



**BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE**

**PACT PANEL
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM
PACT Meeting Minutes**



Author	Linda Chandler
Date	25/02/2011
Location	Meeting room at York Police Station

1. Present

Police Inspector Tracy Metcalf	British Transport Police	(TM)
Linda Chandler	British Transport Police	(LC)
Steve O'Doherty	Transpennine Express	(SO)
Michael Mitchell	Crosscountry	(MM)
Eddie Monaghan	Grand Central	(EM)

2. Apologies

Steve Sorby	Railway Chaplain
Sgt Jo Christon	British Transport Police

Inspector Tracy Metcalf opened the meeting and introduced herself. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters reported arising from the previous minutes.

4. Previous Actions

There was one action from the previous meeting. *“PS Reynolds and Annette Cunney from TPE to facilitate a press release in relation to the partnership work being carried out to tackle ASB onboard the weekend York to Middlesbrough trains”*

This was raised as a result of the PSP being closed however, a new PSP was soon opened and therefore this action has not been carried out yet as the PSP is ongoing. This action is to be reviewed at the next meeting as it may be required at a future stage.

5. Update of Problem Solving Plans

OUTSTANDING PROBLEM SOLVING PLANS		
PSP NAME	OPEN / CLOSED	OWNER
Doncaster Anti Social Behaviour	CLOSED PRIOR TO MEETING	PCSO Snaith
Graffiti at York Station (Cinder Lane Area)	MEETING AGREED TO CLOSE	PCSO HARDCASTLE
Transpennine Middlesbrough / York weekend services. ASB	ONGOING	Sgt Nigel Ashworth
Disorder at Newcastle in Station Portico	CLOSED PRIOR TO MEETING	
ASB on Newcastle to Leeds services on Saturdays	CLOSED PRIOR TO MEETING	
Trespass between tracks at Durham Station	CLOSED PRIOR TO MEETING	
Cycle Thefts at Doncaster	MEETING AGREED TO CLOSE	
Cycling on platforms at Retford Station	MEETING AGREED TO CLOSE	

DONCASTER ASB (update by TM)

The PSP was evaluated by the BTP Intelligence Analysts. The report found that the number of reported ASB incidents in the area had risen during the period the PSP and Dispersal Order were running. This appeared to be bad news initially until further research showed that the increase was the result of more Officers being deployed at the location encouraging the public to report incidents. It did not reflect an increase in the problems at the station. The Station Staff confirmed that they felt the PSP had

been successful in reducing ASB in the area and making people feel safer. The PSP has now been CLOSED.

GRAFFITI ALONG CINDER LANE PATH, YORK. (update by TM)

There has only been one further incident since New Year and the wall is due to be repainted soon. The PSP has therefore been closed. If problems begin again as the weather improves the PSP can be re-opened.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON TP SERVICES BETWEEN MIDDLESBROUGH AND YORK. (update by TM)

This PSP was closed down since the last meeting following initial success but has since been reopened after further incidents. Meetings have been held to discuss taking the PSP further. Staff at TPE and BTP Officers will now be monitoring earlier trains coming into York to see if potential problem passengers can be identified earlier. On Train announcements are being made warning that people can be refused travel if they intend to travel under the influence of alcohol.

SO stated that Transpennine are considering if additional services are worth deploying and raised concerns that informing customers they would not be able to consume alcohol on the train only made them down it quickly on the station and get on the train in a bad mood. The barrier on the bridge system otherwise worked well with TP and BTP Officers working together.

The meeting then discussed if it was better to allow alcohol on the train or ban it but no conclusion could be reached, there are arguments both for and against.

SO requested that Officers clarify to on train staff exactly when the doors should be opened at the station. In a recent incident the member of staff was told not to open doors until she saw officers on the platform which she did but Officers then said she should have waited until they had been through the train to assist in the identification of trouble makers.

TM stated that Officers would normally prefer the doors to remain closed until they have boarded and had a look through so communication between staff on train and BTP at the station needs to be improved. TM confirmed that while most incidents have been ASB there have also been some actual violent offences as well.

The ASB problem appears to be spreading to the earlier train as well.

Action TM to email minutes of PSP meeting to SO.

Action to LC. Find out if York has a no alcohol zone in the town centre.

DISORDER AT NEWCASTLE STATION PORTICO

As there have been no further incidents since Christmas this PSP has been closed.

ASB PROBLEMS ON NEWCASTLE LEEDS STAURDAY SERVICES

Officers travelled on trains and undertook some enforcement activities. The PSP has already been closed.

DURHAM TRESPASS BETWEEN PLATFORMS

Posters are all over the station. Officers have attended and no incidents reported since Christmas. This PSP has already been closed.

THEFT OF CYCLES FROM RACK AT DONCASTER

The CCTV coverage has been improved and free cycle tags were handed out to raise awareness in the public. Offence levels have dropped heavily so this PSP has now been closed.

RETFORD STATION CYCLING ON THE PLATFORMS

Staff report this problem has now gone so the PSP has already been closed.

6. Any Other issues

TM stated that the Revenue Enforcement Officers were not going to be employed by East Coast for much longer.

There were no new priorities identified by the recent PACT meetings.

TM explained that the difference between the PACT meetings and the PACT PANEL meeting was that the PACT meetings were for frontline staff to identify issues at a local level and the PACT Panel was intended for management to oversee the whole area and put those issues in a wider context.

The monthly Train Operating Company meeting with BTP at Area HQ in Leeds will begin to generate PSPs as well as those generated through the usual PACT process.

Operation Connection is a project BTP has instigated to ensure that Officers have had verbal, individual contact with all members of front line staff in the TOCs. The contact is intended to give BTP a better picture of the concerns staff have over their personal safety at work and to reassure them that BTP takes staff assaults very seriously.

The project has been piloted with East Coast staff and has been well received. It is to be rolled out to TPE soon and staff will need to be briefed to expect it. The contact takes the form of a BTP Officer going through a short questionnaire with one member of staff at a time.

SO stated that TPE have regular Safety briefings and this could be a good way of introducing staff to Op Connection.

TM then asked if anyone had any further issue they wished to raise.

MM from Cross Country requested that there be better communication between police and train staff when people have been kicked out of the town centre and sent to the Railway Station to go home. SO from TPE agreed that this was an issue.

EM from Grand Central had no issues to raise but would request information from depot staff to see if they had issues to raise at future meetings.

SO from TPE stated that PS Reynolds had offered to keep the TOCs informed if there were any significant arrests made in order to show TOC staff that action is being taken.

TM stated that PC Steve Wareing already does a bulletin of this nature so perhaps this could be fed into the PACT meetings. A separate Middlesbrough bulletin may be possible.

Action TM to look at what is in the existing bulletin to see if it suitable.

LC stated that copper prices were at their highest ever and as a result cable theft was also at a high peak and that widespread disruption should be expected as a result. LC also requested that anyone who came across a good example of a staff assault that could be used in training exercises to help staff deal with similar situations in future should contact her so that the information could be fed into the Staff Safeguarding Group as best practice.

TM thanked all for attendance and closed the meeting.

7. Action Summary

- *Action. TM to email minutes of Middlesbrough to York Train PSP meeting to SO.*
- *Action to LC. Find out if York has a no alcohol zone in the town centre.*
- *Action TM to look at what is in the existing arrests bulletin produced by Steve Wareing to see if it suitable for use by the PACT Panel.*