

Turning around the Trinidad & Tobago Police Service

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Purpose of Presentation

- Enlighten “The Chamber” on the TTPS approach to the effective delivery of policing services to the people of Trinidad & Tobago
- Engage in meaningful dialogue on matters of common interest

Background on TTPS

- Police Service
 - 6255 sworn to serve population of 1.3 million
 - 9 Divisions, 77 station districts
- Traditional British constabulary form of policing
 - Enforcement-focused, station-oriented and reactive
- Crisis in public confidence in police
 - Increases in homicide rate since 1999 fuelling fear
 - Public image: corrupt, abusive, unresponsive, incompetent

What is effective policing?

- Delivering quality service to the people i.e. what they need, expect and demand
- It includes:
 - Reducing crime especially violent crime
 - Reducing the fear of crime
 - Establishing positive relations between the police and the people

Approach to effective policing

- Implement a service-oriented policing model (Policing for People)
- Implement a crime control model (COMPSTAT)
- Adopt an evidence-based policing approach
- Implement an ambitious policing plan

What is Policing for People?

- Service-oriented approach based on
 - Attentiveness – Presence of officers working to respond to public's needs
 - Responsiveness – Providing comfort and reassurance to citizens
 - Reliability – Expectation of predictability in service

What is Policing for People?

- Competence – Knowing how to get the job done
- Manners – Treating citizens with dignity and respect
- Fairness – Unbiased adherence to rules

What is Compstat?

- A crime control model built on four principles:
 - Timely and accurate intelligence
 - Effective strategies and tactics
 - Rapid deployment of resources
 - Rigorous follow up and assessment

What is Evidence-based Policing?

- Police practices based on scientific evidence
 - What works, what does not work and what is promising
 - Research is used to guide practice
 - Best evidence to guide best practice
 - Establishes a new paradigm of policing

What are the tenets of the ambitious policing plan?

- Aggressive acquisition of resources
- Restructuring of TTPS
- Great execution of strategy
- Enhancement of performance through ICT
- Engaging of the workforce
- Change of negative culture
- Set road map with key milestones

Visible changes to expect

- Increased presence of officers on the roads (mobile and on foot)
- New look police officers
- Inkless fingerprinting
- More courteous and friendly interactions
- GPS tracking of all patrol vehicles
- Reduction in violent crimes e.g. Murder

Visible changes to expect

- CCTV at all police stations
- Gyms at police locations
- Centralised police warehouse with inventory management system
- Offices mainly staffed by civilians
- Children's room at some police buildings
- Increased membership of youth clubs

Conclusion

- Delivering effective policing to communities is difficult to achieve but achievable
- Success depends on winning over our communities
- We need a new policing culture with customer service at its core

The Way Forward

- Treat people like people (quality service)
- Focus on community renewal
- Build a new generation of young people
- Crime prevention, proactivity and partnerships, the new imperatives

The Way Forward

- Pursue sustainability of change
- Set milestones and achieve them
- Engage all in delivering effective policing