

## Minutes

### Policing Plan Group

Friday 16 October 2015, at 10.30am  
at The Forum, 74-80 Camden Street

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#### Present:

Mark Phillips (Chair)  
Liz France  
Bill Matthews  
Stella Thomas

#### Apologies:

Dominic Booth

#### In attendance:

Paul Crowther, Chief Constable BTP  
Vanita Patel, Performance & Analysis Manager BTP  
Samantha Elvy, Strategy and Performance Manager BTPA  
Jon Newton, Performance Analyst BTPA (minutes)

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### 07/2015 Welcome and apologies

#### Non-Agenda

1. The Chair welcomed attendees to the first of Policing Plan Group meeting for the 2016/17 Policing Plan. Apologies were noted for Dominic Booth.
2. The Chair thanked those involved in capturing the learning points from the previous year's policing plan development. It was noted that there had, prior to this meeting, been two teleconferences, the first including the Group Chair, the Deputy Chief Constable and the Chief Constable, and the second including the Group Chair and Chief Constable. These teleconferences included discussions about focussing the national policing plan targets around the strategic objectives<sup>1</sup> and the initial identification of the direction of travel of targets, which would be consulted on with the rail industry in early January, rather than the level the targets are set at.

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<sup>1</sup> Reduce crime by 20%, reduce lost minutes by 20%, and increase confidence by 10% by 2019, based on the 2012-13 outturn figures.

## **08/2015 Initial representations for Policing Plan Group**

### Agenda Item 1

#### **BTP**

##### Agenda Item 1.1

3. The Chief Constable provided an overview of BTP's representations for the Policing Plan Group. BTP supported the approach for a two tier Policing Plan, based on national and local targets, with the national targets focussed at a high level on the strategic objectives and subject to the spending review (SR15). The following points were made:

#### *National targets*

- 3.1. The Group was informed that there was a need to consider how to approach the **disruption target**, in order that it did not undermine the motivation of those trying to reduce police-related lost minutes.
- 3.2. For the **crime reduction targets**, the Force was keen to also specify particular areas of challenge, such as with respect to violence against the person and sexual offences.
- 3.3. Proposed **value for money targets** had been discussed by the Group Chair and Chief Constable in a teleconference prior to the meeting. The Chief Constable proposed that the value for money target should consider the large increase in passenger numbers and rail network in the context of reduced budgets. It was explained that even without SR15 there would be a flat budget next year and possibly into the future; and that there were large efficiencies to be had from the Transformation programme, such as with respect to the Mobile programme.
- 3.4. Members accepted that there would be some sort of proxy used for the value for money target. There was a discussion about the Force's ongoing review of resources, which would deliver changes from 2017. Members proposed having a resource availability target informed by this work; this could be presented around the identification of a current baseline for resource availability, and providing a narrative that gives an indication of a resource availability target for the following year.

- 3.5. The Chief Constable informed the Group that a **safeguarding** target around referral times for children to social services would only provide a transactional measure, and that the Force currently had a 100% compliance rate. It was proposed that it would be more appropriate to have a target based on the implementation of year 2 of the safeguarding strategy. The Group was informed that the strategy had clear deliverables which could be used.
- 3.6. There was a discussion about the **passenger confidence** target; it was noted that there had been incremental increases in passenger confidence and that BTP was on track to achieve the target. Of the 20 lowest confidence stations highlighted in the 2015/16 Policing Plan, 13 had seen a significant increase in passenger confidence, although the reasons for this were not yet fully understood. Members highlighted the 2015/16 problem solving plans (PSPs) in Scotland and suggested that there should also be PSPs identified specifically for Wales, which form part of the local targets.

