

Public Order & Public Safety Policing

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Supt. Owen West, Insp. Richard Cawkwell; Chief Insp. Derek Hughes and Supt. Dave Lunn, West Yorkshire Police.



POPS has significant financial, extraction, reputational and social 'costs'

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Cost of policing Leeds United revealed



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Police struggle to absorb costs of matchdays



published: 09:22 Saturday 03 January 2015

West Yorkshire Police faced gigantic costs of nearly £250,000 when policing Leeds United games at Elland last season, new data has revealed.

obtained via a Freedom of Information request the taxpayer was hit with a burden of £6.30 for policing home Leeds United matches as a course of the 2013/14 campaign.

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£67 per fan: Taxpayers face huge bill for policing Leeds United games



Leeds United's Millwall, 2010. Police escort the Millwall fans into the ground. Picture: By Simon Hulme

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Police mistakes laid bare over Hull-Huddersfield crowd crackdown

spiked Forget Corbynomics

ARTICLE

October 2013

Footie fans, let's burst this authoritarian 'bubble'

Why is there so little liberal satire over the bullying of fans by police when it comes to football? And why not Corbynomics?

I was around last Saturday that the Twitter rants started to appear on my timeline. Less than an Millwall fan had vented on the way home at Leeds. A long and loud rant against a sign at a proper football club. The one come by Millwall, "In the all you take away?" we all heard the correct name when it came to a small number of police, and the Millwall policy revealing investigation was passed with a charge of discretion on Twitter.

revealed.

The force has apologised to fans and promised to review its policy on policing football matches and major events after being heavily criticised for its approach to the possibility of crowd trouble at the game between Id Town and Hull in March.

0 comments
HAVE YOUR SAY

We are not criminals we are free fans

October 2013

shire Police became "fixed in the eye of the storm" making a number of mistakes in its football match which saw draconian travel imposed on Hull City fans, a new report has revealed.

0 comments
HAVE YOUR SAY

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Police control the EDL at The Barrow Top Inn, Halifax.

Policing of EDL demonstrations cost West Yorkshire Police £3 million



CALL FOR GREATER POWERS TO BE ABLE TO CONSIDER BANNING PROTESTS IN THE COUNTY (29 JUL 2015)

The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Burns-Williamson has repeated his call for greater powers to be able to consider banning protests in the county.

The renewed call comes after figures show that more than £750,000 was spent by West Yorkshire Police policing just one EDL demonstration.

Money can be given back by the Home Office to help cover the costs of such events but on this occasion the application was rejected.

Mark Burns-Williamson, said:

"West Yorkshire Police is facing an unprecedented time of governments cuts and by 2016/17 the police's budget will have reduced by 30% with more cuts to come.

MailOnline

Leeds United fans are worst offenders for trouble on the railways according to British Transport Police table of incidents

- Leeds fans were involved in more trouble on railways than other teams
- Manchester United were top of disturbances table for the Premier League

Fans involved in 1,027 incidents across the last two football seasons

By OLIVER TOOD FOR MAILONLINE
PUBLISHED: 14:00, 23 March 2015 | UPDATED: 17:22, 29 March 2015

1.4k

Fans of Leeds United have been involved in more trouble on the nation's railways than any other club in Britain, according to new information released by the British Transport Police.

Supporters of the Championship club were involved in 27 incidents dealt with by police on trains over the last two seasons, almost twice as many as any other team.

Manchester United supporters were blamed for more disturbances than any other Barclays Premier League club, with a total of 1,027 incidents involving football fans on trains across the country during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 seasons.



British Transport Police say there have been 1,027 incidents involving football fans on trains in two years

Reducing risk?

- West Yorkshire over the three football seasons from 2011 to 2014 a total of **18,326 police officers** were deployed to football related public order operations.
- What can be done to reduce level of demand on police resources and lower the risk of negative outcomes?
- Can an evidence based knowledge exchange framework be utilized?

Context

- Adapting to Protest: HRA (1998) and science related reforms.
 - Core to strategy for policing protest.
- Significant academic expertise available at University of Leeds.
 - Knowledge co-production and exchange.
- PLT unit developed by WYP in late 2013 in context of EDL Bradford.
 - Increased numbers of PLTs recently trained & available but not routinely deployed in football.
- Opportunities for WYP to become world leading.
 - Capability to shape new policy and training that could then flow into new training provisions linked to Carr Gate / N8 PRP .

Co-production

- Does the PLT approach apply to football?
 - What are the barriers and opportunities?
- Involved actions.
 - Training events, questionnaires, field based observations, debriefs and a national PLT conference in partnership with the College of Policing.
- Observations
 - Included Supt Owen West and Inspector Richard Cawkwell.
 - In total data drawn from 10 fixtures at Leeds, Bradford & Huddersfield of which 4 had PLT deployments.

Some general findings

WYP approach to football is of a high standard but could be developed in a number of areas:

- Strategy does not reflect APP: stark contrast to protest.
- Approach to planning is resilient but led to 'over' and 'under' resourcing of fixtures:
 - 6 PSU's (150 officers) to police 200 away fans v 4 PSUs to police 4000.
- Weaknesses in intelligence & capacity for dialogue.
- Overwhelming focus on the policing of 'away' fans
 - where it was 'home' fans that were representing greatest and ongoing risk.
- Police Liaison does have clear operational benefits for conflict & resource reduction, which are limited by various 'internal' issues.

