



**STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD  
7 January 2014**

**Stop and Search Action Plan –  
Outcome of Consultation**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To present the outcome of the consultation on the Stop and Search Action Plan (considered at the Strategic Policing and Crime Board meeting on [5 November 2013](#), and reprinted at Appendix 1), and update on related developments:
  - a. Stop and Search training for police officers
  - b. Decision to end the Airwave stop and search recording pilot
  - c. Future recording practice
  - d. Use of Section 60 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994
  - e. Use of Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000
  - f. Home Office announcements relating to Stop and Search
  - g. Further issues and actions

**BACKGROUND**

2. The [Police and Crime Plan](#) includes a commitment to introduce new oversight mechanisms for stop and search. Stop and search is one of the most intrusive overt policing powers and is often controversial. The Police and Crime Plan therefore recognises that stop and search can be a source of tension between the police and public they serve.
3. The Police and Crime Commissioner hosted a [stop and search summit](#) on 20 September 2013, including speakers from a range of organisations and the chance for attendees to have their say about stop and search.
4. Building on the work already underway, the summit indicated agreement for a stop and search action plan that included objectives, deadlines and responsibilities. At its core were three linked issues: training (with community input), better recording

of stop and search and improved public accountability. It was agreed that the action plan would itself be subject to public consultation.

5. The consultation ran from 11 November 2013 to 20 December 2013.

## **CONSULTATION RESPONSE SUMMARY – West Midlands Office for Policing & Crime**

6. The consultation received 106 responses. 21 respondents reported having been stopped and search, and 85 have not. It is estimated that about a fifth of responses are from police officers and police staff. The number of responses is insufficient to achieve statistical significance. However, many responses are detailed and thoughtful, thereby offering important qualitative evidence. All responses, in anonymised format, are at appendix 2. In addition, there was a detailed response from campaigning group StopWatch (appendix 3). The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner also met with Rebekah Delsol from the Open Society Justice Initiative during consultation period. In general terms, most respondents were supportive of the action plan and the general approach to stop and search. Just over forty respondents expressed an interest in becoming involved with the Force's stop and search scrutiny panels.

### *Responses relating to training*

7. Respondents raised a wide range of issues, including:
  - a. Improved search techniques that make it more likely officers will find the items they suspect an individual is carrying
  - b. Politeness and courtesy
  - c. Cultural sensitivity, e.g. understanding issues associated with ethnicity and religious belief
  - d. Greater ability to give clear grounds and information about stop and search, and provision of clear information about stop and search powers
  - e. Body language training
  - f. Effective communication skills to defuse tense situations
  - g. Understanding the impact of stop and search on the perceptions of ethnic minority groups
  - h. Mental health awareness

### *Responses relating to publication of stop and search data*

8. 64 respondents were supportive of the proposals for the publication of stop and search data in a web-based geographic format, with many noting transparency and confidence gains. 27 respondents expressed opposition to the proposals, seeing them as a waste of effort and likely to lead to data being wilfully misinterpreted or misused. A small number expressed ambivalence, or said that they could not make an assessment until they understood better what is proposed.
9. The response from StopWatch highlights the potential for recording and reporting whether the object of a search is found, and recommends a widening of the reporting criteria to include "stop and account" data (which is not recorded) and stops made in accordance with road traffic legislation.

### *Responses relating to informing the public about stop and search*

10. Most respondents answered this question, and produced a range of answers including:
- a. Radio and television advertising
  - b. Other media activity, with some respondents noting that local officers explaining why the powers are used in particular geographies would probably be more effective than senior officers or politicians speaking more generally
  - c. Clear leaflets that could be issued both generally and during stops and searches
  - d. Greater use of internet and social media channels
  - e. Making stop and search a regular agenda item at local meetings
  - f. Ensuring officers explain more clearly why and how they are using stop and search powers during stops and searches

*Responses relating to body worn cameras*

11. Although the overall number of respondents is not statistically significant, the high levels of support for body worn cameras among respondents is notable. A clear majority expressed support for the introduction of body worn cameras, seeing them as a way to protect both the police and the public, offering greater clarity regarding events. A small number of respondents expressed concern at the operational, legal and human rights issues associated with their use. StopWatch offers their introduction a “cautious welcome”. The issues associated with the potential introduction of body worn cameras by West Midlands Police are the subject of an operational review and observation of experience in other areas, such as Staffordshire Police.

*Other issues raised by respondents*

12. StopWatch emphasise the importance of recognising and reporting against a range of powers that fall under a broader understanding of street encounters, such as “Stop and Account” and stops made under road traffic legislation. The importance of ensuring proper oversight of the use of strip search powers was also mentioned. StopWatch argues that Stop and Account recording should be reintroduced. Stop and Account recording ended following a decision by the Chief Constable on 1 January 2011. For reports to West Midlands Police Authority, see [here](#) and [here](#).
13. StopWatch highlight the use by West Midlands Police of powers under Section 60 of the Public Order and Criminal Justice Act 1994 and Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000. For more information, see below.
14. The StopWatch submission makes further recommendations relating to how public awareness of stop and search might be increased, and argues that responsibility for police complaints should pass to the office of the police and crime commissioner.

**STOP AND SEARCH TRAINING FOR POLICE OFFICERS – CSUPT BURGESS**

15. A bespoke one day stop and search training session is now being delivered to all front line police officers and their supervisors. This training is an essential part of the drive to improve the way in which this force uses stop and search powers. The training content was developed with the assistance of front line officers, colleagues from other forces, the

College of Policing and members of the public who are members of Stop and Search Scrutiny Panels throughout the force area.

16. The training is being delivered locally to officers across the force area by their own colleagues, who have been specially selected and trained to take on this responsibility. Every session is opened by a senior leader from the local policing unit.
17. The training sessions cover many crucial aspects to successful stop and search; including the legal powers under which a stop and search can take place, what constitutes reasonable grounds to search someone, the standards required around keeping records and particular emphasis is given to conduct and civility during a stop and search. Where possible influential members of the local community attend the training sessions and describe to officers the negative impact upon their community if stop and search is done in an ineffective or unlawful way.
18. It is expected that by the end of February every front line officer will have received their training. The feedback from those who have participated is very favourable with most officers commenting that it is a thought provoking piece that will ultimately help to raise their standards and positively change their mind set about the use of stop and search.

#### **DECISION TO END THE AIRWAVE STOP AND SEARCH RECORDING PILOT – CSUPT BURGESS**

19. As a potential alternative to a paper based system Airwave Radios were used to record stop and search during a lengthy trial period in Coventry and for a shorter period in Solihull and with staff in the Operations Department. Although the system offered some benefits, such as a reduction in the time taken to record a stop and search and improved accuracy, it was also found to have many unexpected frailties.
20. The system was compatible only with the latest edition Airwave Radio – there are many serviceable older editions still in service in this force. One of the perceived benefits was the provision of geo-coded data. Unfortunately the Airwave Radio system provided only around 60% accuracy in this respect. The way in which the system was set up made it very challenging for front line supervisors to retrospectively scrutinise the activity of their officers, particularly in respect of the recorded reasonable grounds to search.
21. Following an evaluation of the trial it was decided by the Gold Commander, ACC Cann, to return Coventry and Solihull Local Policing Units and the Operations Department to the paper based recording system. This change took place in December 2013.

#### **FUTURE RECORDING PRACTICE – CSUPT BURGESS**

22. Although the Airwave recording method failed to deliver against expectation it is still evident that West Midlands should have an automated recording system to replace the paper based system, which is prone to delay and error and is limited in terms of data retrieval. Having scanned the police community of England and Wales the most efficient system in operation was found in West Mercia and it is this system that this force is currently replicating.
23. The system is based on an interaction between the officer on the ground and a member of staff in the Contact Centre (control room). The details of the stop and search are recorded immediately in the Contact Centre and down loaded instantaneously into a data

base. This information can then be retrieved and used to scrutinise the effectiveness of stop and search activity internally and externally.

24. The development of the automated recording system has a project management team allocated to it and the SRO is Chief Superintendent Burgess. The user requirements have been agreed and work has begun. It is expected that the system will be ready for initial testing in January 2014 with a view to extended operational testing in February in readiness for a go live date of 1<sup>st</sup> April.

#### **USE OF SECTION 60 CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC ORDER ACT 1994**

25. In the past West Midlands Police used Section 60 frequently with the power often being used in high crime areas to combat acquisitive crime such as robbery. Following criticism from the Equality and Human Rights Commission over the force's use of the power, ACC Forsyth made the decision to drive down the volume of use. In October 2012 the authority level for pre-planned use of the power was elevated as a matter of force policy from Superintendent to Assistant Chief Constable. This measure has had a profound influence on the volume of authorities being granted.
26. During 2011/12 authorities were granted on 176 occasions. To date only 7 authorities have been granted during 2013/14 and 3 of these relate to extreme right wing protest in our cities and towns.

#### **SCHEDULE 7 TERRORISM ACT 2000 – ACC SECURITY**

27. The purpose of section of the report is to provide members of the Strategic Policing Crime Board with an overview of the Home Office recommendations for changes to Schedule 7 Terrorism Act 2000 and WMCTU response to these proposals and current operational best practice at Birmingham Airport.
28. This section aims to ensure that members have a brief summary of current activity and work streams in support of the recommendations, an indication of the timeframe for the changes and how WMCTU have engaged communities to build trust and confidence in the execution of this power and counter terrorism policing more generally at Birmingham Airport

#### **Airport Policing – West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit**

29. **Protect.** Ports policing sits under the Protect strand of the National Contest Strategy its aim is to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack in the UK or against our interests overseas and so reduce our vulnerability. Our priorities are informed by an annual National Risk Assessment, a version of which we publish, which assesses the threats we face and the vulnerabilities we have.
30. **Ports.** Birmingham International Airport is the second largest airport outside of London in England and Wales, and is the main airport within the WM CTU region, travelling to most destinations around the world.
31. The CTU Ports officers are responsible for gathering intelligence and evidence relating to terrorism, playing a key role in active investigations and building an intelligence picture on emerging threat issues. This is achieved through working closely in partnership with Local Policing, Aviation Authority, The UKBA, Security Services and other government departments in order to make our borders as safe as possible.

