BTPA
British Transport Police
Authority

Report to:	Police Authority	
Agenda item:	12.3	
Date:	24 September 2015	
Subject:	Performance Review Committee	
	update – Quarter 1	

1. Matters arising

1.1 The Committee received an update on the risk around the historic use of Out-of-Court disposals. The Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) commented that there would be significant challenges to review cautions retrospectively. He recognised that risks might always exist in this area, although he expressed confidence in the outcome of mitigating actions.

1.2 The PRC also received an update with regards to the EDHR work on BTP interactions with victims and offenders. There were a number of initiatives being considered by BTP to instill first-fix principles in service standards. These would also be monitored more closely. The PRC Chair sought details on BTP's compliance with a duty to publish EDHR data on service users; the Force confirmed that PRC would be advised once this was addressed.

2. Q1 Performance report

2.1 Data from the last three years suggested that the achievement of a 20% reduction in disruption by 2018/19 was now a significant challenge. It was suggested that expectations should be better managed by having a clearer understanding of how the Transformation programme intended to improve these figures. The Force was asked to submit a report to the next PRC meeting, explaining the ongoing efforts in this area.

2.2 The Force was achieving 1 out of 7 national 2015/16 Policing Plan targets; only the sickness target was being achieved. In turn, 16 out of the 63 local targets were being achieved; this was said to be broadly in line with last year's performance.

2.3 The Chair commented that it would have been helpful to understand the performance figures in the context of specific circumstances or seasonal trends. This was highlighted when examining notifiable crime figures. For example, sexual offences (up 41%) had spiked around the time of a major Social Media campaign to encourage reporting. Similarly, serious fraud (up 62%), probably related to a new mode of scam involving

touching in/out with two Oyster cards simultaneously. In turn, a reduction in serious public order (down 14%) was said to respond to greater coordination during football matches.

2.4 Violence against the Person (up 4%, target -10%) remained an area of concern for BTP with a third of victims being rail staff or BTP officers. It was highlighted that greater focus would be given to 'hubs' where these incidents tended to occur.

2.5 A significant spike in the incidence of trespass had been recorded in April, translating into a rise in the number of lost minutes (target -7%). Proactive work in this area included that of a national task group looking at Trespass hotspots, PSPs, and improved coordination between BTP and TOCs.

2.6 The number of days lost to Sickness (target 7.3 days per person), was showing a downward trend, with interventions by a Gold Group at Force Headquarters yielding encouraging results.

2.7 The Committee also reviewed the year's commitments on Cyber Crime and Safeguarding, and noted that reports were to be submitted at the next PRC meeting.

3.   BTP EDHR Update

3.1 It was noted that it had not been possible to present the annual EDHR report to the PRC on this occasion, although this would happen as soon as a final version was considered by the Force's Chief Officers' Group.

3.2 The Force reported good work on a campaign to combat Hate Crime, with constructive dialogue taking place with representatives of transgender groups and Muslim community leaders.

4.   Report on data quality

4.1 The arrival of a new Crime Registrar was highlighted as an important step in ensuring the appropriate systems were in place over Crime and Incident Data, an area that was subject to much scrutiny nationwide. It was noted that within the short time that the Crime Registrar had been in post, a number of issues with the methodology for recording crime-related incidents had already been identified.

4.2 Assurances were provided on datasets stemming from HR systems, Stop and Search records, Victims of Crime Surveys and Crime Justice Data. Special attention was given to datasets used

as part of the BTPA Cost Allocation Model, and particularly the Crime Data that feeds into it. The Committee noted that Crime Data was allocated to a TOC using a manual entry function; this was prone to errors. To address this issue, a daily cleansing mechanism had been introduced, and the DCC expressed confidence that this will improve consistency.

4.3 Members were keen to see dialogue with TOCs developed to ensure that concerns about data were addressed properly. Even with a daily cleansing mechanism, live data might still show inconsistencies, and so a form of 'health warning' should be attached. The aim was to ensure that TOCs' confidence on the integrity of the data was sustained and improved.

4.4 Members sought further information on historic backlog issues, including the work to review the contents of a large number of boxes of non-indexed archived material, an issue which had been the subject of scrutiny over the past twelve months. It was acknowledged that, whilst a matter for the Audit & Risk Management Committee, it was important that updates on the issue were shared with all Members of the Authority.

5. Transformation oversight – overview of 'operations' strand in 2015/16

5.1 The PRC discussed the approach that it would adopt to provide oversight to the aspects of the Transformation programme that were expected to impact on performance. For example, for Op Trafalgar, the PRC will focus on the direct effect that this would have on the delivery of targets such as Crime Reduction. A similar example was given on ISP, and what impact would it have on increasing visibility and confidence.

5.2 Members suggested that a report summarising the key areas of focus, risks of non-delivery and interdependencies, should be submitted to the next PRC meeting.