



SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE AUTHORITY
AND
THE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY
FOR THE OPERATION OF
THE SCOTTISH RAILWAYS POLICING COMMITTEE

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INTRODUCTION

1. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is between the British Transport Police Authority (BTPA), and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA).

The purpose of the MoU is to set out the principles for effective liaison, engagement and co-operation between the two Authorities through the Scottish Railways Policing Committee (SCRPC).

2. In establishing the committee and nominating members the Authorities will ensure oversight of railway policing is enhanced. The Committee's responsibilities are outlined in the Terms of Reference.

3. The MoU recognises that both Authorities have a responsibility to ensure the success of the Scottish Railways Policing Committee and that each, in fulfilling that responsibility should appropriately take into account the respective roles and responsibilities of the other party.

4. The MoU recognises the statutory responsibility of the BTPA for ensuring BTP delivers effective and efficient railway policing across the whole of Great Britain and recognises that this new committee and approach, involving both Authorities achieves enhanced accountability through the oversight of planning and performance and stakeholder and public engagement in respect of railway policing in Scotland.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

British Transport Police Authority

5. The BTPA was established by the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003 (RTSA) and is responsible for ensuring an efficient and effective police force for the railways. In addition, BTPA is specified as a cross-border public authority in Section 46 of the Scotland Act 2016.

Scottish Police Authority

6. The Scottish Police Authority was established by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and has five core functions;

- a) To maintain the police service in Scotland;
- b) To promote the policing principles set out in the 2012 Act
- c) To keep under review the policing of Scotland
- d) Support continuous improvement of Police Scotland; and
- e) To hold the chief constable of Police Scotland to account for policing in Scotland

Scottish Railways Policing Committee

7. The Scottish Railways Policing Committee is established under the terms of paragraph 12(b) of Schedule 4 of the RTSA 2003.

7a. The Committee will have a shared understanding and awareness of railway policing in Scotland and through this increased knowledge and provide assurance to the Authorities and others as appropriate.

7b. The Committee will scrutinise the annual railway policing plan developed for Scotland that will have regard to, and where appropriate to do so, align with the priorities set by Scottish Government, strategic plan set by SPA and Police Scotland and Police Scotland's annual policing plan. The Committee will monitor performance against the plan.

7c. The committee will comprise a chair and two nominated members from the BTPA and two nominated members from the SPA. The Committee will meet quarterly in accordance with BTPA's annual planning and business meetings cycle and where possible align with SPA's meetings.

7d. The work undertaken by the Committee will feature in BTPA's and SPA's reports on policing produced for Ministers and published annually.

PROVISION OF DATA

8. In support of the work of the Committee the BTP will prepare and supply such data as is reasonably requested by the Committee in relation to policing the railways in Scotland. (See Appendix A)

8a. In so far as is reasonably practicable BTP's senior officers will be available to report on and be held to account for the operation and delivery of railway policing in Scotland.

WORKING TOGETHER

9. The Committee will receive such information as is reasonably requested by the Committee from Police Scotland and the BTP on the extent and nature of cooperation between British Transport Police and Police Scotland. (See Appendix B)

STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

10. BTP will provide the Committee with information on engagement activity in Scotland including, significant feedback (See Appendix C)

Nominated Committee members may participate in planned engagement events to support the role of the Scottish Railways Policing Committee.

TRAINING

11. Members' induction training sessions may be arranged and used to develop awareness and understanding for committee members on the railways and policing in a commercial operating environment. Opportunities to support shared awareness and understanding of matters relating to Police Scotland and BTP will be provided to members of the committee.

COSTS

12. Costs for members to attend committee meetings, training etc will be borne by the appointing Authority.

13. The MoU recognises that any other costs associated with the running of and supporting the work of the Committee are likely to be small, therefore it is not anticipated that cross charging will arise.

REVIEW

14. The parties agree to review this MoU and the workings of the committee as appropriate.

APPENDIX A

Data that may be considered may include but not limited to;

1. Recorded railway crime and clear up rates;
2. A geographical breakdown of crime including analysis of crime trends;
3. Chief / Senior officer report including;
 - a. Review and forecast commentary for the period
 - b. Notable cases and initiatives
 - c. Planned organisational change
4. Financial data and reporting
5. Staff data including;
 - a. Establishment numbers and secondments
 - b. Sickness rates
6. Data on work undertaken with Police Scotland including;
 - a. Details of joint operations
 - b. Operational planning for sporting and other major events
 - c. User / steering and other policing boards / groups meetings

APPENDIX B

Cooperation information may include, but not limited to details on;

1. Any mutual aid that has been provided;
2. Joint investigations launched;
3. Joint planning undertaken for sporting or other major events;
4. Development / contributions to common policing policy / procedures;
5. Joint training being planned or undertaken
6. Attendance and participation in Police Scotland meetings

APPENDIX C

Engagement information may include;

1. BTPA and BTP planned rail industry / operator meetings;
 - a. In relation to objective planning and setting
 - b. Regular BTPA stakeholder meetings
 - c. Regular BTP stakeholder management meetings
2. A calendar of events in relation to;
 - a. Rail user / public engagement events
 - b. School and young people education and awareness.