32. The department has a dedicated intelligence cell that processes and disseminates relevant intelligence gathered on passengers and freight, coming to and from the UK and beyond, to our partner agencies, LPU's and other forces.
33. The primary legislative tool used by CTU Port officers is Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000. This appoints police or UKBA as 'examination officers' with powers linked to terrorism to detain, examine and search any person at a port who is there for the purpose of entering or leaving the United Kingdom or travelling by air within Great Britain.
34. Following a National consultation exercise by the Home Office to consider a number of changes to this legislation, guidance has been issued by the OSCT along with a Draft Code of Practice covering the proposed changes. WMCTU fully engaged in this process and facilitated a consultation event in Birmingham and submitted a WMCTU response to the consultation. We are now considering the impact of these changes on our operational deployment and use of Schedule 7 at Birmingham Airport in conjunction with ACPO (TAM) National Coordinator Protect & Prepare (NCPP).
35. The recommendations that will now proceed forward for changes in legislation are outlined below together with WMCTU current position on implementation:-

- **That the maximum period of examination is reduced from 9 hours to 6 hours.**

This will require a change in legislation, the draft Codes of Practice recommend a period to 6 hours. This is currently subject to further challenge following the David Miranda case which is being reviewed by David Anderson QC. The findings of his review are expected in the coming weeks.

- **Where examinations last one hour or more the subject must be detained. The detention will be subject of a review which will be conducted by a reviewing officer at least one rank higher than the individual conducting the examination, accredited as a ports officer.**

WMCTU is working closely with the NCPP to consider a regional response to Supervisory reviews (out of hours) regional guidelines have been prepared for consideration by our regional colleagues. **BHX supervisors already review all examinations at the hour point** and will continue to operate this in accordance with the Draft Codes of Practice.

- **Ports officers using the power will undergo an accreditation process**

WMCTU are sighted on this and supportive of a national accreditation training program.

- **Reasonable time should be given for the individual to consult their solicitor privately by phone. Any delay to the examination whilst waiting for legal advice is permitted at the discretion of the examining officer. If the individual's solicitor is not available the person will be offered consultation with the duty solicitor instead. The exercise of associated Schedule 7 powers, i.e. searches or document checks, may be undertaken while waiting for a solicitor to arrive. If the examination is not delayed pending legal advice the examining officer should record the rationale behind this decision.**

**BHX officers are currently following the guidelines published following the Elostá legal judgement.** This relates to a legal judgement regarding examinees having the right to delay examination for legal advice. The judgement is being appealed and a decision is awaited. In the interim, guidance has been provided as suggested best practice which essentially means we should delay for a solicitor unless this would frustrate the examination. Following this legal judgment WMCTU has liaised with BHX to discuss any possible impact of taking increased numbers of solicitors airside. There is already a procedure in place and we are monitoring any possible increases to establish whether a review of our operating procedure is necessary at this stage. To date no change has been noted.

**Further information on the [Elostá case](#)**

On 10 November 2012 ABDELRAZAG ELOSTA arrived at Heathrow having been to Saudi Arabia on Hajj with an organised group. He was stopped by officers of the Metropolitan Police for examination using powers under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000. The Examining Officers began to examine Elostá who asked to speak to a solicitor before answering further questions.

At 4.30 pm an Examining Officer telephoned the Claimant's solicitor in Birmingham and informed her that Elostá had been stopped pursuant to Schedule 7 and that his examination was likely to last 30-40 minutes. He stated that the Claimant "had a right to consult a solicitor in private" but that the examination would not be delayed pending the solicitor's arrival. The Claimant was permitted to speak to his solicitor on the phone but within the presence of the officers.

The solicitor informed officers that she would arrange for a solicitor based in London to attend the airport. The officer repeated that they would not await the arrival of a lawyer before commencing questioning. The officer informed the solicitor that they would commence questioning at 5.30 pm and would arrest him if he refused to answer any question.

At 5.26 pm the solicitor called back and spoke to one of the Examining Officers. She again asked him to delay the questioning so that a London-based solicitor could attend. The officer again refused. He repeated that unless the Claimant started answering questions he would be arrested.

At 5.45 pm the officers began to question the Claimant. Shortly before 6.30 pm they concluded the examination of the Claimant and he was permitted to leave.

The Judgement at the High Court in November 2013 was:

A detainee under the Terrorism Act 2000 Sch.7 has the right to consult a solicitor before being interviewed, so Elostá's questioning after his request for a solicitor and prior to the solicitor's arrival was deemed unlawful.

*Current position:*

This judgement is being appealed and as an interim measure, taking this judgement into account, the National Ports Office have issued guidance which suggests officers

should delay any interview until the arrival of a solicitor unless this would frustrate the examination.

This gives the examining officer the power to go ahead with the interview without the solicitor being present if the officer believes that delaying the interview would aggravate the investigation. The decision to go ahead has to be recorded with the rationale for doing so. This is supported by current legislation under Sch.7 and would continue to be supported under the proposal detailed at 3.7 on the stop and search report.

Clearly if the Elostia appeal is unsuccessful this will affect this proposal and current guidance issued by the National Ports Office.

- **Audio recording - (Except at police stations) Examining officers should consider whether to audio record at a port where recording facilities are available at the port. Where audio recording of an interview does not take place, the examining officer should record the reason why this is the case. The examining officer will bear in mind the preference of the individual and availability of audio facilities. Consent to record will be obtained in writing in the notice of detention. The officer should explain that the recording is not evidential but will be used for reference in the case of a complaint.**

WMCTU have provided information to NCPP in support of a scoping exercise regarding provision of audio recording facilities at BHX.

- **The power to take intimate samples has been removed.**
- **The taking of non-intimate samples is for the sole purpose of determining whether the person is or has been involved in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism. Samples must be destroyed in line with Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 guidelines.**
- **Powers to strip search are still available.**

36. WMCTU are fully briefed on these recommendations and are fully engaged in the discussion pertaining to the destruction of samples under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 with WMP. The remainder of these recommendations have no impact on the current operating procedures at the Airport.
37. The draft Code of Practice will be subject to a public consultation process, this is likely to be during the Summer of 2014, following this the proposed changes will be laid before Parliament, which is likely to be in Autumn 2014 before going live in late 2014.
38. **Airport Engagement Team.** In response to the increasing sensitivities and responsibilities around this legislation, the department developed an Airport Engagement Team who have been instrumental in sharing information with community groups across the region around the use of Schedule 7 powers at the airport. They have completed over 40 separate events within local communities and regionally to raise awareness and deal with local grievances. Visits from the West Midlands Police PPC's office, Home office and the IPCC have been hosted by the team in order to raise awareness of what is done to tackle local concerns.
39. **Project Insight.** This is a study by WMCTU, in conjunction with Cambridge University, to measure the experience of those subject to unsubstantiated Schedule 7 stops and is the only quantifiable evidence based study into the affect



of the Schedule 7 legislation to date; all previous research has relied heavily upon anecdotal evidence as illustrated by David Anderson QC, the Government's Overseer of Counter Terrorism Legislation.

40. Those individuals who were stopped were randomly assigned to a formal checklist style intervention (Procedural Justice) or against a voucher and token (Experienced Utility) at the conclusion of the intervention to compensate them for their time.
41. Initial analysis suggests that the majority of those that were subject to Schedule 7 had a positive experience, particularly when the check list was applied.
42. Although the analysis is still ongoing the results have the potential to dispel a number of myths associated with Schedule 7 and its perception in communities. The findings will be formally published in 2014.

### **HOME OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS RELATING TO STOP AND SEARCH**

43. At the time of writing, there have been no further announcements from the Home Office relating to its earlier consultation on stop and search, and the public feedback remains under analysis.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

44. The consultation revealed general support for the Stop and Search action plan, though some concerns remain. From this then:
  - a. The revised approach to Stop and Search recording set out in the action plan is to form the basis of new, more detailed reporting practice, with web-based publication stops and searches to go ahead once the new recording practice is tested and working
  - b. The West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime will work with West Midlands Police to better understand use of road traffic stops and strip search powers, and explore the extent to which the revised recording methods can support a better understanding of wider police encounters with the public
  - c. An event for stop and search scrutiny panel members should be arranged for later in 2014
  - d. The West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime will support a publicity campaign relating to Stop and Search, looking to incorporate issues raised by consultation respondents such as StopWatch
  - e. West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime will maintain its close oversight of the use of Section 60 and Schedule 7 powers
  - f. Adaptation of the action plan may be necessary when the Home Office publishes its response to its earlier consultation

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

45. Costs associated with additional training for officers and the introduction of new recording practices will be met within existing budgets
46. ACPO TAM administers the CT Specific Grant on behalf of the Home Office contributing 90% of funding to the WM CTU. This funds specialist CT assets in England and Wales including Dedicated Security Posts (DSP) at Ports. It is also allocated to fund National Counter Terrorism IT infrastructure. It is therefore

considered that any training for accreditation of Ports Staff and or changes to enable access to solicitors will be covered by the CT Specific Grant.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

47. Legal services are represented on the stop and search project team, currently there are no legal implications have been identified.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

48. The Board is asked to note the report.

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Policy Manager

Assistant Chief Constable Marcus Beale

Chief Superintendent Rick Burgess

Appendix 1 – Stop and Search Action Plan

Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Additional information and progress updates
<p><b>Public Consultation:</b> This joint stop and search action plan will be subject to public consultation</p>	WMOPC	Deadline for responses Friday 20 December 2013	Report to Strategic Policing & Crime Board 7 January 2014
<p><b>Training:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory stop &amp; search training will be delivered to all front line police officers. The training package will be subject to consultation with representatives of Stop &amp; Search Scrutiny Panels.</li> <li>• All front line supervisors will receive additional training regarding their managerial and leadership responsibilities</li> </ul>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	<p>Completion January 2014</p> <p>Completion April 2014</p>	The front line training package has already been subjected to internal and public scrutiny and is nearing readiness to be delivered
<p><b>Current Technology:</b> A review of the Airwave radio terminal experiment for the recording stop &amp; search will take place</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Completion November 2013	Recording via Airwave terminals is currently in place in Coventry and Solihull Local Policing Units and within the Operations department. The pilot has shown that although the system has advantages it also has a number of limitations

