

**Report to:** Police Authority  
**Agenda item:** 8  
**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013  
**Subject:** 2013/14 National Policing Plan  
**Sponsor:** Chair, Policing Plan Working Group  
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**For:** Information and approval

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## 1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the activities undertaken in the preparation of the 2013/14 National and Local Policing Plan targets.
- 1.2 To invite Members to review, discuss and approve the BTP National and Local Policing Plan targets for 2013/14.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 As set out in sections 50 and 52 of the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003, at the start of each financial year the Authority is required to issue a plan setting out the arrangements for the policing of the railways during that year.

### *Section 50 Policing objectives: Authority*

*(1) Before the beginning of each financial year the Authority shall set objectives for policing the railways during that year.*

*(2) The objectives—*

*(a) may relate to a matter addressed by objectives set by the Secretary of State under section 51, and*

*(b) must be consistent with those objectives.*

*(3) In setting the objectives for a year the Authority shall—*

*(a) consult the Chief Constable, and*

*(b) have regard to opinions expressed in accordance with section 62.*

### *Section 52 Railways policing plan*

*(1) Before the beginning of each financial year the Authority shall issue a plan setting out the proposed arrangements for policing the railways during that year.*

*(2) The plan for a year must include a statement of—*

*(a) the Authority's priorities for the year,*

*(b) the financial resources which the Authority expects to*

*be available, and*

*(c) the proposed allocation of resources.*

*(3) The plan for a year must specify—*

*(a) any objective set by the Authority for that year under section 50,*

*(b) any objective by the Secretary of State for the year under section 51, and*

*(c) any performance target set by the Authority in relation to the achievement of an objective for that year (whether set under section 53 or otherwise).*

*(4) A plan for a year must be consistent with the relevant three-year strategy plan issued by the Authority under section 55.*

*(5) The Chief Constable shall submit to the Authority a draft plan for each financial year.*

*(6) Before issuing a plan which differs from the Chief Constable's draft the Authority shall consult him.*

*(7) In preparing a plan the Chief Constable and the Authority shall have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State about railways policing plans.*

*(7A) Before issuing or revising any guidance under subsection (7) the Secretary of State shall consult—*

*(a) the Authority,*

*(b) the Chief Constable, and*

*(c) such other persons as the Secretary of State thinks fit."*

*(8) The Authority shall—*

*(a) publish each plan under this section, and*

*(b) send a copy of each plan under this section to the Secretary of State.*

2.2 As in previous years the detailed work on the development of the draft National and Local Plans for 2013/14 has been carried out by the Authority's Policing Plan Working Group (PPWG).

2.3 Throughout this year's process the Force and Authority have worked closely together on coordinating engagement activities and refining iterations of the narrative and detailed targets within the draft Plans. The PPWG has met formally four times this year in the preparation of the Plans.

- 27<sup>th</sup> September – 'stakeholder workshop' supported by all Working Group members and the majority of Authority members
- 4<sup>th</sup> October - Meeting 1, headline themes and first principles agreed
- 30<sup>th</sup> November - Meeting 2, first review of the National Plan
- 21<sup>st</sup> February – Meeting 3, review of National and Local Plans

- 2.4 The development of the Plans has been supported by two stakeholder consultation exercises. The 'stakeholder workshop' brought together senior representatives from the BTPA, BTP, and the rail industry to provide an initial overview of the future police and rail landscape, and to seek stakeholders views. A copy of the workshop report was provided to delegates for their comments after the event. A four-week consultation, from December to January, provided stakeholders with an opportunity to provide written feedback on a draft of the National Plan.
- 2.5 Both the Force and the Authority remain aware of the need to manage the overall number of targets for 2013/14 in order to ensure that resources are properly focused on the key priorities of our stakeholders. This approach both resonates with the steer given by our stakeholders and the direction taken by the Home Office to move away from a multiplicity of top-down targets to a single national target to reduce crime.
- 2.6 In terms of the shape of the Plan, the strategic themes reflected in the revised Strategy, as presented at Agenda Item 6 for this meeting, have been used to frame the National targets and inform Local target setting. These themes are:
- Keeping the railway running;
  - Making the railway safer and more secure;
  - Delivering value for money through continuous improvement;
  - Promoting confidence in the use of the railway.
- 2.7 The existing two tier approach, with National and Local Plans, was again supported by stakeholders but with a greater shift in focus from national to local priorities. As such a National Plan is proposed again for 2013/14 which will be supported by Local Plans on each of BTP's seven Areas.

