



<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Authority Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>23 February 2023</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Crowne Plaza, Glasgow</b>
<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>SPA Chief Executive's Report</b>
<b>Presented By</b>	<b>Lynn Brown, Chief Executive</b>
<b>Recommendation to Members</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Appendix Attached</b>	<b>Yes – Summary Report from Scottish Railway Policing Committee held on 13 December 2022.</b>

**PURPOSE**

To update Authority Members on activities carried out by the Chief Executive since the last Authority Meeting.

Members are recommended to consider this report and to raise any matters for clarification or further detail with the Chief Executive.

## **1 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. This report provides Members with an update on key Authority business not already covered elsewhere on the agenda.

## **2 DRAFT BUDGET 2023/24**

- 2.1 The Scottish Government's 2023/24 draft budget was published on 15 December 2022. This represents an improved settlement compared with the flat cash position outlined in the Scottish Government's May 2022 Resources Spending Review.
- 2.2 The Authority remains committed to setting a balanced budget that is able to deliver a valued policing service to the people of Scotland. The proposed 2023/24 budget will be presented to the Authority for approval at our next meeting in March and following detailed consideration and recommendation by the Resources Committee.

## **3 JOINT STRATEGY FOR POLICING**

- 3.1 A draft of the Joint Strategy for Policing is a substantive item for discussion on this agenda. The current Joint Strategy for Policing was agreed by the Authority in 2020, describing five strategic and shared outcomes for the Authority and Police Scotland.
- 3.2 A refresh of the strategy was initiated last year and staff across the Authority and Police Scotland have worked collaboratively to review and refresh the strategy informed by horizon scanning and feedback from key stakeholders.
- 3.3 I want to note my thanks to the teams within Police Scotland and the Authority for their work in developing the strategy, and in working to conclude a final strategy for consideration in May 2023.

## **4 SPA CORPORATE STRATEGY 2023 – 2026**

- 4.1 The current Corporate Plan for the Authority is in its final year and will expire at the end of March 2023. The Authority's corporate team have been working on development of a revised Corporate Strategy covering the period 2023-2026, which sets out direction for the work of the Authority's team and our contribution to delivery and support of the strategic police plan.
- 4.2 A programme of early stakeholder engagement was undertaken in December/January which has informed a draft of the corporate strategy and supporting implementation plan. Broader public engagement is taking place throughout February 2023 which will

inform the final document I will present to the March meeting of the Authority. As with the current Corporate Plan, I will report high level progress and areas of concern by exception through the Audit, Risk and Assurance committee on a quarterly basis.

## **5 GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN (2023 – 2028)**

- 5.1 I have received confirmation from Bòrd na Gàidhlig that the Authority's second edition Gaelic Language Plan (2023-2028) has now been approved in accordance with section 5(1)(a) of the Gaelic Language Act (Scotland) 2005. This follows revisions to the version proposed to support measurement of the commitments set out in the plan.
- 5.2 The Authority will publish the final plan in both English and Gaelic on our website by the end of March 2023.

## **6. CREATION OF THE POLICE NEGOTIATING BOARD FOR SCOTLAND (PNBS)**

- 6.1 The principal legal basis for the PNB is the Police Act 1996. The PNB was originally a UK-wide body but, following changes introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, now operates only in Scotland. In the rest of the UK, the PNB's functions are performed by the Police Remuneration Review Body. The salaries of chief officers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are dealt with separately by the Senior Salaries Review Body, which provides advice to the Prime Minister and the relevant Secretaries of State.
- 6.2 The position in England and Wales was informed by recommendations within the Independent Review of Police Officer and Staff Remuneration and Conditions (the Windsor Review) in 2012, which was instigated by the Home Secretary in 2010. The review recommended that the PNB should be abolished and replaced by an independent police officer pay review body.
- 6.3 Following consultation with key Scottish stakeholders in 2013, Scottish Ministers decided to retain collective bargaining arrangements in Scotland through the implementation of PNBS.
- 6.4 Chapter 8A of The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 confirmed the establishment of PNBS to consider the following:
- Pay, allowances and expenses
  - Public holidays and leave

- Hours of duty

6.5 The Act also confirmed:

- In relation to arbitration, that Scottish Ministers must take all reasonable steps appearing to them to be necessary for giving effect to the arbitration outcome (known as binding arbitration)
- PNBS requires to prepare an annual report on how it has carried out its functions
- PNBS will have a chair, which can be appointed and removed by Scottish Ministers)
- PNBS consists of persons representing the Authority, the Chief Constable, officers and Scottish Ministers and representatives will be confirmed within the constitution
- It is for Scottish Ministers to prepare the constitution for PNBS

6.6 These sections of the Act have yet to come into effect and in December 2022 it was confirmed that the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans has decided the legislation for PNBS should progress in 2023. As a result, Scottish Government officials advise that they are seeking to have in place by Autumn 2023. It has also been confirmed that there is an intention to commence certain parts of PNBS legislation to allow the commencement of the Chair appointment process in March 2023.