<p><b>Future Technology:</b> An optimum automated recording system which removes the bureaucracy and inaccuracy associated with the current paper based recording system will be developed</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Anticipated completion April 2014	A project team has been established and scoping work, including the identification of operational requirements, is taking place
<p><b>Intelligence Led:</b> The force needs to achieve a position whereby the use of stop and search is intelligence led and is integrated into patrol plans</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Completion January 2014	A pilot site at Birmingham West and Central LPU is to begin in November 2013
<p><b>Management Information:</b> The distribution of accurate data that allows the force to scrutinise the activity and assess the effectiveness of individual officers, teams and entire policing units must be achieved. This data will also allow the force to provide communities with an accurate account of how effective and proportionate its use of stop and search is in any given locality</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Ongoing	The first LPU specific data sets that included arrest rates and race proportionality rates were produced and distributed to senior police leaders in October 2013
<p><b>Public Information:</b> Stop and search data is to be made available via an online geographic interface facilitated through the force and PCC's websites</p>	WMOPC & Chief Superintendent Burgess	Anticipated completion April 2014	This is interdependent with the role out of the new automated stop and search recording system
<p><b>Public Knowledge:</b> There will be a 'Know Your Rights'</p>	WMOPC	Anticipated completion April 2014	This is interdependent with the role out of the new

publicity campaign delivered through social media. The record of receipt to be issued following a stop and search under the new automated system will also include details of an individual's rights in respect of stop and search			automated stop and search recording system
<b>Public Scrutiny:</b> A review of the ten locally based stop and search scrutiny panels is to take place to achieve consistency and the sharing of best practice. The ten local panels will be invited to meet with the PCC bi-annually. Local scrutiny panels will be asked to consider inviting members of local authority crime and disorder overview and scrutiny committees to their meetings	Chief Superintendent Burgess & WMOPC	Report to Strategic Policing & Crime Board 7 January 2014	The review of the ten local scrutiny panels has commenced
<b>Section 60 Review:</b> A review of the force's use of Section 60 authorities to search under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 is to take place	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Report to Strategic Policing & Crime Board 7 January 2014	Force policy dictates that pre-planned Section 60 authorisations now require approval from an Assistant Chief Constable or above
<b>Schedule 7 Review:</b> Implications of proposed changes to Schedule 7 Stop and Search are to be reviewed in the context of current use of this power by West Midlands Police	Detective Superintendent Southern	Include in report to Strategic Policing & Crime Board 7 January 2014	The government recently announced changes to Schedule 7

<p><b>Academic Research:</b> A review of existing research around stop and search will take place with a view to consolidating knowledge</p>	WMOPC	Paper April 2014	Large volumes of research on this subject matter have taken place over many years and should be revisited
<p><b>Outside Agencies:</b> A review will take place to understand the impact of the use of stop and search in WMP's force area by other forces and policing agencies</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Ongoing	Agencies also conducting stop and search in WMP's force area include British Transport Police, Central Motorway Patrol Group and the National Crime Agency
<p><b>Peer Review:</b> West Midlands Police will invite other police forces to assess various aspects of our approach to improving of use of stop and search</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Ongoing	The training package has already been reviewed by Dorset Constabulary and Leicestershire Police
<p><b>Body worn cameras:</b> West Midlands Police is piloting the use of body worn cameras, their relevance to stop &amp; search will be explored during this pilot</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Ongoing	Body worn cameras are to be piloted on Birmingham South LPU and by the Safer Travel Team across the force area
<p><b>Home Office Consultation:</b> The Home Office have recently conducted a national consultation on stop and search. The force will respond to the recommendations that are made. It is not yet known when the recommendations will be published</p>	Chief Superintendent Burgess	Ongoing	Both the force and the PCC made submissions to the national consultation. The PCC's response included issues raised during the stop and search summit held in September.

## Appendix 2 – Stop and Search consultation results received via the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner website

Have you ever been Stop and Searched?	What do you think should be included in police officer training for Stop and Search?	What do you think about the plans for a website portal?	Would the information on the website increase your confidence?	What is the best way to make it easier for people to understand more about Stop and Search?	What do you think about the use of body-worn cameras by the police?	Do you have any other thoughts about Stop and Search you would like to share with us?
Yes	The training should teach the police to inform the people stopped the precise reason for stopping them including the grounds leading to this	The website portal is a great idea and should include details of the race and ethnicity of people stopped and the officers who stopped the person this will enable some analysis to be performed of which officers stop particular ethnic groups	If it portrays the correct information yes it would increase confidence as the data could highlight a pattern of abuse	People should be given details about the police stop and search powers and how to challenge abuse of these powers	I think this is a good idea but also to be used in the right circumstances	
Yes	More extensive search training. I was carrying a mobile phone which was in my pocket sat next to my groin. The offer did not even find it and only searched as far as my upper quads.	It will like all such opportunities attract the good and bad only. The majority of searches pass without incident and you will never hear of them. The portal will be a sounding board of complaint and abuse.	No Stop Searches have dropped dramatically due to a culture of aversion amongst officers this gives me less confidence in the police. I expect to see more searches not less.	Adverts during relevant programming and schools work.	their use in terms of evidence would always be dependent on the integrity of the officer wearing them...'oh my camera was off/battery died etc'	stop doing it!
Yes	Penalties for discriminative stop and search and stop and account Penalties for wrong ful use of stop and search	Local community should have an area where they can report issue around stop and search	If local groups had their own scrutiny panel to assess independently stop and search	Local people understand stop and search it is many of the police who do not use correctly that makes local be against stop and search	Excellent. They have already been piloted to good effect by the police and even by Local Authority Wardens schemes. It will also take the doubt out of any area of dispute and in severe cases provide the courts with visible evidence as well as increasing the amount of 'Guilty' please.	I'm not sure of the actual figures relating to the amount of searches but there can't ever be enough of this type of activity. It will assist in restoring confidence in the Police if the public can see the police in this role together with similar highly visible initiatives
Yes	how to access UK & Interpol data bases as well as DVLA to ascertain if any [other] reasons for apprehension needed.	ok	if maintained/updated regularly although prefer for such Police time to be better out on the beat	issue a leaflets / give out at scene	cameras can only capture the small scale picture of events but will allow some increase in accountability. I am interested in the results of the pilot.	

Yes	the understanding of how to approach people and to give the correct body language.	good idea so anyone can access the feedback.	yes.	to market the new system correctly so that all members of the public are aware of the new procedure so that when stopped they will not be so angry if everyone is treated the same.	There are many advantages and disadvantages to them depending on your viewpoint from their physical presence (carrying them/weight/harness etc) to the time to set them up and download footage and continuity of the footage. Fears that they could be used to penalise Officers.	no
Yes	the need for good body language and good approach to members of the public.	a good idea.	yes as everyone can see what is going on.	good marketing and awareness.	useful but can there be a way of tampering the evidence if not well ideal	Certain communities have been the focus of stop and search and the after effects on some can be negative especially if its been conducted more than once. The person then begins to feel they are a "victim" of stop and search
Yes	Not much albeit a polite explanation to the reason other than a simple one line reason.	Little concerned over data being released and mis-information taken from stats.	No.	Allow a free and frank conversation to ask the officer why they are undertaking the search.	no other employment would suggest being monitored 24/7 it would infringe basic human right but if its necessary ok a backward step for the police force who are under the spotlight enough	if the option to this is arrest and search a suspect then stop and search is more cost affective and less harrasment to the public
Yes	The stereotyping of young people ie those that wear hoodies. Search appropriately and with respect for Gender. Officers to introduce themselves and give reasons who what when where how and why this is not happening in the vast majority of cases. Explain how the search will be conducted. Searches to be conducted by officers working in pairs one male and one female. This will add a gender balance to a search situation.	This will provide up to date information and transparency. Provides accountability to users. Could increase confidence in police use of Stop and Search.	It could improve the perception of the Police service. Would make people feel safer. Actions speak louder than words.	School visits. Media campaigns. Leaflets. Local community meetings. Role plays. Press conference. Internet campaign facebook twitter etc. Smart phone app.	This does seem quite a good idea but at what point would a recording commence throughout a shift aside from logging off for breaks? What are the thoughts of the Poice Federation? Would the camera record to a central server or to a local recording media worn by the officer as this could be subject to damage or tampering? Would the camera be worn by all officers in a team or just one of a pair? How long would video be kept and by whom?	In respect of "The record of receipt to be issued following a stop and search under the new automated system will also include details of an individual's rights in respect of stop and search" Would it not be more appropriate to provide information to the individual who has been stopped about their rights before the search takes place rather than subsequent to it? Shutting the stable door springs to mind



Yes	<p>The ability to use their common sense to explain clearly why they are stopping and searching someone and to be polite. If they see a person who seems out of place in a local area or is acting suspiciously then these people should be stopped and searched. I was stopped in a street in Walsall when I was 19 because I was carrying two golf clubs (which I owned) and there had recently been a spate of golf club thefts from local park pitch and putts. This was explained to me and I was happy to comply with the request to look at the clubs. The officer thanked me for my co-operation</p>	<p>It depends what the information is being used for. I would expect more stop and searches in areas of high incidences of crime. My worry is that the police will feel obliged to even out the numbers just to be seen to be "even-handed"</p>	<p>Depends how representative it is of the actual need for stop nad search.</p>	<p>To publish how successful or otherwise it is in detecting criminals and preventing them committing crimes.</p>	<p>An excellent tool for the police but I am not sure what protection it affords the public from over-zealous policing. Is it viewed to ensure officers act appropriately in all situations?</p>	<p>Used correctly it has to be available to police if they are to counter weapons drugs etc.</p>
Yes	<p>Nothing. Police Officers are well trained the spotlight comes on to the police because offenders sections of the public jump on the band wagon through media reporting that the tactic is oppresive. When in fact it is a brilliant tool in our armoury and tool that we are becoming scared in using therefore making us less effective. We need to make sure that officers use the tactic more robustly as we do get excellent results but nobody reports those to show the public we do use it responsibly with great results.</p>	<p>Do we really need it we are getting obsssessive about everything must be on thw eb.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>It has been advertised to death if you ask most of the public they love us using stop search as it is very effective in solving or disrupting crime. It is the minority who complain and shout about stop search.</p>	<p>A good idea as they should enable evidence to be gathered to successfully prosecute offenders and also will act as a deterrent to any inappropriate police behaviour.</p>	<p>It can be an effective tool in preventing crime but only if it is targeted properly and fairly and carried out in the right way i.e. not too heavy-handed.</p>

Yes	How to do it properly	Beaurocracy gone mad	No	The people that get stopped and searched dont read about police powers. Those that read these kind of documents are the reason the country is in the state that is in stopping police officers searching people	Brilliant idea but devices/units must be compact/small with excellent play back imaging/sound as that is very important. Thye would let the courts see exactly what we face and the situation first hand - great idea long over due we should have been the first being the second largest Metropolitan Force.	We must make sure that officers capture the correct details at the timne of the stop search it is agreat intelligence gathering exercise as well as good engagement.
Yes	Nothing extra than what is already included.	Waste of time money and effort.	No	Read PACE themselves.	Good but ot would mean yet again more paper work equipment for officers to carry with them. Maybe camera's for hot spots or specific operations	
Yes	safety evidenced details and proper search books.	more waste of public money	I have confidence that police will do their job anyway	schools colleges general education Police need to be able to do their job without worrying about complaints or legislation	excellent idea long overdue.	as above media capmaign as to why police need to do it.
Yes	A standard system is used by all officers and police forces throughout the country.	need more information on how it will work before i comment.	need to know what and how much information is given.	i think the information that is out there at the moment is sufficient.	Its a good idea will help the police if an evidence needed to be taken in to court	As long as its carried out fairly and not targetting certain groups
Yes	for the officers to be trained to know what to say when they are stopping and searching a young person to be able to explain why they are being stopped amd search not just stop and search them for nothing and not answering that young persons questions	i think its sounds good but depends on what you mean as in the website portal what will be on there	yes it would increase my confidence and other young people and others cofidence if the right information is put on its says people from wondering all the time were on the website its there its gives people ideas what to be done and what needs to be done or if something when wrong in there area its covered instead of hearing rumours aswell	leaflets posters for young people maybe go into schools amd youth clubs or train the staff in youth clubs and schools to deliever that in formation on can hold a meeting or event on so people will come and will get idea of what stop and search is all about	I don't support this as camera's are an intrusion into the lives of everyone - officers and members of the public.	

