

Report to: Scottish Railways Policing
Committee

Item: 9

Date: 3 September 2020

Subject: Draft evaluation framework

Sponsor: Chair SRPC

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1. Purpose of paper

- 1.1 To review the progress made in the development of an evaluation framework to support the work of the BTPA Scottish Railways Policing Committee (SRPC).

2. Background

- 2.1 The Smith Commission report of November 2014 contained a recommendation that the functions of the British Transport Police in Scotland should become a devolved matter.
- 2.2 The 'committee approach' emerged as the preferred option based on consensus amongst stakeholders reached at a meeting in November 2018 with the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Mr Humza Yousaf MSP. It was agreed there existed legislation currently in force that could be used to swiftly enhance accountability for railway policing in Scotland, based on the design principles agreed with stakeholders and set out in a letter to the Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee in December 2018.
- 2.3 The SRPC, a sub-committee of the British Transport Police Authority (BTPA), was established under statute and by agreement of Scottish and UK ministers following significant and detailed work by Scottish and UK Government officials, SPA and BTPA officials, staff associations' and officers from British Transport Police and Police Scotland.
- 2.4 The Cabinet Secretary set out four high level design principles which should inform the work of the new Committee. These were to;
 - Addressing the democratic deficit in Scotland
 - Meaningful accountability and transparency for railway policing in Scotland
 - Safe and effective management and operational delivery of railway policing in Scotland
 - Designed on best value principle and provide an appropriate mechanism to ensure value for money

3. Developing an evaluation framework

- 3.1 The following sets out potential measures that might make for a more meaningful and objective analysis for any assessment on the evaluation of the Scottish Railways Policing Committee.
- 3.2 The starting point was to take the 4 high level design principles set out by the Cabinet Secretary;
- Addressing the democratic deficit in Scotland
 - Meaningful accountability and transparency for railway policing in Scotland
 - Safe and effective management and operational delivery of railway policing in Scotland
 - Designed on best value principle and provide an appropriate mechanism to ensure value for money
- 3.3 The next step was to consider how each design principle might be achieved;
- Addressing the democratic deficit in Scotland
 - Evidence of alignment of BTP's strategic direction in Scotland, where appropriate to the SG's Strategic Police Priorities
 - Reporting against the achievement of the strategic outcomes
 - Meaningful accountability and transparency for railway policing in Scotland
 - Effective performance reporting, where appropriate, against the same outcomes as Police Scotland
 - Regular public reporting to SPA and Scottish Parliament
 - Hold meetings in public
 - Publish papers and minutes
 - Safe and effective management and operational delivery of railway policing in Scotland
 - Sharing of operational good practice between Police Scotland and BTP
 - Regular joint planning and management engagement
 - BTP attendance at Strategic T&CG
 - Designed on best value principle and provide an appropriate mechanism to ensure value for money
 - Evidence of effective engagement with relevant inspection and oversight bodies to inform performance reporting and scrutiny

3.4 Next was to introduce potential measures these include;

Evidence of alignment in policing plans and reflected in SRPC minutes – this is most likely to be seen when the proposed policing plan is presented to SRPC around the March meeting annually

Measure once per year

Evidence of joint reporting at SRPC and reflected in minutes – this will be included under the performance reporting section in the SRPC agenda

Measure 4 times per year

Evidence of performance reporting at SPRC – available via the performance report

Measure 4 times per year

Reporting to both SPA / BTPA - this can be evidence through the secretariat note provided within 5 days of an SRPC meeting to the chief executives of both Authorities as well as any verbal update provided by chair / members back into their respective authorities

Measure 4 times per year

Report to Scottish Parliament – this might be achieved via correspondence from the SRPC chair to the Convenor of the SP Justice Committee. An example may include updates around March outlining the proposed policing plan. At year end an update on performance and outcomes might be appropriate. Availability to appear before the Justice Committee and any additional correspondence outlining the work of the SRPC could contribute to this.

Measure at least twice per year

Hold meetings in public

Measure 4 times per year

Publish SRPC papers and minutes

Measure 4 times per year

Evidence of operational good practice sharing in updates to SRPC – this might be evidenced in papers presented at SRPC by the divisional commander

Measure twice per year

Evidence of joint planning in updates to SRPC – again, likely to be evidenced in papers presented at SRPC by the divisional commander

Measure 4 times per year

BTP attendance at Police Scotland's Strategic Tasking & Co-ordination Group meetings – this will require reporting by BTP on attendance

Measure twice per year

Updates on engagement and planning for audit and inspection at SPRC – this is likely to be evidenced in the audit and inspection update paper, as per the SRPC agenda

Measure twice per year

Updates on risks and recommendations highlighted by inspections – this should be included in the audit and inspection updates paper, as per the SRPC agenda

Measure twice per year

3.5 The steps described above including suggested measures is graphically represented in Appendix A - a prototype reporting format.

4. Recommendations

4.1 The Committee is asked to review the proposed evaluation framework and consider and agree the proposed measures and reporting format.

SRPC Evaluation report card				Oct-19	Feb-20	May-20	Sep-20	Not Achieving	In Progress	Achieved
Design Principles	How Achieved	Measures								
1. Addressing the democratic deficit in Scotland	1.1. Alignment of BTP's strategic direction in Scotland, where appropriate to the SG's Strategic Police Priorities	Evidence of alignment in policing plans & reflected in SRPC minutes – this is most likely to be seen when the proposed policing plan is presented to SRPC around the March meeting annually	once per year	●	?	?				
	1.2. reporting against the achievement of the strategic outcomes	Evidence of joint reporting @ SRPC and reflected in minutes – this will be included under the performance reporting section in the SRPC agenda	4 times per year	●	●	●				
2. Meaningful accountability and transparency for railway policing in Scotland	2.1. Effective performance reporting, where appropriate, against the same outcomes as Police Scotland	Evidence of performance reporting @ SRPC – available via the performance report	4 times per year	?	?	?				
	2.2. Regular public reporting to SPA and Scottish Parliament	SRPC secretariat note to both SPA / BTPA - chief executives report to Scottish Parliament – the SRPC chair to provide updates to the Convenor of the SP Justice Committee.	4 times per year	?	?	?				
	2.3. Hold meetings in public		at least twice per year	?	?					
	2.4. Publish papers and minutes		4 times per year	?	?	?				
3. Safe and effective management and operational delivery of railway policing in Scotland	3.1. Sharing of operational good practice between Police Scotland and BTP	Evidence of operational good practice sharing in updates to SRPC – this will be evidenced in papers presented @ SRPC by the divisional commander	at least twice per year	●	●	●				
	3.2. Regular joint planning & management engagement	Evidence of joint planning in updates to @ SRPC – this will be evidenced in papers presented @ SRPC by the divisional commander	4 times per year	?	?	?				
	3.3. BTP attendance at Strategic T&C	BTP attendance @ ST&CG – this will require reporting by BTP on their attendance	twice per year							
4. Designed on best value principle and provide an appropriate mechanism to ensure value for money	4.1. Effective engagement with relevant inspection and oversight bodies to inform performance reporting and scrutiny	Updates on engagement and planning for audit & inspection @ SRPC – this should be included in the audit and inspection updates paper, as per the SRPC agenda	twice per year	●	?	●				

