

Report to: Police Authority
Agenda item: 11
Date: 4 November 2015
Subject: 2016/17 Policing Plan
Sponsor: Chair, Policing Plan Group
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For: Information

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1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the main business done at the first meeting of the Authority's Policing Plan Group (PPG).
- 1.2 To invite Members to note the next stages in the Policing Plan process for 2015/16, as outlined in Appendix A.

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.
- 2.2 As in previous years the detailed work on the development of the draft National and Local Plans for 2016/17 is being carried out by the Authority's PPG. The purpose of the Group is to provide governance and oversight of the development of the 2016/17 Policing Plan, which will be signed off by the full Authority in March 2016.
- 2.3 Prior to the first meeting of the PPG, the Group Chair held two teleconferences with BTP. These included discussions about focussing the national policing plan targets around the strategic objectives¹ 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.

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

3. Initial representations for the 2015/16 Policing Plan

3.1 BTP

3.1.1 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

3.1.2 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.

3.1.3 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.

3.1.4 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.

3.1.5 Members accepted that there would be some sort of proxy used for the value for money target. Members proposed having a resource availability target informed by the Force's ongoing review of resources, which would deliver changes from 2017. 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.

3.1.6 A **safeguarding** target around referral times for children to social services would only provide a transactional measure, and 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, which had clear deliverables that could be used.

3.1.7 There had been incremental increases in **passenger confidence** and BTP was on track to achieve the target. Of the 20 lowest confidence stations outlined for 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

- 3.1.8 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.
- 3.1.9 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.
- 3.1.10 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 there should be consideration of why BTP is different.
- 3.1.11 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 Transport Focus had removed additional questions from other organisations.
- 3.1.12 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.

3.2 BTPA

- 3.2.1 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.
- 3.2.2 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 Appendix A) was agreed.

- 3.2.3 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.
- 3.2.4 It was suggested that direction of travel targets are drafted in the first instance, with target levels to be agreed in early 2016. The following points were made.
- 3.2.5 The **delay minutes** target be aligned with the strategic objective.
- 3.2.6 There be a single headline target for **crime**, with latitude for additional targets to focus on other issues.
- 3.2.7 The **confidence** target be linked to the strategic objective.
- 3.2.8 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.
- 3.2.9 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.
- 3.2.10 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 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.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are asked to note progress made by the PPG at its first meeting and the next steps, outlined in Appendix A.
- 4.2 Members are invited to ask any supplementary questions arising from the issues reported in this paper and/or its supporting documentation.

Appendix A. 2016/17 Policing Plan Planner

September to December 2015

September		October			November				December			
24 th Stakeholder event		16 th Policing Plan launch meeting				11 th PTEG update			3 rd Policing Plan meeting 2		17 th RDG P&S update	
				Local planning meetings - sub-divisions and D Division						Prepare consultation documents		

January to April 2016

January				February				March				April
		19 th RDG P&S IG update	28 th Full Authority meeting - draft Plans for endorsement	3 rd Policing Plan meeting 3						17 th Full Authority meeting for sign- off		26 th RDG P&S IG
BTPA consultation on local and national Policing Plans (4 th to 29 th January)				Analysis of consultation responses								Publish