

POLICY STATEMENT ON POLICING FOOTBALL EVENTS

1.1 POLICY STATEMENT

1.1.1 The British Transport Police Football Policy provides for a policing service, which delivers a safe railway environment that is free from disruption and the fear of crime. The associated Standard Operating Procedures set out the aims and objectives that will be adopted to achieve this vision.

1.2 OVERVIEW

1.2.1 Although British Transport Police input into a particular match is often relatively small, the cumulative effect of policing a small part of every football match played means that our input is greater than most other forces.

1.2.2 The Force recognises the advantages of consistency of tactical planning and decisions in respect of the many aspects of policing football. Given the unique circumstances of each Area Command, an effective, clear corporate policy will support a proportionate, fair, firm and legal response.

1.2.3 The aims of these standard operating procedures are to:

- Establish and maintain a procedural framework to provide a consistent and professional approach for the policing of football matches.
- To ensure the Force maintains an effective operational capability to police football matches affecting the UK Railway Network with the minimum of risk of harm to



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members of the public, railway staff and police officers.

- To provide direction to senior officers and line managers/supervisors in respect of the policing of football matches and ensure they are aware of the responsibilities placed upon them.
- To provide police officers and staff with the necessary information about their roles and responsibilities and the procedures they need to adopt when policing football matches.

1.2.4 This policy applies to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland unless otherwise stated.

1.2.5 This policy applies to all police officers and police staff, including Special Constables and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

1.2.6 This policy replaces all previous football policies:

[D55034](#) Football Trains - Control of alcohol

[D55035](#) Football Trains - Exclusion orders/escorts

[D56934](#) Categorisation of Football Fans

[D55420](#) Operation Orders

1.3 APPLICABLE DATE, MONITORING AND REVIEW

1.3.1 This policy is applicable from August 2006.

1.3.2 This policy will be reviewed on August 2009.

1.4 OWNERSHIP

1.4.1 The lead Chief Officer in respect of the policy and standard operating procedures in respect of policing of football events is the Assistant Chief Constable (Operations). The maintenance of the Force Policy is delegated to Chief Superintendent (Operations), who also carries a specific responsibility of holding strategic meetings with industry representatives, at appropriate intervals, normally between football seasons in a review and forward planning function and mid season again for review and updating purposes. (See mutual aid section, paragraph 1.5 in the Standard Operating Procedures, with regard to additional FHQ Operations support responsibilities).

1.4.2 Area Commanders will be responsible for compliance with the policy including command structures (see Section 1 of the Standard Operating Procedures), intelligence structures (see Section 2 of the Standard Operating Procedures), operational orders and finance management (see Section 3 of the Standard Operating Procedures) and liaison with train operating companies.

1.5 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1.5.1 Policing Football Events Standard Operating Procedures.