6.7 The Authority's approach to the consultation response will mirror that for the Police complaints, investigations and misconduct consultation, where the response will be developed by a small team of staff being reviewed and informed by SPA members currently on the PNB - Jane Ryder (Official Side Chair), Fiona McQueen and Caroline Stuart).

## **7. PARTNERSHIP WITH THE POLICE FOUNDATION**

7.1 Early discussions have commenced with the Police Foundation, a leading think tank on policing issues, on the development of a series of policy discussions on challenging and emerging issues facing policing in Scotland. This activity will be delivered under the leadership and direction of the Joint Research and Evidence Forum as a collaboration between the Authority and the Police Foundation. Bringing together wider voices to inform discussion on a policy direction on topical themes relevant to the future of policing. The series will commence in summer 2023, with more detail provided as planning develops.

## 8. MOBILE WORKING FACTSHEET

- 8.1 Over the last year, the Authority, with the support and input of Police Scotland, has [published a series of fact and information sheets](#) on a range of key policing issues. These cover important issues such as public confidence and attitudes of policing, as well as Police Scotland's use of key technologies such as drones, tasers or body worn video.
- 8.2 The latest factsheet was published early this month on Mobile Working in Policing. It describes, in a user-friendly way, what mobile working in policing is and how it aims to ensure police officers can spend more time in their local communities.

## 9. SCOTTISH RAILWAY POLICING COMMITTEE

- 9.1 A meeting of the Scottish Railways Policing Committee (SRPC) took place on Tuesday 13 December 2022 and was hosted at the Authority's offices in Glasgow. The Authority was represented by Board Members Tom Halpin and Mary Pitcaithly. A full report from the December 2022 meeting is included at Appendix A.
- 9.2 The next meeting of the SRPC is due to take place on Thursday 2 March 2023 and will be the last with Bill Mathews as Chair. Bill will be stepping down as a Member of the British Transport Police Authority after more than 10 years of service. On behalf of all Authority Members and officials I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Bill for his contribution and many years of dedicated service. We wish him well for the future.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to discuss the contents of this report.

---

## Summary report from the Scottish Railway Policing Committee

**Tuesday 13 December 2022**

**SPA Members – Tom Halpin and Mary Pitcaithly**

---

### Risk Profile

Members considered the risk profile of BTP. The Committee requested an item at a future meeting to consider BTP/Police Scotland lessons learned from the Manchester Arena Inquiry. The Committee also recommended that BTP and Police Scotland consider whether an MOU was necessary to define policing responsibilities in the circumstance of a cyber-attack on rail infrastructure / providers in Scotland.

### Policing Plan Performance quarter 2 (Q2) 22/23

Violence remains the main volume crime group in Scotland, accounting for over a quarter of all notifiable crime for Q2. However, the vast majority is violence without injury. The committee noted that there was notable early success in tackling youth-treated anti-social behaviour, with much of this success being down to partnership / multi-agency working.

Disruption incidents across Scotland's railway network have decreased 3% (-40) comparing previous YTD; with Cable Theft (-1 incident, -33%), Fatalities (-4 incident, 36%) and Trespass (-91 incidents, 14%) all reporting a reduction. However, lost minutes has increased to 45,934 (+11%). Disruption incidents across the UK have increased by 3% to 433 and primary lost minutes increased by 29% to 403,768.

In July BTP released the Railway Guardian App to provide a better service to victims of offences and encourage reporting. The response to the app release has been extremely positive and it has had approximately 8000 public downloads as well as being installed on work devices of partner organisations. Within the app, users can report a crime, either through the 61016 text service or online, view guides on safe travel and view a range of available supporting bodies including Citizen's Advice, ManKind and Victim Support Scotland. In Q2 180 crime reports were submitted via the app.