Yes

Cultural awareness and how to be polite.

whats a web portal?

Not knowing what the information is it is difficult ot comment

? What sort of question is this? Depends on the person you are trying to get the message accross to! Do you want everyone to know children OAPS excluded black boys children in Grammar schools.....etc

Good idea.

Officers search people when they have reasonable grounds and not just for a laugh. The only people that have a problem with this are 'busybodies' and those that have things to hide. You can search me everyday and I wouldnt have a problem with it.

Yes	<p>As a Response Police Officer with xx years experience I feel able to comment from the Operational &amp; Tactical point of view. I disagree with using an Airwave Terminal to key information into directly whilst standing and facing a person who is the subject of a Stop Search. Taking my attention away from them and their actions is both unsafe and will also potentially enable a person to discard evidence whilst my attention is weakened. It may be possible to capture such actions on a body worn camera but only if facing the subject and if there were not multiple subjects. Under such circumstances controlling a number of people during a stop search must be down to increased manpower for the task in hand. This will also corroborate evidence should it be required. I am not being negative but I feel this use of technology within the Airwave system will only be evidential if a body cam can be worn by every officer. How hard is it to throw away drugs or other material evidence at night whilst an officers attention is consumed by pressing buttons? Or for the officer to be assaulted whilst his or her attention is not upon the Stop Search subject.</p>	<p>It is stated that a website portal will allow direct access to information concerning people stopped within an area and I understand and support the opportunity for Crime Mapping. It will give us the option for transparency and the ability for us to back up our stated figures for stop &amp; search in respect to ethnicity of people who are stopped with numbers. I would welcome this as an instrument to enable us to defend our figures.</p>	<p>I believe the information would increase public interest as Stop Search is an area of Policing where we as Police Officers are displaying our own suspicion. This being the subject of our reasons for the Stop Search in the first place and the cause of public derision when a Stop Search proves negative. It is then a method for the public to cry out that we display Politically Incorrect behavior. It would increase my confidence more if the subject of "How" we form suspicion is explained to the public. That it is a decision based upon observations and credible and documented information or direct intelligence. That it is also a decision based upon years of experience of how offenders behave during criminal activity. If we are going to be transparent why don't we explain how we make our decisions about who to stop in the first place?</p>	<p>On the Website or The Website Portal display a number of real examples of the information given out to Officers by a RAD during say an Area Search for an offender whilst changing the obvious personal details. Give out the information that an officer would initially receive on the street. Accurately. This will show that sometimes our initial information is incomplete and that officers must make educated guesses concerning who to stop. This will display our "human" element whilst having to "Get the job done" and is both truthful and transparent. How can this be criticised if it is the truth? We don't always have all the answers straight away and have to build a case. Stop Search is a valuable part of building our evidential case therefore we must explain how we use our powers but in a truthful and honest way. Lets admit our errors but if they are made for the best of reasons how can that be wrong. Lets offer our moral objectives as well as our legal responsibilities.</p>	<p>Good Idea For PCSO's also</p>	<p>Give PCSO's the power for some offences ie drugs. Also give them body worn Cameras</p>
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Yes

stop using black people as a source of revenue generating public by criminalize them for institutionally races corporate Institution business practice and using cannabis as a reason to stop & search for the G4s shares in privatize prison industrial contracts - (n f f p) in breach of con-tricks.

plans for a website portal? is in away of reporting unnecessary stop & search but will depend on quality of the content for credibility.

confidence? will only increase if the content that is been upload is administrated by independent authority to order a full report of the true facts of the complaint to be taken seriously and responsibly with a Duty of Care!.

the best way to make it easier is to know your Rights that stop & search is politically economical driven and no one has the right to stop and search you if you have not committed a crime that is policing by Suspicion of the Perception and it does not bring about Peace Officers - rom 13: 10 dna! The law.

I think this is a useful tool when members of the public are using camera phones it is only fair that we can protect ourselves and evidence our actions too.

No.

Yes

Whilst the negative implications of disproportionality for WMP in stop and search are clear. The reasons for it both academic and anecdotal are not. What may bring some clarity to police statistics and indeed to the local community would be being able to define where the grounds the officers used came from. As this may allay fears of prejudice or racism. I would suggest that in the majority of cases the grounds are 'supplied' to officers as a result of a call to the police. "The two males acting suspiciously in a car" or "the sus male at the rear of a house". Officers arriving in these circumstances through public info/ intel may well have grounds for search but if they do the ethnicity of the subject is not of their choice. I would suggest these grounds which are 'supplied' are different to officers being proactive and looking at an individual on the street and then deciding based on their perception of the activities whether they are going to search. In proactive examples ethnicity however inappropriate cannot be ruled out as part of forming the officers' grounds. It is this type of proactive search which the stats would have the public believe is taking place and that from the disproportionality exists because of an issue with the officers decision making process being at best disproportionate or at worst racist. Statistics showing whether the grounds were from info/intel supplied by the public or self-generated would enable police and public to better discern whether there is in fact disproportionality in stop and search and if so from who. Does it lie with the officers on the proactive stop or indeed from the local community themselves in supplying grounds in reporting suspicious incidents.

i give my full backing to this as it can give good overview to most situations.

I fully agree with stop and search and the disproportionate statistics are only argued by poeple with something to hide

Yes	Training on how to address members of the public ( particularly young BME men) when they have NOT committed a crime. Training in how to apologies for inconveniencing those stopped and searched.	Good idea as long as it is kept accurate	Perhaps in the system	Show it's not targeted towards ethnic minority groups. Feedback on the criminal detection rates of those stopped	Excellent idea-removes doubt in disputed cases and would bring clarity to disputes.	A useful weapon in the fight against crime if used correctly and targeted at the correct groups.
Yes	The fact that you have the option to remain anonymous. You do not need to give name or address unless you are to be charged.	Great	Weapons drugs etc seized	It is a vital tool to deter would be criminals.	Excellent. They have already been piloted to good effect by the police and even by Local Authority Wardens schemes. It will also take the doubt out of any area of dispute and in severe cases provide the courts with visible evidence as well as increasing the amount of 'Guilty' please.	I'm not sure of the actual figures relating to the amount of searches but there can't ever be enough of this type of activity. It will assist in restoring confidence in the Police if the public can see the police in this role together with similar highly visible initiatives
No	Understanding the best way to speak to people including understanding body language.	Always remember that not all people are au fait with new technology. It is a good idea for those who it would be interested.	personally yes because it would explain it fuller so everyone would have a better understanding many may feel it is better to know a little up to date information	try and explain in plain english why you do what you do dont make people feel as though they are a criminal just because you need to stop and search them because many stop and searches find nothing. If you make someone feel like a criminal then plain sense says they will often act the same out of bravado.	Excellent idea.	We need a quicker police response to calls to the police so they then could do a stop and search !
No	If the search is speculative do you think it is worth doing? Directed use of the power is very different. Yes "shades of grey" exist between the two.	Interesting but unsure that many will use it. Particularly since a nearby police has NEVER had a request for a stop & search record.	No. I generally welcome transparency as it CAN increase confidence it does not automatically follow. Secondly is general confidence sought or those who are stopped can check their stop & search?	Publish now the number of S&S breakdown (age ethnicity general location) persons arrested & charged and the absence of a reason / inadequate legal justification - which was found in the review (referred to at the summit). This could provide a benchmark to judge future performance by.	A very good idea - good evidence collection.	Judging by the consultation the black community are targeted disproportionately and this creates huge barriers. When stopped in a public space they should have the opportunity to go somewhere less public with an allie.
No	How to be inobtrusive with a suspect so it is not so overwhelming espacially for young black or Asian boys.	A good idea - encourages transparency.	Don't know - would give it a try	There is not a best way as I don't think it should exist	Think they are a good idea but the police shouldn't come to just rely on them as the only form of corroborative evidence.	

No	Powers and policy practical use of the power linked to scenarios that have or are likely to occur as well as relevance to the offence or "local crime issue	Good as long as it works and is easy to use.	Yes as long as open and transparent and not skewed to make police look better or worse than they are.	Communication of issues and problems police face in dealing with crime as stop and search isn't always used in an abusive way but with genuine intention to deal with crime.	Good idea	It happens in other countries and if it stops crime then why not.
No	They should be able to check bags you have with you	very good	i think it would yes	better communication via leaflets etc	Excellent idea providing senior officers have editing rights.	Would portable body scanners (metal detectors) be feasible for weapons rather than intimate human contact? Selling cannabis should be the lowest priority target - weapons the highest.
No	Clear information on what is and is not acceptable grounds for a search. Explain importance of recording search.	Ok to do must be overlaid with the crime maps so people can see the two are related.	Yes	Regular information provided to people: segments on local news adverts in papers and tv/radio. Push the website explaining rights	Not needed	I am sure the police only use these powers where necessary. People have to face the fact that if they look suspicious or behave in a way that the police deem to be so then they will be stopped and may be searched
No	The importance of being impartial and being driven by intelligence. The need to be able to justify each and every stop.	Whilst the data might be useful to journalists and politicians and campaign groups I feel it would be of little interest to the general public. To me it feels like a website for a website's sake along the lines of we're collecting all this data now what shall we do with it? Presumably the data would be available to those who were interested through your usual media team perhaps through a freedom of information request.	As a middle aged white man statistically I am unlikely to be "stopped and searched" so it is of little personal interest to me. I would not be using such a website so it has no bearing on my confidence. Although I'm somewhat unsure as to what the question refers - confidence in what? My knowledge that stop and search is being carried out fairly and rationally or that I'll be safer walking down the street? Yes it would for those who are concern of the safety & security of there loved ones	Regular appearances by PCs and Sargeants on local and ntaional news discussing the way stop and search is used and the nature of the crimes it uncovers along with conviction rates. It needs to be demonstrated that it is being conducted in a justifiable mannner that yields tangible results. I don't think having the Home Secretary or a Chief Constable on News Night or the Today Programme will persuade the people who need to be convinced of its usefulness.	Good idea.	Not at this time
No	There should be 2 officers to carry out the task & the coversation should be recorded for their safety and for evidential purposes			Adds in the news pappers tv chanel & face book tweeter ext.		



