

Report to: Police Authority
Agenda item: 10
Date: 4 November 2015
Subject: Performance Review Committee update, Quarter 2
Sponsor: Chair, Performance Review Committee
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For: Information

1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the main business done at the quarter 2 meeting of the Authority's Performance Review Committee (PRC).

2. Q2 Performance Report

- 2.1 The PRC received the quarter 2 performance presentation and report, and supporting data; a copy of the performance dashboard is appended. The following points were noted.
- 2.2 At the end of quarter 2, 1 out of 7 National and 15 out of 56 Local **Policing Plan** targets were being achieved.
- 2.3 **Notifiable offences** (excluding police generated) were up by 2%.
- 2.4 There has been a 20% increase in **criminal damage** offences, largely driven by increased reporting of low level graffiti in the South and TfL Sub-Divisions. There has been a change since October 2014, when BTP's Graffiti teams asked Network Rail to report these offences. There has been a reduction in the outcome rate for these offences; unless the offender is caught in the act, these offences are difficult to detect. B Division in response has increased late night patrols and analysis has been done around late night offending.
- 2.5 There has been a 30% increase in the number of **sexual offences** recorded. The majority have been in the TfL Sub-Division; the highest number was in June this year, the number has since plateaued. There has been a reduction in the more serious sexual offences. The offences were predominantly sexual assaults on females aged 13 or over, usually on a crowded train, meaning that the opportunities to investigate were more difficult. BTP were looking at conducting research around offender profiles. Overcrowding had meant that there had been a drop in the outcome rate; there had also been an increase in text reporting, and some text messages had contained limited information, resulting in difficulties when investigating. The

Force highlighted the low level of risk compared to the numbers travelling on the rail network.

- 2.6 There has been a 10% reduction in the number of **cycle offences**, most notably in the South, East and Midlands Sub-Divisions. The BTP Operations Lock and Wiggins have involved promoting free bike locks and engaging with cyclists; they have resulted in a reduction in cycle thefts. There has also been a 4% reduction in **thefts of passenger property**.
- 2.7 **Violence against the person** was up by 14%, driven mostly by common assault, followed by causing alarm/distress. Common assault offences were mostly at the gateline, or passenger on passenger at commuting times. It was noted that there were training packages for the rail industry to reduce the risk of violence to staff; and that BTP was doing a randomised control trial with Cambridge University, around body worn video.
- 2.8 Police-related **lost minutes** were 1% above target; this was an improvement from the 12% difference at the end of quarter 1. Primary minutes were down by 4.5%.
- 2.9 The Committee was informed of a range of work aimed at reducing lost minutes caused by **trespass**, including problem solving plans (PSPs) at high frequency/high impact locations, challenging the incorrectly attributed lost minutes which had resulted in 6.5 thousand lost minutes being reallocated, and Op Decade which will again, as in 2014/15, be rolled out in Period 10 with the aim of reducing police related disruption at hotspots.
- 2.10 Efforts to increase **confidence** were ongoing, with the Force focusing on targeted PSPs, *'You Said We Did'* communications, and the use of volunteers, cadets and Special Constables to speak to the public. Crime Reduction Officers and Crime Prevention Advisors were also speaking to those at the lowest confidence stations.

3. Diversity and Inclusion update

- 3.1 The Committee received an overview of BTP's 2014/15 Diversity and Inclusion Annual Report. The Chair praised the large progress that has been made and noted that this was the first time that there was recognition of the external focus around this area.
- 3.2 The Committee was informed that the Independent Advisory Groups (IAGs) to BTP continued to give advice and guidance which had led to positive anecdotal feedback and reports from communities.
- 3.3 It was noted that BTP was changing the way it looked at hate crime, and that there was a lot of work in this area, including the

development of a Hate Crime Strategy and the *'Travel with Pride'* campaign, to raise awareness of how to report hate crime.

- 3.4 It was also highlighted that there was ongoing work around accessibility for disabled people, an area in which BTP was behind some Home Office Forces.

