

Report to: Police Authority
Agenda item: 6
Date: 25 March 2014
Subject: 2014/15 Policing Plan
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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 2014/15 National and Local Policing Plan targets.
- 1.2 To invite Members to review, discuss and approve the BTP Policing Plan targets for 2014/15.

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 2014/15 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 draft Plans. The PPWG has, following the stakeholder workshop, met four times this year in the preparation of the Plans.

- 26 September - 'stakeholder workshop' supported by all Working Group members, the majority of Authority members and BTP;
- 3 October - Meeting 1, to discuss and agree the shape of the forthcoming Policing Plan;
- 5 December - Meeting 2, review of progress on the National and Local Policing Plans;

- 15 January - PPWG Teleconference, review draft Local and National Policing Plan targets;
 - 3 February - Meeting 3, scrutiny and final health-check of draft Local and National Policing Plan targets.
- 2.4 The development of the Plans has been supported by stakeholder consultation. The 'stakeholder workshop', in September, brought together senior representatives from the BTPA, BTP, and the rail industry to provide an overview of the police and rail landscape, and to seek stakeholders views. A copy of the workshop report was provided to delegates after the event.
- 2.5 A two-week consultation, in October and November, provided stakeholders with an opportunity to provide written feedback on themes to be included in the National Plan. Draft National and Local Plans were shared with stakeholders, and comments were invited, at the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) Policing and Security Forum in January.
- 2.6 Consultation with stakeholders on Local Plans has been led by BTP's Divisional Assistant Chief Constables (ACCs). Stakeholders were invited to a series of consultation sessions, which took place in the new Sub-Divisions. These were followed by individual meetings and further exchanges between BTP and stakeholders. Both National and Sub-Divisional targets were discussed at BTP's Service Excellence Board, which ensured that there was alignment between the National and Sub-Divisional objectives.

3. National and Local Policing Plans

- 3.1 The two tier approach, with National and Local Plans, has been proposed again for 2014/15. A recurring theme from stakeholders prior to this year has been the desire for a greater shift in focus from national to local priorities. As a result, the focus of the 2014/15 Policing Plans will be at a more local, Sub-Division, level and have been developed in a more bottom-up way, with National targets providing the broader framework.
- 3.2 In terms of shape, the Plans will be aligned with the 2013-19 Strategy and the National Plan will deliver the 2014/15 year's share of the strategic objectives, which are to:
- Reduce minutes lost to police-related disruption by at least 20% on the 2012/13 outturn figure;
 - Reduce crime on the railway by at least 20% on the 2012/13 outturn figure;

- Increase passenger confidence with personal security on train and on station by at least 10%;
- Achieve the targets above within a Medium Term Financial Plan with annual cost increases within RPI.

3.3 As in previous years the PPWG reviewed the National and Local Plans, shown at Appendices A and B, and sought reassurance that they were a fair reflection of stakeholders' local priorities and consistent with the Force's strategic aims.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 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 12 December 2013.

5. Risk Implications

5.1 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 arising from the Home Office's Strategic Policing Requirement and the issues raised by stakeholders.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Subject to any further discussions at this meeting, Members are asked to review and approve the 2014/15:
- National Plan (Appendix A)
 - individual Local Plans (Appendix B).