No	Body Language; communication; ethnic profiling and cultural awareness And not being stopped does not mean I am disenfranchised from comment	How would it assist the public in understanding who is stopped and why? They are unlikely to be able to assess the data in terms of for example the socio-economic effect which may skew the figures unless that is set out for them in words of one syllable; that would cost money. Seems like a waste of time unless it can list all the crimes stopped or cleared up by this technique.	No. More Police who are better trained and information about their training and how it is tailored to the local community and local crime would be more helpful.	Explain on the website the grounds and the reasons; have a PSCO hand out leaflets and or explain - as it is happening. It is the people who are watching who get unhappy and perhaps if they knew what was going on they might react better. Illustrate how it improves life for everybody and is a targeted and therefore cheaper and more effective way of Policing.	excellent idea. It will protect them of any accusations of breach being bought and it will also protect the individuals.	womens clothing and touching. How is the search going to be done? I am religious educated legal professional who wouldn't want to be touched. It is a difficult topic to comment on.
No	To aware of cultural sensitivity. I understand that Police Officers needs to search people but they need to give clear clarification why a person is being searched. They also need to be better at reading individuals different mannerisms as these are often misinterpreted.	Not sure what a website portal would achieve?	Information is knowledge but you would have to really publicise this in a manner that would make it accessible to all age groups.	That will be difficult especially in the black community where the number of people being searched has simply grown out of proportion. I think the only way it easier for people to understand is to remove the ridiculous reasons why people have been stopped and searched in the past. I have not been searched but I was stopped many years ago and it was implied to my friend that I must be a prostitute because he was white.	Excellent idea.	Would need to look more closely at all the information
No	I think they do a good job	Need more evidence of the work rather than using website	No	By leaflets via the door	depends on how reliable the technology is.	
No	The Law and communication training along side equality and diversity	All information channels are good -	I would most likely uses this as a reference tool	Just be open and honest - drugs and knife crime scare most people so open transparency is the key	Good Idea	No

No	It is important to carry out the procedures that have been carried out already. It is difficult to comment about this topic. Perhaps training to search individuals without causing any physical abuse. Training to look for drugs and items inside socks. This is common amongst teenagers.	its an good idea to have information clearly set about the rules, and regulations. The rights outlined of the individuals. The rights of the officers. If in event of breach by officer what should be done by the individual. The necessary contact details and actions in respect of the grievance. The grievance procedure. It is also important to state what can happen to individual if he refuses to be searched? the consequences of refusal as well as under what circumstances the officers feel they need to search and what are they looking for? should the officer state why they are searching and what has happened? Should they be specific about reasons for search?	yes certainly because it will tell individuals of their rights and obligations when being searched as well as powers of the police. It will be clear to individuals when the police are breaching the rules	see the above two boxes I filled with information.	Two-edged sword. One it starts ALL stages of the police experience will be expected to be recorded and publicly available. Some aspects of public interaction with the police should not be recorded - will the public be given a choice? Have any experiments taken place to test public reaction (I aware of the very limited US practice)?	The S&S summit had very few people who had actually had direct experience of S&S although a number of those angry about the police experience.
No	An overwhelming desire to be respectful fully explain to the individual how Stop & Search helps communities and how the process looks. Training on how to deal with individuals who become agitated and aggressive in relations to Stop & Search - how to empathise and not "talk down" to them.	I'm surprised there isn't a website portal already!	The information on the website should be predominantly aimed at those who feel Stop & Search is a bad thing	Target the demographics who don't understand the benefits of Stop and Search - this might be through Social Media local Community groups advertising	Intrusive. I am less likely to speak my mind if I know that I am being recorded.	I fear that it is another erosion of individual liberty. This may be necessary to safeguard wider freedoms but I have not heard the case made convincingly. 'Reds under the bed' or Islamists or whatever is not a good enough. The evidence that our liberties are threatened by terrorists or criminal is not strong enough.
No	How to be polite but firm and to take into account the individual.	This is an excellent idea.	Yes and as Neighbourhood Watch we could spread the word so that local confidence grows.	Public adverts on buses/radio adverts/TV	A good idea but think continuous recording is not a good idea. The ones I have seen worn on the heat of police which they turn on and everyone knows when it's recording look really good to use	

No	To be less aggressive and violent if an offender is swearing do not come down they level be more professional and calm. To hear what the person is saying use tactics that not causing harm Be race colour sensitive Counselling support	Not sure! how many people will use it or what group of people will bother to use it.	The information may increase my confidence but it does not mean it will for others	There need to be more communtie involvement Workshops need to be put in place for communities. May be it should be mandatory for one household member to attend workshops training to educate from all discriminating stigma.	Not a bad idea. It will help to protect the Police from some of the ridiculous false allegations they receive.	Stop and search is a vital tool for Police Officers and should NOT be removed or watered down. Police Officers are there to make the streets safer and I would be happy for them to stop and search me everyday if they felt it necessary. It seems to me that the only people wanting to limit Stop and Search powers are those who are up to no good.
No	familiarity with the are where they are required to work. E.g. maps to save them wasting time getting to where they need to be as post codes can be misleading for these officers.	this would have to be considered carefully	perhaps	tell them in local tasking meetings etc		
No	My main concern is the targeting of certain ethnic groups this needs to be addressed throught training. I also think to do this effectively that external organisations should have input into this. I also have concerns about treatment and targeting of young people it needs to be reinforced that young people have a right to be on the street in public places and that engaging with them is far more effective than a confrontational approach.	Good idea.	No - I think people are cynical about PR and expect information such as this to be "spun" to create a more favourable picture.	Education through schools youth and community groups.	Fine as long as the police are also aware that the person being stopped has the right to record also. It is a lie that you cannot record the police.	It must be done with tact.
No	Needs training on how to approach people and what to say to put them at ease	I would not use it but it may help some people to put crime levels in perspective.	No	Workplace visits or street stalls TV advertising preferably	More likely to provide evidence of the behaviour of offenders than misconduct on the part of police. Risks that miscreants will "play to the camera	The whole subject of stop search is a poisoned chalice - the police are damned if they do and damned if they don't.

No	General courteous approach Outline from the outset what the person is legally obliged to do..ie. they dont have to or have to comply?	good idea but needs to be in line with reasonable costs to set it up.	not sure about confidence but would be a good start and will send message to officers they cant abuse the power	i think the best way is to improve officer approach. if they approach people in the right manner then problem may reduce	it would be a good idea as it would give the police records of what actually happens so when disputes occur it can be referred back to.	stop & search info & results should be posted in the community so that the public can see what's happening and how effective it is.
No	Rude and disrespectful	I don't understand how would this benefit...	No	To stop it	I think body worn cameras is a good idea. 1. It will be a good deterrent 2. Less discrimination people actions will be recorded. 3. Safer for police officers and the person who has been stopped	Stop and Search needs to be fair if there is suspicion caution needs to be taken an not perceived to be discriminate. Regardless there is a need for Stop and Search But for the right reasons NOT just for government statics but for the safety of the public. The public need the Trust and Confidence of the police.
No	Law powers how to search thoroughly and effectively	I'm really not interested in the data. Stop and search is a vital tool for Police Officers and should NOT be removed or watered down. Police Officers are there to make the streets safer and I would be happy for them to stop and search me everyday if they felt it necessary. It seems to me that the only people wanting to limit Stop and Search powers are those who are up to no good.	I'm really not interested in the data. Stop and search is a vital tool for Police Officers and should NOT be removed or watered down. Police Officers are there to make the streets safer and I would be happy for them to stop and search me everyday if they felt it necessary. It seems to me that the only people wanting to limit Stop and Search powers are those who are up to no good.	I'm really not interested in the data. Stop and search is a vital tool for Police Officers and should NOT be removed or watered down. Police Officers are there to make the streets safer and I would be happy for them to stop and search me everyday if they felt it necessary. It seems to me that the only people wanting to limit Stop and Search powers are those who are up to no good.	It will offer protection and security for all parties it may be a deterrent to behave properly knowing they are being filmed police and people being stopped	Don't set racial targets or percentages if you train the officers right they they should only stop people who warrant it if that's 60 or 70% then so be it it should be about reducing crime and not about chasing key performance indicators!
No	I do not know what is currently included. Whatever the training however well officers are trained and/or approach the individual some will respond in an unhelpful and aggressive manner for a variety of reasons. To that extent training should focus on how to respond to such individuals	No strong opinion		That it is in the communities interest. However most people know that. However certain groups feel more vulnerable than others and therefore will inevitably feel 'picked upon'. Education of people from School age onwards should be required. Gain the support of formally recognised and informally recognised community leaders.	Very good idea	

