



Subway Policing and Security – British Transport Police Contract Renewal

Date of meeting 20 September 2019

Date of report 29 August 2019

Report by Director of Subway

1. Object of report

To recommend approval of a contract with British Transport Police (BTP) for the provision of policing services on the Subway.

2. Background

- 2.1 SPT currently has an Enhanced Police Services Agreement (EPSA) with BTP for policing the Subway as part of our overall policing and security strategy for SPT assets. The current EPSA contract commenced in May 2017 for a two year 6 month period and is due to expire on 31 October 2019.
- 2.2 A key focus of our policing and security strategy for the Subway relates to the busiest periods, such as Friday and Saturday evenings and when football or other major public events take place and the presence of BTP officers, supported by SPT's security team and stewards, provides an effective model for ensuring public safety. Notwithstanding that all criminal activity is unacceptable, this strategy has resulted in level of reported crime on the Subway with an average of 59 reported crimes per year over the last 2 years (approx. 13.2 million passenger journeys are made per year). National figures released earlier this month from BTP recorded some 68,313 crimes in 2018/19 across all Britain's mainline railway, London Underground, and tram systems across the UK. This is up from 60,867 in 2017/18.

3. Outline of proposals

3.1 Review of existing arrangements

3.1.1 Whilst acknowledging the continued low level of crime, Subway senior management undertook a review of the current contract, the demand profile (in relation to when crime occurs), and feedback from frontline staff. The review then allowed a detailed discussion with BTP to seek an improvement to the service and negotiate a cost that provides value for money to SPT.

3.1.2 The key improvements relate to increased policing hours on weekend evenings and a dedicated resource deployment at all domestic and European football matches at Ibrox Stadium and during other major public events.

3.1.3 To ensure that the scope of service remains operationally suitable, a review will take place annually on the anniversary of the award of contract.

3.2 Scope of service

The proposed scope of service is summarised as follows:

- Dedicated patrol offices 8 hours Friday and Saturday evenings;
- Dedicated deployment of 1 Sergeant and 6 Constables for all domestic and European football matches at Ibrox stadium;
- Enhanced cover for major public events;
- Call-outs including outwith normal contracted provision;
- Crime reduction advice;
- Crime investigation and intelligence functions;
- Enhanced anti-terrorism patrols where required;
- Mobile patrol visits to Broomloan Depot;
- Post incident investigation including forensic examinations where required;
- Conflict resolution training to SPT staff and Security Guards; and
- Campaigns to combat fraud/graffiti.

3.3 Proposed cost

Following detailed negotiations and incorporating the increased deployment during weekend evenings and dedicated deployment for football matches at Ibrox stadium, the proposed contract value is up to £145,378 per annum (subject to annual variation in line with BTP pay award). This cost includes significantly improved services more suited to SPTs demand profile and therefore is deemed to represent value for money.

3.4 Contract length

The proposed contract duration is 3 years, with an option to extend for a further 2 years.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The current Police Service Agreement with BTP for a dedicated policing service for SPT Subway expires 31 October 2019. There is an on-going requirement for such services within the Subway and negotiations with BTP to renew this contract has concluded with a service more aligned to SPT Subways operational requirements with greater focus on Subway policing demand profile based on our experienced crime statistics on the Subway.

4.2 The proposed cost of the contract is up to £145,378 per annum (subject to annual variation in line with BTP pay award).

5. Partnership action

The Partnership is recommended to approve the renewal of the contract with British Transport Police for the next three years with the option to extend for a further two years at a cost of up to £145,378 per annum (subject to annual variation in line with BTP pay award).

6. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In line with RTS outcome of Safety and Security.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>Contract requires to be concluded.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>The costs have been included within Subway revenue budget for policing and security services.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>Providing dedicated BTP Officer time promotes passenger and staff safety.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>Sufficient and focused security, and therefore Policing is a priority, and the changes in this report seek to enhance this further.</i>

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