#### *Local targets*

- 3.7. The Group was informed that the Force was intending to propose a stronger focus on **PSPs** in the local policing plan targets. These would be agreed with industry through the year and there would be set numbers focussing on crime, disruption and confidence. There was, however, still a need for the Force to put in place a robust process around these to ensure that Divisions were not just left to get on with them.
  - 3.8. There was a need within the Force to ensure that proposed local targets did not contradict the national aims; for example, the 2015/16 Policing Plan for Pennine has a detections target; the focus would now be on crime reductions.
  - 3.9. Members provided feedback around the local consultation workshops, highlighting that they appeared to be stronger in C Division than in B Division.
4. The Chief Constable highlighted that before the Policing Plan is made public, the Chair of the Superintendents Association will report following a review into the use of police targets. It was noted that there should be engagement with respect to this review and that there should be some consideration of why BTP is different.

5. The Group noted that the BTP-specific diagnostic questions had been removed from the National Rail Passenger Survey (NRPS). The NRPS continued to include the existing personal security questions, but additional questions from other organisations, which had previously been included, had been removed from the NRPS. It was noted that Transport Focus had offered to include some additional questions in future surveys, but it was not known whether this may be charged for. Members were informed that BTP's latest public survey had recently been launched. It was requested that the Authority has sight of the findings and be briefed on work being done around the survey.

## **BTPA**

### Agenda Item 1.2

6. The Chair agreed with the proposal that there continue to be a two tier Policing Plan, with national and local targets, and that the local targets align with those set at national level.
7. It was stated that stakeholders had fed back that they would like more time to consider and comment on the plan than was available in the 2015/16 Policing Plan consultation. The timetable (set out in the Agenda Item 4.2 report) was agreed.
8. The Group noted that Mr Matthews would be in dialogue with the Scottish Government but, in order to avoid confusion for BTP staff or the industry, the Scottish Police Authority would not be involved. It was agreed that it would be useful for Chief Superintendent John McBride to be briefed on engagement around the Policing Plan.
9. It was suggested that direction of travel targets are drafted in the first instance, with target levels to be agreed in early 2016. It was proposed that:
  - 9.1. The **delay minutes** target be aligned with the strategic objective.
  - 9.2. There be a single headline target for **crime**, with latitude for additional targets to focus on other issues.
  - 9.3. The **confidence** target be linked to the strategic objective.

- 9.4. Further discussions take place around options for the **value for money** target. The Chief Constable highlighted that BTP was the best performing Force with respect to sickness rates, but there was a risk of this slipping if not focussed on. Members suggested that there could be an additional supporting or a contributory target on sickness rates.
- 9.5. The Group needed to understand what measures would be proposed for the **safeguarding** target and the work that can be done in this area, as well as any overlaps.
10. There was a discussion about whether to include commentary on cybercrime. The Group was informed that the Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB) have been asked to lead the industry cybercrime strategy and that, although it is predicted to increase, the scale of the issue was still unknown. Members suggested that there could still be some form of description stating the reasons for not including cybercrime in the Policing Plan, so it could be seen that this was a conscious decision.

## **10/2015 Agreed next steps**

### Agenda Item 2

#### **11. Agreed**

- 11.1 Chief Constable/Group Chair to arrange a meeting with the President of the Police Superintendents' Association of England and Wales to discuss the review of police targets.
- 11.2 Discussions to take place between BTP and the Authority about BTP's passenger survey to ensure that it is sufficient, given that BTP's diagnostics questions are no longer included in the NRPS, and so that the Authority is kept informed of developments regarding the Force's survey.
- 11.3 Policing Plan Group Terms of Reference to be circulated to the Group outside of the meeting.
- 11.4 BTP in collaboration with the Authority Executive to develop proposals for a value for money target and benchmarking.
- 11.5 BTP to develop a proposed methodology to encapsulate safeguarding work into the Policing Plan.

- 11.6 Mrs Elvy to speak with Northern Rail about detection related targets in the Pennine Sub-Division.
- 11.7 Chief Superintendent John McBride to be briefed on engagement around the Policing Plan.

**11/2015 Any other business**

Agenda Item 3

12. There was no other business.

**Dates of next meetings:**

Meeting 2: 3 December 2014, 1-3pm

Meeting 3: 3 February 2015, 10am-12pm