### **3. National Plan**

- 3.1 Following initial discussions at the stakeholder workshop, a draft of the National targets, now shown at Appendix A, was shared with stakeholders twice during development<sup>1</sup>. There was, as with previous years, a good level of response from stakeholders. The

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<sup>1</sup> In writing for the December-January consultation, as outlined in paragraph 2.4, and verbally to the ATOC Policing Forum.

majority of comments were positive, albeit with a small number of issues about different areas of concern and a few issues of relevance to local stakeholders that were referred to BTP and, where appropriate, have been reflected in Local Plans. There were no consistent messages to suggest that any themes had been missed.

- 3.2 Members will also want to note the continued significant progress this year with regard to reducing police-related disruption; and in particular progress made in reducing disruption for the 36 key locations target, which was included for the first time in the 2012/13 Plans, and the proposal to broaden this target for 2013/14.

## **4. Local Plans**

- 4.1 Consultation with stakeholders on Local Plans has been led by individual Area Commanders. The proposals were reviewed by the BTP Analysis and Performance Department and submitted to an internal Challenge Panel process chaired by the ACC Territorial Policing and Crime.
- 4.2 As in previous years the PPWG reviewed the Local Plans, shown at Appendix B, and sought reassurance that they were a fair reflection of stakeholders' local priorities and consistent with the Force's strategic aims. BTP has given the PPWG this assurance and reemphasised that, unless there was a specific issue, Area Commanders have focussed their Plans on issues relevant to the overarching strategic themes.
- 4.3 The Local Plans continued the national focus on reducing disruption, with all seven Areas proposing Local targets that focus on disruption reduction. There are also common themes relating to public disorder; in addition to the national disorder target, anti-social behaviour (ASB) has been included as a target for all outer-London Areas, and Football as a key focus for the North Western, London North, North Eastern, and Wales and Western Areas. All Areas apart from Scotland have a local focus on staff assaults and there are theft of passenger property targets in London North, London South, North Western, North Eastern, and Wales and Western.

## **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1 The National and Local Plans recommended here are intended to be delivered within the overall funding envelope approved by the Authority at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

## **6. Risk Implications**

- 6.1 No specific risk implications arise from the recommendations made by this paper. The Force and Authority, in preparing the National and Local Plans, have referenced the potential operational risks (both local and national) arising from the BTP Strategic Assessment report, the Home Office's Strategic Policing Requirement, and the issues raised by stakeholders.

## **7. Equality Implications**

- 7.1 In preparing the draft National Plan for 2013/14 the Authority has consulted with industry, employee and passenger stakeholders, and the BTP National Independent Advisory Group (NIAG). The BTP NIAG brings together a group of community members from across England, Scotland and Wales who come from a range of backgrounds and who come with knowledge and experience of a range of other equality issues. At the most recent NIAG meeting (13<sup>th</sup> March) the group gave its broad support to the direction proposed and in particular welcomed the focus on ASB. The group did not highlight any issues that may have unintended equality impacts or suggest any additional targets for inclusion.

## **8. Recommendations**

- 8.1 Subject to any further discussions at this meeting, Members are asked to review and approve the 2013/14:
- National Plan and its supporting narrative for publication (Appendix A)
  - The individual Local Area Plans (Appendix B)