No	Police should be able to stop and search anyone they are suspicious about without fear of being accused of rascism. The figures of who in society commits certain crime eg people trafficking drug dealing terrorism should provide clues of who they need to look out for.	ok	No I already have confidence in the police but then I have nothing to fear from them have only ever found them helpful.	I don't think anything is. Police stop you if they are suspicious that something is wrong.	Very good. It will make actions more transparent. Far more effective than monitoring stats.	Very important power.
No	Mental health awareness Vulnerable adults awareness.	Okay	No	Feedback from those who have experienced stop and search	Excellent idea	Just do it!
No	Awareness of people with Mental Health problems use of medication for health problems dementia and Alzheimer's training.	Sounds good but would not be suitable for the Majority of the Population	It would go a long way to allay my fears but not fully.	I think you need to meet the Public and explain face to face. Meetings in different Areas I think would be more useful than radio and television.	It can only be a good thing but police should not be able to use their own discretion as to when it is switched off it should be on from start to end of shift.	The number of black youths stopped and searched continues to be massively disproportionate in comparison to white youths. This has caused much friction over the years and nothing has changed.
No	To learn basic social graces such as politeness respect for the public he/she serves cultural awareness respect for ALL ages and genders. Basic simple inexpensive stuff sadly lacking in a number of officers who can be arrogant and disrespectful. I seriously doubt that this will happen because it is not seen as important by police service.	Depends what's on it.	It might do if it explains purpose intention process & outcomes of S	Explain it a straightforward honest polite respectful manner & show by actions it is non discriminatory.	This would assist in identifying any suspected abuse by officers and would assist in investigations	Stop and Search use legitimately would assist the police in their efforts to investigate crime however it also enables them to abuse this power

No	Politeness but to have an awareness of safety	Not a lot just a waste of more time and valuable money	No don't need to know it just need the reassurance that the police carry out stop and search procedures	Tell the person being stopped there is a leaflet in their local police station with the details in it.	Excellent idea protects us from police insensitivity disrespect & abuse of process protects them from false disrespectful allegations.	I'm not a BME or young person so have never been stopped & searched so I have no real idea how hurtful it can be if it is not handled respectfully by officers but I have been treated without provocation disrespectfully by police officers in other circumstances. Respect reasonableness sensitivity politeness will go a long way toward developing trust which is all important if S&S is to achieve its goal without alienating those the police are supposed to serve.
No	Checking for knives drugs stolen goods.	Mmmm unsure who does use crimestoppers ?	No not at all.	Forums newspapers local Councilors surgeries.	welcomed on balance	Is the argument being well presented to the public with differing views and outcomes?
No	Use it only if you suspect a crime has been committed or about to be.	fine no problem	make no difference.	if you have nothing to hide why should it bother you???	No problem; good idea	I am sure stop and search has resulted in many illegal activities being prevented. You can never please all of the people all of the time.
No	That the training is re-done on a regular basis to ensure new laws are taken into account	Excellent idea as it will keep people informed with up-to-date information.	Yes most definitely		could be useful tool issues about retention of data captured	keep it honest keep it clean
No	Their powers and making sure that they understand the law and can justify their actions.	If use of stop search is recorded accurately and police powers are used effectively and without prejudice against any group based on age gender or ethnicity then there should be no issue. That said media and politicians will always spin statistics to their own ends so publishing stats could be manipulated to the detriment of police.	Not necessarily	It is my understanding that criminals are well versed in their rights and what police can/cannot do. It is the law abiding majority who might have rate contact with police who need to understand their rights and police powers.	Excellent	More stop and search should be done .Maybe the use of the word search put's fear into suspects and antagonizes hot heads. What about Stop and Question (with the right to search).

No	Communication skills talking on the same level as the people they are searching leading to more engagement. Police officers often speak in a robotic fashion that sets a more officious tone	Great it's the future two way communication is a vital tool and will lead to more community engagement and commitment to communities	Although not so much a confidence booster sharing certain information could be a very positive step making people feel more included	Publish what the law states not all are inclined to search for the info or may not have access make it well known in more than one language	I think they are a great idea as the increase the accountability of police officers and can also be used as evidence in case the case of prosecution. This too goes for dashboard cameras in police vehicles.	No.
No	Equalities and diversity training and cultural awareness	Yes the initiative needs to be closely monitored	I think so	leaflets / info on the radio / posters / adverts	I think this only works if all Police wear them not just a few. Have yo be aware that if anyone is attacked could be used as a weapon against them.	This will only work if it is utilised correctly so as not to antagonise the Public. My thinking is if you have nothing to hide you have nothing to fear.
No	understand people emmotional intelligence	any way you can increase awareness is a great idea	not really relevant	twitter facebook and media	good idea as long as people know officer has it on it monitors police as well as people and could cut out alot of court proceedings as evidence of fact will be present	
No	Basically they should not assume that the colour of the skin affects the tendency to commit a crime.	Expensive and will end up bureaucratic . Best to have sample data from peer groups and look behind a sample of stop and searches. Auditing is best .	No it is likely to do the opposite. It may drive the police to rebalance their actions by either not doing them or do more with another ethnic group.	Explanation to the public through a range of media. The key is that it must be about protection and not hares segment of a racial group. Give examples of good searches.	I believe that they are a good idea.	No.
No	equalities and respect	is it really of any use	not really	communication transparency and clarity	Yes great idea. This give the police solid evidence. Its just the criminal justice system that needs to be more harder.	No
No	#NAME?	Good in principle. Would like to see it in action before making further comment.	Not necessarily but it would be good to see trends. And increased transparency is always welcome.	Public engagement through all channels e.g. TV radio press social media etc and face-to-face.	Fine- as long as the context of the film is understood fully and it's acknowledged that actions out of view of the camera may affect what happens.	No problem with it as my view is that it may be a necessary action at times to ensure the community is a safe place to live travel and work.

No	I cannot really make a comment as I am not aware of the procedure code of practice.		Possibly	Clear direct information	I think its a good thing for officers and the general public as the police can no longer use strong arm tactics as its on camera and any issues by the public to the police will lessen as the camera is in plain sight making people aware that all is been recorded its like big brother overall a good help for officers on the beat.	I think the new body warn cameras is a good tool for officers now especially for stop and search as all evidence is now instantly recorded working as a security supervisor i acknowledge any aid is a good aid.
No	The approach should be polite firm and as much as is possible non-confrontational.Explanation as to why stop /search should be given.	neutral about this.	Perhaps.	Keeping thepublic informed of how why when and where s&s has occured without giving enough local detail as to compromise operational matters.	sounds like a good idea for both the officers and the public	
No	I don't know what is already included in the current Stop and search (SAC) training to be able to say what should be included.	Excellent idea; providing the crime intelligence for that area underpins S&C - and not the other way round.	Yes	Publicity - good or bad.	Great as long as safe easy to use and again transparent.	
No	To treat people how you would wish to be treated plain and simple courtesy and good manners. My son is mixed race and has been stopped and searched many many times.	Interesting but you must ensure ethnicity data is included	No probably not but i'm open to change of opinion.	When stop and search figures result in high arrest figures	I think it is a good idea because it will protect both the member of the public and the police officer if everything is being recorded.	No.
No	So much - racial and other equality awareness mental health awareness come to mind.	broadly approved	not to any significant extent	Good local policing	great use of technology and can be used to capture evidence to not only protect the individual but alo the officer involved	I think the policy should be expanded so that Officers can undertake this form of intelligence gathering and not have to worry about the consequences-if you have nothing to hide you would not object would you?
No	don't know	good idea	yes	a information leaflet to every household	It's good as someone waving a camera over you can be intimidating	



No				To know why it is happening and to know it is not necessarily racially or gender lead	This would provide proof of evidence for contested / disputed searches. My friends and I have a legal right to film the search so should the Police. Some officers and members of the public may not want their searches filmed.	They are an essential tool in making our communities safe. The use of education training statistics and evidence will inform communities and make stop and search more understandable and accountable.
No	Good communication skills (which I think they already have mainly anyway) and to be reminded to remain aware of the driver's reactions that sometimes might have violent tendencies.	Very good. Raises awareness for the public increases communication and trust.	Most likely.	TV and billboard adverts.	good idea. Provides proof of accountability	no
No	A reason for stop and search of an individual Colour-blindness The guidance to police officers should be broadbrush. Details should be explored through case studies. The spirit of the law should be clear; the letter should be brief	A useful tool for monitoring the reasons for stop and search	Yes. It will be easier to hold the police to account for their actions	TV advert - expensive Meeting with TRAs Road shows in town centres with actors taking part	A good idea as it will give the true picture of what happens. It will protect both sides.	I think these should take place more often as it helps to prevent crime...especially knife crime.
No	I am confident that the Police are more qualified than the public to decide this	What would be gained by the public?. If the reference after search is entered into the system as a matter of course OK If the reference is easily made available from that entry then that is OK. IF there has to be extra time and effort used by Police staff to make this data available..then that time is money and both would be wasted.	If I was stopped and searched I would have given the Police reason to do so. The search would be recorded both in writing and video. If I was not satisfied the normal course of complaint should be sufficient. No information on a website would be of any benefit to anyone except a suspect. If a suspect requires any information I am sure that this is already available. Are we not getting too soft? Public confidence in the Police is gained by results not website portals.	If anyone who is stopped and searched it should be naturally understood that the Police had a reason to do so. Anyone objecting to this clearly has a reason. which is simply they are trying to hide something. If you have nothing to hide there should be no objection.	a great addition to all officers as a recording tool.	

No	I think they should explain why they are being stopped and also be advised of their rights in relation to a search. I think the Police need to be mindful of the impact of stop and search may have in certain communities and the overall impact. A lot of hard work went into rebuilding community relations in Handsworth following the riots in the 1980's. There is a need for effective accountability.	I think this is a good idea. The more transparent the information is the better. When people know whats going on and why they feel more confident. This is an excellent idea for communicating with the general public.	I think it would help to know whats going on and i think this may increase public confidence. When members of the public appreciate its about safety then I believe the majority of people will support it. The death of Christina Edkins in Birmingham earlier this year was an absolute tragedy and this type of power used correctly could potentially save lives.	Provide information in several languages making it known locally via Neighbourhoods. Explain to the public why its happening and always seek feedback and opinions in order to develop best practice.	excellent idea. fully support it.	whats wrong with it..if you have nothing to hide why are you bothered by it????
No	Officers should attempt to remain polite explain what they are doing and then simply follow procedures.	Younger people use the internet all of the time and may be more prone to stop and search so I am sure that they will appreciate the access.	I already trust the police.	Simply publicise the true figures of muggings stabbings petty crime and that by catching offenders with the "tools" or proceeds of crime will reduce the desire and number of offenders. Only those with something to hide or fear dislike stop and search.	Good idea better used on the streets to help with problems there than being used for TV programmes. Perhaps then we will see the return of officers walking on their own instead of in two's and three's.	Surely the idea of stop and search is to find weapons or illegal substances and if there is a reason to stop anyone then that should be sufficient to search them. But with regards to weapons the glory name of use of weapons should be replaced and such people should be labelled "Cowards" to take away their street cred.
No	Making clear why the person has been stopped and explaining their legal rights.	I think it is a good idea for research purposes and to compare data across wards and regions.	Yes.	Put information in community centres and libraries. Hold public Q and A meetings and roadshows so that people can ask questions and express their concerns. Hold talks in schools and youth spaces.	Have some concerns about this	