Benefits & Barriers

- In football PLTs played an important role in terms of:
 - adding depth and quality to ‘risk’ assessment improving command decision making;
 - enhancing police capacity for dialogue, communication and ‘self-regulation’
 - avoidance of ‘disorder’ and police coercion.
- Problems were identified in terms of:
 - force strategy, resistance to change, lack of structural investment / inclusion and inappropriate deployment of the resource.

Describing the positives

PLTs described how they:

- Provided improved dialogue and communication.
- Enhanced cooperation from influential figures in crowds.
- Improved quality of information / intelligence.
- Increased situational awareness among command team and impacted positively on proportionality
- Empowered police legitimacy and capacity to prevent disorder.

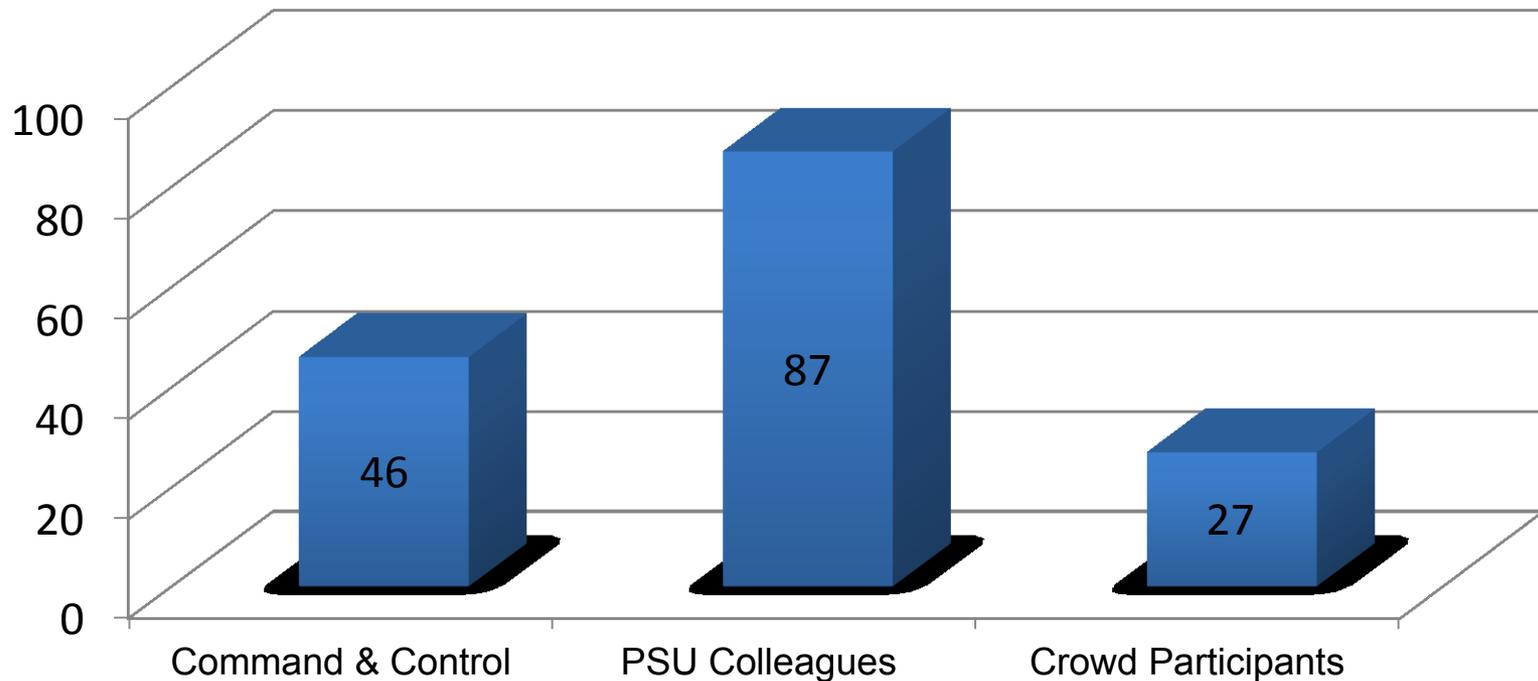
Describing the negatives

PLTs described how there was:

- Poor overall management by some commanders.
 - “Commanders not clear of PLT role / expected to gather intel rather than be a sponge for information / over use of PLT when op no longer required PLT intervention.”
- Competency for the role among some PLTs
- Hostility from many PSU colleagues
 - *“Poor attitude of colleagues toward PLT / lack of knowledge among wider PSU officers of value of PLT role”.*

Managing change?

Negatives %



Implications

1. Initial findings indicate importance of enhancing liaison capability and opportunity for developing such capacity in football.
2. Requirement to address force strategy, training and resourcing.
3. Any change that is introduced needs to be properly managed to create internal legitimacy.



Implications – PEEL

1. Conflict Reduction Strategy – may reduce resource over time – Efficiency
2. Differentiation – allows precision guided interventions - Effectiveness
3. ESIM - tactical options before coercion or force - Legitimacy



Success of PLT / Policing Football

- PLT now embedded in WYP protest policing as the primary tactic
- Relatively small numbers of officers achieving significant outcomes
- Achieved through energy, commitment and ownership
- “Bolting” PLT onto match day policing is not the answer.



Event Police ?

- Capability gap exposed at football with some police officers
- Scope to explore concept of 'Event Police'
 - Officers identified and trained to a level whereby they are impacting on the behaviour and conduct of supporters / risk groups
 - Engaging and problem solving but agility to step up into more robust tactics should the need arise