4. Stop and search six-monthly update

- 4.1 The Committee was informed that BTP has been focused on reducing the number of stop and searches and increasing the arrest rate, by reducing the number of minor drug searches that have in the past been unproductive. Over the previous year, the number of stop and searches was down and a greater proportion is now related to stolen property and weapons. When including other outcomes (as well as arrests), the success rate of stop and searches has increased to 35%.
- 4.2 It was noted that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) had reported very complementary findings around BTP's use of stop and search in Scotland; and the Force had, as a result, been approached by Police Scotland to report on what it had been doing.
- 4.3 The DCC, as the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) lead for stop and search, was looking to standardise the approach to stop and search by Forces in England and Wales; BTP has been leading on this work nationally. This campaign included outlining three elements for conducting stop and searches; they should be legal, professional and find something more often than not. It was noted that the DCC had received positive feedback from officers and that this campaign had contributed to the improved success around stop and searches.

5. Transformation Strand 1 - Op Trafalgar

- 5.1 The Committee received a presentation on Op Trafalgar, including early results and links to the wider Transformation Programme.
- 5.2 Members were informed that the Operation is at different stages in different parts of the country; feedback suggested that officers had been disengaged in the first four to five months but, although there remained pockets of cynicism amongst BTP staff, those involved had started to take ownership of their space and were starting making a difference.
- 5.3 It was highlighted that results from Waterloo had indicated a problem with shoplifting offences. There was a question around whether TOCs would feel the benefit from the focus on these

offences. It was noted that BTP would, however, be dealing with these offences anyway, and that if they can be reduced then this would result in less demand.

- 5.4 The Committee was informed that early results had shown year on year reductions for hub stations in London apart from Kings Cross, although it could not be entirely claimed that this was because of Op Trafalgar. The increase at Kings Cross was driven by shoplifting offences.
- 5.5 It was highlighted that the patrol patterns used for Op Trafalgar could also be adopted by TOCs. The Force has spoken to TOCs and some have shown an interest in deploying in accordance with this model and were looking to discuss how to engage some of these complementary resources.
- 5.6 There had been some challenging feedback about Op Trafalgar at the October meeting of the Rail Delivery Group Policing and Security Implementation Group. The Committee was informed that there were concerns resulting from some misconceptions about the Operation and that there was a need for the Force to keep communicating with the TOCs.

6. Protective Services: Safeguarding

- 6.1 The Committee received a presentation on BTP's Safeguarding Strategy and ongoing work in this area.
- 6.2 The Committee was informed that, between January and August 2015, there had been 2,155 incidents involving children and young people; an average of 12 per day.
- 6.3 It was noted that 150 cases involved a significant risk of harm. Each child and young person referral form that is submitted to the BTP's central Safeguarding Hub is scrutinised based on a traffic light system. BTP follows-up on all high risk and repeat cases that are referred to Child Safeguarding Boards. Once the risk can be downgraded from Red to Amber BTP will downgrade its response.
- 6.4 It was reported that there was no set target timeframe for referrals but that a breakdown of referral times had indicated a need for significant improvement. Where there were delays in referrals the reasons for some may be that the Force does not encounter the child for several days following an incident, but also some may be the result of internal reasons; the Force was working to speed up these referral times.
- 6.5 BTP has been working with The Railway Children and other partners and has developed a Safeguarding Children on Transport (SCT)

briefing programme around the risks to children and safeguarding. Members were informed that the Force has probably exceeded the expectations of The Railway Children and that the briefing has been commended by DfT, and that the Department for Education (DfE) had been advocates.

- 6.6 It was stated that, as with children at risk, the central Safeguarding Hub identifies all potential domestic abuse incidents and ensures all necessary reports, information sharing and risk management is undertaken. It was noted that 76% were referred to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) within 48 hours and 84% within 7 days.
- 6.7 Members were informed that there were around 40 to 50 hate crimes per week, with one third involving rail staff members. The Force had introduced new guidance and procedures around the identification and management of hate crimes.
- 6.8 There had been 4 additional suicides between April and September 2015, compared to the same period last year, with 15 additional fatalities in total. It was noted that these figures could have been significantly higher; there had been an additional 307 interventions, and Mental Health Act powers had been used 164 more times compared to last year. There had also been an increase in the number of suicide prevention plans put in place. Members were informed that the return rate for those with suicide prevention plans was less than 0.54%.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 Members are asked to note progress made and issues noted by the PRC at its quarter 2 meeting.