Joint working Police Scotland / BTP

In this standing update attention was drawn to the continued partnership between BTP and Police Scotland. During this reporting period, Police Forces across the country came together for the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Occurring at Balmoral Castle on the 8th of September 2022, Police Scotland and British Transport Police throughout Scotland were deployed to Op Unicorn/Op Bridge. Members praised both BTP and Police Scotland for their professionalism and partnership in policing this event.

Reference was made to the Multiagency Tasking and Delivery Board (MATDB) to tackle serious and organised crime. In particular a BTP County Lines SPOC was embedded with PSOS in September, based within Gartcosh to identify and dismantle drug lines impacting Scotland. September saw the launch of the crime stoppers county lines campaign with Police Scotland and BTP both supporting. Two days of joint operational activity saw 25 drug searches take place with 14 positive results.

BTP's Chief Superintendent also noted BTP partnership with Police Scotland to support the transfer of HMS Prince of Wales aircraft carrier beneath the Forth Rail Bridge.

Thematic: Stop and Search

Members considered a report on the use of Stop and Search by BTP officers in Scotland. The report outlined the governance of Stop and Search, ongoing training provided and presented a comparison of Scotland (D Division) to other UK BTP Divisions.

The Chief Superintendent reported that the Stop and Search figures for D Division are significantly lower than in other Divisions across England and Wales, accounting for 1.45% of the force stop searches, however maintaining the highest find rate of 48.6%, whilst the average force find rate was 44.5%.

SPA Members welcomed the report and recommended a further iteration of the report at a future meeting that takes greater account of the emphasis, in a Scottish context, on stop and searches of young persons with the associated safeguarding obligations of such activity.

### A Force on the Move Programme update

The Deputy Chief Constable updated the Committee on BTP's transformation portfolio. The portfolio is now fully mobilised with ten active programmes operating under the sponsorship of BTP's Chief Officer Group.

SRPC Members welcomed the report and requested a future report which examines the benefits arising from the Force on the Move Programme.

Additionally, SPA Member Mr Halpin provided positive feedback on BTP's Integrated Policing and Security Pilot following a recent visit to London Kings Cross.

### Refresh of Scotland Division Policing Plan 2022/25

Members were provided with an update on the year one refresh of the 2022-25 Railway Policing Plan for Scotland Division. Although a light touch, the review was informed by a specific stakeholder event held in Scotland, BTP's public attitude survey and partner engagement.

The updates to the plan included an updated narrative on anti-social behaviour and the inclusion of a performance measure regarding use of powers to protect people in crisis.

The Committee endorsed the annual light touch refresh of the Scotland Division Policing Plan.

### Providing Value for Money (Best Value) for Scotland

The Committee were provided with an annual update on the value delivered in Scotland. This focussed particularly on the evidence the Committee has reviewed over the last calendar year in understanding the efficiency and effectiveness of BTP's operations in Scotland.

BTPA's Head of Strategy, Planning and Engagement introduced the report, noting that two Best Value areas merited further attention over the next 12 months. These were (i) sustainability and (ii) equality and diversity.

Members welcomed the report and encouraged the BTPA Executive to liaise with SPA Corporate colleagues regarding the Corporate Parenting emphasis in Scotland with regards to equality and diversity.



### Industry Voice

The Committee were provided with a written update on matters arising following engagement that has taken place with industry partners from Scotland in the last quarter.

Members noted the promising start to engagement with industry stakeholders, including the potential addition of an item regarding a Transport Focus survey on passenger understanding of rail reform at a future meeting.

A planned presentation from rail industry was due to take place at the meeting, however due to ongoing rail strikes this has been deferred to the March 2023 meeting of the SRPC.

### Audit and Inspection Report Q2 2022/23

BTP is currently tracking 78 open recommendations from force-wide audits and inspections – this is a reduction of 20 since the last reporting. Two of these recommendations are specific to Scotland and are from the HMICFRS Victim Service Assessment Inspection.

These recommendations are: (i) BTP (Scotland) doesn't currently have full and ready access to the interim vulnerable person's database held by Police Scotland – BTP is now able to get data held in the database from the provision of contacts at Police Scotland. This action is pending closure; (ii) Reports of crime in BTP Scotland must be recorded in accordance with the SCRS and Scottish legislation.

### Evaluation Framework

The Committee noted the refreshed Evaluation Framework and the ambition for revised KPIs to continue to drive the effectiveness of the Committee.