



# Policing Great Britain's Rail Network

## C Division: Western

2015 | 2016





**CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT  
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**The rail network will continue to receive a level of investment in 2015/16 not previously seen in modern times, with electrification and infrastructure projects continuing throughout the C Division area.**

With football and freight traffic increasing, these are exciting times for the rail industry. I look forward to British Transport Police playing a vital role with our industry partners to ensure that those using and working on the railways get home every day safe, secure and on time.



**Crime on the division has fallen by nearly a third since 2002. As well as maintaining our focus on reducing this further, a key priority will be reducing disruption on the network.**

More trains, passengers and freight mean the effects of any disruption event are magnified. Our focus will be on innovative, whole-industry approaches to address this

important issue effectively.

In a relatively low-crime environment like the railway, another key issue to address is passenger confidence. Tackling antisocial behaviour, particularly associated with sporting events, continues to be a priority and we will look to carry on working with our industry partners to provide reassurance and visibility, helping to make rail the preferred mode of transport for the travelling public.

We will address many of our policing priorities using a problem-solving approach, relying on a clear identification of the problem to be solved, what best defines success, and which partners we need to work with to deliver this success. This approach is extremely effective, giving rise to innovative solutions and best practice that can be applied more widely.

Personally, I aim to be as accessible and receptive as possible to all of our stakeholders and I look forward to another busy and challenging year ahead.

In 2015/16, we will build on our previous successes and continue to play a vital role in helping a vibrant and expanding railway network operate at its very best.



# Introduction

Policing Plans C Division: Western



**SUPERINTENDENT  
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## A Policing Plan for Western

When I became Sub-Divisional Commander in March 2015, it was clear that excellent progress was made in 2014/15 to build and strengthen partnerships with our partners and communities, led by my predecessor Superintendent Gill Murray.

Stakeholders were eager for Western to have its own identity and they wanted to see the benefits of the Force restructure. Moulding the Sub-Division around their needs was a great opportunity. Western has fantastic staff working alongside positive and willing partners.



**There was a focus on closer partnership working, being more visible on late night train services and being in the right place at the right time, to further reduce crime, build relationships and increase confidence.**

Western has seen some excellent results. There is no doubt this is because of the

positive partnerships created. Examples of our joint successes include late night service patrols, with officers from B Division and First Great Western staff contributing to a reduction in theft of passenger property by a quarter. Working with Network Rail, young people in Bristol and Bath were educated about the dangers of trespassing on the railway. Restorative justice measures were implemented in cases where young people were found to have committed trespass and graffiti offences.

In the year ahead, I look forward to building on these successes and working with our partners and communities to deliver on our priorities.

A new conflict management training package, led by First Great Western and supported by British Transport Police, is being delivered to management staff to help them understand the challenges those on the front line face. More than 4,000 First Great Western staff will be trained to help reduce violence against staff. Reducing aggression and violence towards staff remains a priority and we will focus on improving on the excellent work achieved so far.

Reducing disruption and theft from passengers and policing a busy events calendar remain priorities too. We have

seen crime reduce at Cheltenham Festival, Glastonbury, Henley Regatta and the 2020 cricket in Taunton. Antisocial behaviour at Newquay during the summer also decreased. Policing travelling sports fans remains a challenge.

Positive relationships with partners have shaped and supported the successes of the previous year. There is no doubt our people make a real difference to partners and the travelling public, helping us to maintain our role as a vital player in the industry. Western can only go from strength to strength.

**Your British Transport  
Police Authority  
Member is**

**DOMINIC BOOTH**

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## C Division Western Targets 2015/16

### Reduce staff aggression offences by at least three per cent

Violence and aggression towards staff has a significant impact on those who help to operate the railways. Recorded offences in 2014/15 were down by 17 per cent compared with the previous year to 2009.

### Increase the rate of positive outcomes for assaults on staff to at least 66 per cent

Rail staff can be confident that staff assaults will be reduced, but also that the proportion of offences with a positive outcome will increase at a greater rate than offences recorded.



### Reduce theft of personal property by at least five per cent

Theft of passenger property is a major contributor to overall crime on the rail network and impacts on passenger confidence. Offences fell by 25 per cent to 529 in 2014/15. The police authority knows you want to see them reduced further - this target will help.



### Reduce theft of bicycle offences by at least five per cent

Cycle crime impacts on passengers who use railway stations on a daily basis. The number of recorded cycle offences dropped by 29 per cent to 399 comparing 2014/15 figures with 2011/12.

### Complete four problem solving plans (PSPs) to reduce police related disruption at identified hotspots

Police related disruption, caused by incidents which may require a police response, delays passengers and the industry. This target encourages a joint problem-solving approach by working with industry partners to tackle disruption.

### Complete at least four PSPs addressing fatality, trespass, cable and vandalism related disruption

Trespass and fatalities are the main causes of disruption on the network. This target encourages a joint problem-solving approach with industry partners to tackle disruption.



### Complete at least six PSPs addressing antisocial behaviour

Antisocial behaviour has been highlighted as a concern for passengers and stakeholders. PSPs generate a joint approach to tackling antisocial behaviour.


### Complete at least five PSPs across the Division addressing freight related issues

Freight companies are key stakeholders. This target will ensure there is an enhanced focus on issues that affect the freight industry.



## PASSENGER PRIORITIES

You've said you want BTP to do more to tackle antisocial behaviour, crime related disruption and to increase their visibility, especially late at night.

Look out for this symbol  which will show you the targets we've set to help fulfil these priorities

## Where you'll find the BTP

Policing Plans C Division: Western

| C Division Western                     | Police Officer | Police Staff | PCSOs     | Special Officer |
|--|----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Bath Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) | 2              | 0            | 7         | 0               |
| Bristol                                | 2              | 0            | 0         | 0               |
| Bristol Temple Meads (24/7)            | 27             | 1            | 0         | 5               |
| Exeter                                 | 9              | 1            | 0         | 1               |
| Gloucester                             | 6              | 0            | 1         | 2               |
| Oxford                                 | 3              | 0            | 4         | 1               |
| Plymouth                               | 8              | 1            | 0         | 1               |
| Reading                                | 25             | 1            | 6         | 2               |
| Swindon                                | 4              | 0            | 0         | 0               |
| Truro                                  | 3              | 0            | 0         | 0               |
| <b>Western total</b>                   | <b>89</b>      | <b>4</b>     | <b>18</b> | <b>12</b>       |



### DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2007/08 theft of cable offences is down by 86% (1,254 offences).

**1,254**  
offences!



For more information  
contact



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