



Report to: Scottish Railway Policing Committee
Date: 22 October 2019
Agenda Item: 6
Subject: Stakeholder Engagement
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For: Noting

1. PURPOSE OF PAPER

1.1 To provide the Scottish Railway Policing Committee an overview of stakeholder engagement in Scotland, including an outline of the consultation arrangements for development of BTP's 2020 Policing Plan for Scotland.

2. FORCE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

2.1 BTP has a force wide Stakeholder Engagement Plan which requires comprehensive engagement with key stakeholders and other interested parties in Scotland, including the Scottish Parliament, industry owning groups, train operating companies, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland and Police Scotland. Chief Officers of BTP have a specific responsibility for maintaining effective links with significant stakeholders.

2.2 In addition to this structured engagement plan, BTP's Chief Officer Group regularly visits Scotland to meet with relevant partners and BTP staff. For example, over three days in late August the Chief Constable visited several BTP police locations to understand any operational challenges and assess performance, as well as a series of scheduled meetings with senior representatives from Scotrail and Police Scotland.

2.3 Following the appointment of a new Chief Executive in June 2019, the BTPA is refreshing its Stakeholder Engagement Strategy to fit with the overarching objectives of the Authority. This initially involves a series of introductory meetings with stakeholders, development of key messages and communications related to the strategic work of the BTP/A and most recently – an annual Stakeholder Summit in Birmingham, addressing the views and concerns of the industry related to their policing service. Towards the end of the year, the Authority will undertake engagement work with its funders around their annual charges, and will soon start a consultation on the Policing Plans for 2020-21.



- 2.4 In preparation for the newly established Scottish Railway Policing Committee, Authority engagement has taken place with the Office for Road and Rail, SPT (Strathclyde Passenger Transport), London North Eastern Railway and ScotRail Alliance.

3. DIVISIONAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

- 3.1 Stakeholder engagement at Divisional level involves comprehensive dialogue with a wide range of partners both within the Rail Industry and external agencies such as ORR, Transport Scotland and Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Constabulary Scotland who contribute to the safety and security of the rail network and protect those who work, live close to or otherwise use the network.
- 3.2 The frequency of engagement sessions is not strictly defined and can range from daily at local police station level to quarterly at the more senior command team level. The relationships allow for the frequency of engagement to vary subject to any developing issues that need attention. At divisional command level stakeholders are encouraged to maintain contact whenever necessary to allow situations to be effectively managed.
- 3.3 Engagement activity is a golden thread throughout the Division and takes place at a number of different levels. This works well as the structure often mirrors the local nature of partner agencies and those of the rail industry.
- 3.4.1 To best describe the process engagement occurs at three levels:

Operational

This level is concentrated on operational performance issues and is carried out by Sergeants and Inspectors who routinely involve their Police Scotland colleagues as well as rail staff and local councillors for example, Operation Code was a multi-agency operation to tackle anti-social behaviour between Dumbarton and Helensburgh. This operation was initially solely police driven but saw greater success by involving partners including Police Scotland, councillors and local social services. Examples such as this help inform and improve operational response on a day-to-day basis as well as stimulating problem-solving initiatives with partners.

Tactical



This level focuses on a medium to longer term approach to partnership working and is often carried out by district Chief Inspectors who meet with their peers in partner agencies. They can bring more decision-making autonomy to problem solving and address wider issues which impact on the railway through a multi-agency response. Planning for events is one such example where BTP work closely with partner's in the medium to longer term. This ensures the planning process incorporates all the relevant agencies. Subject to what event is being planned for a multi-agency planning team can be formed including BTP. The forthcoming 2020 European Championships held in Glasgow will see all partners come together to ensure a safe and secure event. This will include the transport network to and from the venue.

Strategic

This level sees a longer-term approach to engagement carried out by the Divisional Superintendent and Divisional Commander. They engage with partners at a level which is responsible for setting policy and regional/national decision making in their respective organisations. The level of engagement will often focus on political, commercial and performance themes, as well as examine the impact of policing and security for individuals, communities, or the organisations themselves. In these sessions, strategic partners and stakeholders can help influence the overall policing strategy for D Division.

4. POLICING PLAN

- 4.1 British Transport Police consults widely with the rail industry, partner agencies and the public to inform the force's annual policing plan priorities which underpins the Force Strategy 2018-21 set and agreed by the British Transport Police Authority.
- 4.2 At Divisional level there is a distinct timetable of engagement events to assist in formulating the force's objectives for the year ahead. The performance plan year runs from April to the following March. It is vitally important that we collect the views of as many applicable partners as possible in to help shape and influence local policing priorities. Consultation takes place in October to inform the priorities for the following performance year.
- 4.3 The consultation process for 2020-21 will be the first year where the new oversight arrangements for railway policing in Scotland are in place and this offers an opportunity to consult more widely and comprehensively in Scotland than previously. Representatives from Abellio ScotRail, Caledonian Sleeper, East Coast, Virgin, Cross Country, Transpennine,



Direct Rail Services, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, Network Rail, Office of Rail and Road, Transport Scotland and Police Scotland have been invited to attend the local planning meeting for the 2020-21 local Policing Plan meeting which will be held on the 31st of October 2019 in Glasgow, venue yet to be confirmed. Opportunities for the public to contribute to the policing priorities will be published online.

- 4.4 The Scottish Government has recently revised its strategic priorities in relation to the Police Service of Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority. BTP is aware of these strategic issues and will examine how its national and local priorities are most appropriately aligned to the priorities set by the Scottish Government.
- 4.5 The Scottish Railway Policing Committee will be consulted on the proposed priorities for BTP in Scotland before final submission of the aggregated Force policing plan to the British Transport Police Authority for ratification.
- 4.6 Throughout the performance year the Scotland Committee will be invited to monitor performance and delivery of Scottish objectives.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Committee notes the approach to stakeholder engagement in Scotland and discusses any additional factors it would like the Force and Police Authority to take into account to best reflect Scottish interests



Appendix A

Range of stakeholders

- Rail Industry – Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Transport for Scotland – Operate at tactical and strategic level
- Department for Transport – Operate at Strategic level
- British Transport Police Authority – Operate at Strategic level
- Police Service for Scotland – Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Crown Office procurator Fiscal Service - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Scottish Government - Operate at Strategic level
- Local and regional councils - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Education Authorities - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- National Health Providers - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Social Services - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Prison Service – Operate at operational level
- Fire and Rescue Service - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic
- Trade Union officials - Operate at every level operational, tactical and strategic