No	how to approach a stop & search person how to explain why the stop & search is being carried out how to speak to people to keep them calm	i'm not sure who the info on the portal would be useful to. how long would it tie up operatives time to input info and take resources from other important issues.	only if it proved that it worked and was getting wrongdoers off the streets	by advertising on national tv/media so people know what a stop & search entails	the use of body-worn cameras by the police? is an invasion of one's personal space and privacy rights not to be filmed unless specifically requested to do so by the complainant and a true recording of the event is to be made available to the person on demand to be recorded or deleted.	the thoughts about Stop and Search you would like to share with us? this is for the cannabis hemp industry. Bob Jones obsession with the 85 year old war on drugs and catching drug dealers is the same as his predecessors and as we come to know that prohibition is a bad methodology for peace we want fair-trade and not fear-trade Legalize it and come to the negotiation table so we can debate the term and condition of your Surrender at the upcoming royal commission on the drug war is over so if we are truly Efficacy about getting the cannabis hemp industry working positively again we are all born and come to know and die and IT WILL still be here because of what it is The tree of knowledge Gen 2: 9 Rev 22:2 catch 22. Times is up !! THE ACCOUNT - £360T what account? the time to Give an Accountability for the past!. Authorizes by the LCA & lambread.com { The hemp Industry}
No		?	possibly	Better explanation so people understand all about it in simple language not police speak	Good	

No	Officers approaching in a polite and non-confrontational manner and to state the reason they're conducting the stop and search.	A good idea- openness is a good thing.	Yes	TV adverts schools colleges Aduly Education Centres Esol classes Information in other languages	Another good way to make sure that everything is done correctly so there is no abuse of the stop and search and the person being questioned will not be up to trying to make allegations against police officers for improper procedure	That it becomes open and above board all paperwork filled in correctly and to make sure those that are stopped and searched are not using it as an excuse to make allegations against the police
No	Give reason for the action Advise use of camera if to be used Advise rights of individual Advise law under which action is being exercised Exercise due respect whilst searching If arrest not required apologise	The public should be able to see search numbers and arrests	That depends on what the data shows	Explain when it would be used	Good idea to monitor police and community actions. The police are more likly to act lawfully in accordance to police policy	Stop and search is appropriate when used justifiably. But it is a major concern for the community and the public review forum. Any in fairness created in system has a major knock on effect. For example disporpotanaility of stop and search correlates to disportinatly of higher rates of black entering the justice system and wrongful imprisonment and sentencing. One can argue there is no linkage but the first point of entering the justice system is through the police. So I'd the police are not being fair in many case then we have to look at all other areas of the justice system and build better practice across the whole justice system in the uk
No	The complexities involved in assessing people's risk of offending.	Good openness and accountability.	If it assures me about questioning instant judgements of people	Many years of suspicion caused by previous misuse of the powers will be extremely difficult to overcome. It will take sustained trustworthy behaviour by police and the kind of increased transparency these moves appear to be working towards to start to create understanding/trust.	Correct as it will benefit gaining accurate evidence.	

No	Anti discriminatory practice	It should also contain statistics on the ethnicity of those stopped and searched to provide transparency in an area that has been subject to question in the past with stop and search	In what?	Explain at the time and provide written information at the point of the stop. Stop asking witnesses to 'move on' Make sure that stops reflect the demographic of the area..... regardless of crime stats as clearly more surveillance results in more criminalisation amongst certain groups	Idiotic. Californian police attempted this method complaints dropped by 93% police and public contact dropped by 84%. The officers openly said that they avoided all contact due to the level of scrutiny.	It is an under utilised incredibly effective crime prevention tool. I appreciate it has been abused in the past mostly in the Metropolitan Area. It carries stigma and always will do. The authorities need to accept this fact deal with it and defend the 99.9% of officers correctly using the powers whilst dealing correctly with those who abuse it.
No	How to approach people with respect and dignity as they are not convicted criminals even if they are being suspected of a crime. Less judgemental approach Respect for culture and use of language when approaching people. Be clear about the reasons you have stopped someone and their legal rights before conducting the actual search.	Information for the public which is accessible would be helpful. Knowledge is indeed power people who are stopped and searched are often the more vulnerable in society and as research shows they are also from particular cultural groups and age groups and this can become a stereotype of who gets stopped and searched in the first place. Therefore being able to track incidents will be interesting.	It would help but a change in frontline police officers attitudes are the biggest way to increase my confidence	Any accessible information is helpful. Perhaps using tools such as text messaging or information items as part of school programmes college meetings which will be seen by young people would also help	I think this is a good idea as it not only protects those being stopped and searched but it also makes police officers accountable when a stop and search is being undertaken.	You have your work cut out.
No	The training should include the trainee being subject to a rude rough and unlawful S&S so they know what it feels like and the emotions it engenders.	Not in favour	No S&S is a personal experience	Schools educational programme	Good to have evidence of poor practice if necessary. May help the public feel more protected when approached.	I have not had personal experience as yet however family and friends have and I do wonder why police officers seem to approach a similar group of people and not notice others who are as likely to be committing a crime. Training with community group input is a good idea as frontline officers need to see things from a number of perspectives and not only their own.

No	The relevant legislation Powers and Policy and refreshing of the grounds required.	I think this is a good plan as it will make us more accountable to the public and will show a general over view of when where and who are being searched.	There may be a detrimental effect to the Police if the information was released and showed a certain area of the community were being stopped and searched and a certain race or gender. It may also damage confidence if certain officers are conducting searches all the time!!	For the officers to be informative and tell the person they are searching the grounds and why they are being searched. A lot of what we do does not get relayed to the person being dealt with and so better communication skills would help. Also a small leaflet or card explaining the powers and policies behind it to hand over to the person searched would be of use.	All PCSO's and PC's should wear them. It would protect them and the public alike and save millions in court costs investigation of complaints and time off in sickness	
No	the law and the correct procedure.	good idea	yes	keep it simple rather than over complicate it	I think the use of cameras would be really beneficial. It will show where officers are complying with the law and legislation and would be used should any offences be disclosed at the time along with the demeanour of the person being engaged.	
No	Simply what the powers are and that using them is down to the discretion of the officer themselves	It seems reasonable	A proper breakdown of figures including the demographics of a smaller area	No real way as most people simply don't care enough as they do not or will not be involved in incidents requiring a search	Seeing as we are times of austerity and cost cutting I would rather money was spent on more people on the street not less numbers with cameras.	
No	How to communicate with the general public without alienating them.	A portal website would be interesting and informative.	Yes it would prove that the police were doing their job in trying to protect the Public. It would also prove that stop and search applies to all people of the West Midlands both White and Ethnic minorities.	An advertising campaign explaining the basics of the search the public's rights and the advantages of the procedure.	Not sure its a good idea and the cost? surely it will lead to less stops and searches as officer just wont 'risk' getting accused of a minor infringement by either the police service or litigious law firms out to make a few pounds.	I would like a receipt of being stopped or searched like you used to do. worked well.

No	Information on how to deal with young people people who have additional needs and people with disability	Very good I think this maybe highlight some peoples misconceptions in relation to stop and search		Media! When you ask a young person if they have ever been stopped and searched by the Police they usually say "Yes" and have a very negative view on the Police and how Police powers are used. However when you dig a little deeper into their story it is usually the case that a friend of a friends friend got stopped and by word of mouth or rumour this has spread. This then spreads a very negative view for young people who then have these negative thoughts and opinions of the Police that in turn are very difficult to change. explain why police need it.		
No	How to do it the law courtesy.	excellent	why police do it explain why police need to stop/search people and this needs to be mphasised at the moment we have no information readily available explaining to the public why police do it.		Excellent idea and long overdue	If the subject continues to be so prominent then simply remove the powers for officers to search. This way officers won't be so concerned about a search even though the grounds existed and the public won't be concerned about being searched.
No	Nothing.	Bad idea unless you understand/know the whole picture of the stop and search then members of public will not neccessarilly understand the situation and will give more unjustified complaints. For example in areas of high ethnic minorities an officer would naturally stop and search more IC3s & IC4s due to the natural makeup of the community - and yet this isn't taken into account by the public. Also decent people who have no contact with the police wouldn't bother looking at the portal it would be used by people who just want to complain.	No	Nothing	Excellent idea it would protect everyone from false accusations. Both Police and Public.	
No	Already good	Bad Idea	No	Alraedy easy to understand	A good idea	No

No	Nothing.	I think its a waste of time a resources.	No. I know NO members of the public that would look at the website and it wouldnt change the people i stop and search in the future.	Explanations on website. They can ask us!	A good idea as it would show what our brave Police have to put up with everyday	Again it needs Police to be able to use it as free from procedure and red tape as they need to fight crime
No	Awareness of medical issues that may affect the way a search is conducted eg someone with facial deformity may use headwear to enable them to go out in public and it would be important they had opportunity to explain why they were uncomfortable removing the headwear.	Appropriate information would inform and lessen mistrust that arises easily if incorrect understandings of what the process involves are spread whereas the portal could reassure and explain what is actually happening.	Basic information that is easily understandable and up to date would decrease the uncertainty of not knowing what is going on.	Using short sentences choosing simpler vocabulary selecting key points for those who just want an outline with links to more complex more detailed information for those who can more easily access written information. Maybe the same information available in audio form for those who prefer not to read.	Good idea. Protects the Police and the public. Provides reassurance to all parties.	
No	police officer training is inclusive of the practice of stop and search the only criteria is if stop and search is needed to further enquiries then stop and search is necessary full stop	why do we need this alternative to good policing	confidence like respect is only gained by experience and anybody who carries out a stop and search should always do it in a matter which leaves the suspect feeling it was necessary to be carried out	stop and search is the first step for the officers to take in the process of arrest but is conducted with the suspect not being arrested but cautioned just like taking fingerprints d.n.a or a photograph which is the other option ?	I think this is a good idea and it would help the Police save many man hours when matters escalate. For example if a case were to proceed to Court for prosecution video footage can provide a much clearer picture of what actually happened rather than having to provide lengthy witness statements and cross examination which is time consuming and expensive. We have to find more effective ways of Policing as the population of the City expands. Procedures need to be simplified otherwise corners get cut due to the relentless pressure on officers.	I think a lot of consultation needs to be done in areas were there maybe a higher incidence of knife crime overall. Otherwise residents may feel they are being unfairly targeted by the Police and tension can increase and undo some of the excellent community work done. No one should be allowed to think its ok to walk the streets with weapons. These powers if used correctly could potentially mean there are a lot less people out there doing so. The Police and the public have a right to go about their business safely.



