joint operations at locations

where public perception of harm is at its greatest. These operations will be intelligence led and will be aimed at creating a hostile environment for those who seek to disrupt and interfere with the comfort of rail passengers and our partners.

Disruption is a key strategic aim for BTP during the next five years and, on TfL sub-division we will be working closely with our partners to reduce lost customer hours and to improve upon the already efficient running on the Underground network.

Millions of people use London's Tube and rail network every day and I am confident we will continue to deliver a successful policing service during the next year. Our ultimate aim is to create a safe environment on the railway for passengers and rail staff.

TfL targets

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

Theft of passenger property is a significant challenge for the East sub-division. B Division remains committed to reducing the current level of offences through the work of Operation Magnum. Targeting theft of passenger property is integral to BTP's commitment to reduce overall crime levels by 20% by 2019.

- **Increase the number of detections for sexual offences by at least 20%**

Sexual offences have a profound effect on victims, as well as on wider staff and rail confidence. Continuing the work of Project Guardian, LU/DLR Area is committed to encouraging passengers and staff to report these offences and help bring those responsible to justice.

- **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 on LU/DLR were reduced and we will build upon this success in 2014/15.

- **Increase the number of detections for articles to commit fraud offences (skimming devices) from the 2013/14 figure**

Fraud, committed by the use of skimming devices, on the network remains a challenge for the division. This reduction target is aimed at those who make and supply equipment to commit offences, as well as those found as in possession of them.

- **Reduce lost customer hours (LCH) in disruption related incidents and offences by 6%**

Responding quickly to emergency incidents, which involve a disruption to the service, is vital to ensure the safety of staff and public. Ensuring disruption is minimised through prompt police action will help keep the network moving.

- **Conduct at least 120 joint operations at DLR stations which are rated Red and Amber by DLR for crime rates**

Anti-social behaviour and staff assaults are often as a result of ticketless travel on the DLR, as there are only a handful of stations that have physical barriers. Staff often work alone in checking tickets and can be vulnerable to verbal and physical abuse as a result. BTP is committed to combating this particular type of behaviour and will conduct a number of intelligence led partnership operations.

- **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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Andrew Figures CB CBE

Chief Executive
British Transport Police Authority
The Forum, 5th Floor North
74-80 Camden Street
London NW1 0EG
general.enquiries@btpa.police.uk

btpa.police.uk

Michael Furness

Head of Strategic Development
British Transport Police
Force Headquarters
25 Camden Road
London NW1 9LN
michael.furness@btp.pnn.police.uk

btp.police.uk