No	Inputs on exactly what constitutes adequate grounds and objects of the searches. Inputs into how not to turn a stop and search into a public order incident - diffusion rather than escalation Inputs into community support for stop and search (when used correctly) to ensure officers have the confidence to use it and not to be intimidated into not using the power legitimately and appropriately for fear of being called or perceived as racist.	Good idea if WMP really has the right levels of technological capacity and capability to make it work???	Yes but only really if the stop and searches are actually shown as taking place in areas of high crime	1. Officers conducting the searches need to calmly and clearly in appropriate tones engage in conversations when conducting stop and searches to explain the powers and reasons for it. 2. Maybe a printed leaflet such as "Stop and search - know your rights" sort of thing that can be given out at the time.	i think its a good idea because at least you now what is going on and where because not every where has cameras where if police have on them its easier to track what going on in the places that dont have cameras	just to make sure the police do there job properly and to have a smile on there face and not to be misrable because if the police are not happy others sure wont be all i see in misrable police :(
No	How to be tough but fair	Why?	No	Tell them	A good idea. It protects both the public and the Officers	No
No	Correct understanding of what an 'ethnic group' is as opposed to a 'religious group'.	A good idea but like all places of information the figures and statistics can be interpreted in different ways and manipulated to each and everyones own agenda.	No	Media coverage of Officers doing their job so that the populus understand how and why we stop people.	no problem	If WMP has known for years that there is a disproportionate focus on ethnic minorities why is this still the case? My children are mixed heritage and I am concerned how they are viewed by police officers.
No	Mindful on how the search is conducted Having a valid / legal reason for conducting a search An awareness of people with Drug / mental health issues	That is a good idea keeps the community involved	yes definitely because its in black and white and can be referred to	awareness education info on social media sites for young people community involvement on the policies and processes; better training for officers on the search on people and the possible effects it may have on the person been searched. How the search is conducted and where! also witnesses to the search in action would be useful even though cameras are to be utilised they can be tampered with	It will underpin the stop search procedure and perhaps dissuade some people from discarding evidence but it is not 100% sure to capture everything. However the public will know that any behaviour displayed by them or Officers will be admissable in respect to future proceedings. It can only enhance transparency.	I believe that without Stop Search we could not profess to being a Pro Active Service. We cannot always please everyone and some people will always resent being stopped. If however we display on the Website Portal how many crimes in a particular area are solved by the direct use of stop and search we may turn that corner.

No	Legal rights refreshing of use of tact etc.	Excellent	I like the overlaying of local crime stats. I would like to know if the stop and search was instigated by the officer or whether it was part of an authorised mass search	Wide publicity through force and neighbourhood teams as well as use of social media and connections with third sector organisations	If this is a helpful tool to assist the officers and provide confidence to the general public then this is a positive move.	I think more should be completed - stop and search works - too much controversy - state facts plain and simple - those who are not criminal will have no problems with this
No	Politeness throughout the interview and an explanation why the person has been stopped.	Good idea-hopefully it would improve transparency.	Yes-because of the transparency.	Inform them at an early stage of why they were chosen for Stop and Search.		
No	good reason for stop and search	good	hopfully	explain why you have stopped and search someone	Brilliant. Their footage could act as evidence for the police in an awkward situation and could also act as a teaching tool for ongoing future training.	
No	As stated that Officers are trained and therefore will be able to carry out this job effectively.	I think this is a good idea and will give people an insight to what Officers are doing.	Yes	Publicity. People must be aware that it is essential for this to happen and not just "harassment". Although if you have nothing to hide etc..	This is a great idea	The majority of demographics will not be worried (or affected) by Stop and Search - focus on helping those demographics who *are* worried or affected should be a priority
No	Search of near area at that same time over hedges walls etc I have seen people throw drugs weapons away when Police officers have been near suspects.	Good	Yes	Advertising billboards in streets it would look more useful than the usual half makes women.	Good thing- help reduce time in courts as video will show what happened	only people up to no good have anything to fear from stop and search .
No	Unsure on this without a little more thought.	I think the portal could be a good idea its just about how many people will use it. Would twitter be a better idea?	Not too sure if I knew there were stop & searches by me finding more weapons/drugs it may make me a bit more warey but then stop & search should also be cutting down on this	Leaflets delivered to houses explaining what it is. A lot of older people in the community don't have access to computers/email. Although the government would have you believe everyone is connected	Good idea. Always good to be able to provide hard evidence when two parties' perceptions of the same even are likely to be different.	My perception is that more people from black and ethnic minorities than white people are being stopped and searched. If true is this because they are more likely to have been involved in crime? If not true perhaps more white people should be being stopped and searched and this made known through channels like the website portal.

No	A police officer should be able to stop and search anyone that they feel is suspicious.	Good	Yes definitely	Talks from the police to school colleges youth centres. This is the generation going forward for the future. Talks should also take place with the probation service too	excellent idea then everyone one is covered from the Police to the suspect. Hopefully it will reduce the instances of people kicking off.	Stop and search may discourage people from carrying knives/guns/offensive weapons/drugs.
No	Good manners with firmness together with a clear explanation explanation of why the search is being conducted..	As long as the information is readily available to interested parties and it is transparent then yes a good idea.	Yes.	Publicity in the simplest of terms possibly on the police website and related sites. I think the vast majority of law abiding people would be supportive anyway and of course the results of initiatives across the area.	I think that it is an excellent addition and should be worn at all times when a police officer is on the street thus eliminating any error in the 'what happened/what was said' scenario	Not at this moment in time
No	Good manners with firmness together with a clear explanation explanation of why the search is being conducted..	As long as the information is readily available to interested parties and it is transparent then yes a good idea.	Yes.	Publicity in the simplest of terms possibly on the police website and related sites. I think the vast majority of law abiding people would be supportive anyway and of course the results of initiatives across the area.	Good idea.	It is necessary but must be done with some sensitivity.
No	Sensitivity training as a Stop and Search to passers by can look as though the person being searched has definitively done something wrong however this may not be the case. This could lead to prejudice against the person who was searched by the community.	I think that is a good idea as it would give the public an insight into why and where Stop and Searches take place helping them to understand their area and what is being done to try and combat any issues that see in their local area.	I believe so it would show me the pro-active approach that West Midlands Police are taking with regards to crime.	Social networking is paramount; it gives people both young and old access to information that they may not otherwise access. I also believe that it is important for the information not sound condescending using proper terminology but explaining it well is the key!	necessary evil of modern age.	Since many cars in my [Birmingham UK city] area have no correct number plates/foreign or missing - suggest even more reason UK & Interpol data bases as well as DVLA to ascertain if any [other] reasons for apprehension needed. Many criminals coming from Albania/Abroad as they see UK as soft target with undetering prison system- they aren't afraid to break UK laws



**StopWatch submission to the West Midlands Office of Police & Crime Commissioner and West Midlands Police joint action plan on Stop and Search**

**20 December 2013**

1. StopWatch welcomes the West Midlands' Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and police force's joint action plan of activities on stop and search, further to the summit on this issue on 20th September 2013.
2. Stop and search has potentially damaging effects on individuals, communities and wider society. The powers can only be justified if there is evidence that they contribute significantly to the public good and if there is no less intrusive or coercive means to achieve the same end. The evidence of effectiveness, insofar as it exists, is unconvincing and there has been an insufficient effort dedicated to the development of a less costly and less invasive alternative.
3. Members of the public, and particularly those who are stopped and/or searched do not distinguish between the different legal powers and so it is crucial that all police initiated contacts are considered and actions taken to improve its regulation and practice. For this reason, StopWatch is concerned that the joint action plan did not consider stop and accounts or traffic stops. The omission of these encounters undermines the effectiveness of the plan due to the 'spill over' effects which can occur as efforts are made to improve one set of powers but not others. This can result in people on the ground continuing to experience problems and not feeling that any positive changes in police policy has occurred. Therefore, we have made further recommendations for these points and others not covered by the joint action plan which can be found in the last section of this submission.

**Communities involvement in the joint action plan**

4. The report highlighted three major strands of work: improved training of police officers (with community input), better recording of stop and searches, and improved accountability. Whilst the report had a strong emphasis on all three, there was not much detail on how community groups could feed into the program of action.

5. It is unclear how diverse and well attended the scrutiny groups set up to be consulted on this plan are or even if the wider community knows of their existence. These groups should be independent from the police, provide opportunities for meaningful feedback and ensure that scope is provided for independent experts to deliver scrutiny group members with training in stop and search law, context and understanding statistical data. A key emphasis should also be dedicated to improving the quality of the encounter between officers and people stopped and searched.
6. Young people are noticeably absent from the joint action plan. They are the disproportionate focus of police powers and genuine forms of consultation should be developed to encourage young people to not only report their experiences but to also get more directly involved in defining and implementing the action plan.
7. StopWatch welcomes a review of how external agencies use stop and search within the West Midlands police force area, including the British Transport Police. We hope that a series of recommendations can emerge from this which would address the detachment that officers from national agencies often have on local issues and see a shift towards more community oriented behaviour. Stops and searches conducted by these agencies should be made public and fed back to local scrutiny groups.

### **Know your rights**

8. The OPCC intends to lead a 'know your rights' publicity campaign through the use of social media. The contents of any rights information should be developed with the relevant- and independent- local groups such as BRAP to ensure that the material is tailored to communities and easy to understand and access. Often, rights literature published by the police and national policing bodies provide only a limited understanding of a person's rights and this is usually in relation to the rights of the police officer to conduct the search rather than the rights of the individual during the encounter.
9. Instead, a more holistic approach should be taken through wider engagement with civic and community groups; this should be developed with special recognition that young people need different types of information which is independent, easy to access and tailored to their needs.
10. The 'Street Law' initiative developed by Release and StopWatch is one approach which could provide a useful model to adopt. The project is designed to ensure that young people are given the tools to interact with the police in as safe a manner as possible by equipping them with the skills and knowledge to handle situations where they are stopped and searched with the aim of avoiding an escalation of the incident, an arrest or injury. It is, essentially, a harm reduction approach to the policing of young people and the training is developed by a steering group of young people, legal professionals, academics and NGOs.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> More information on Street Law can be found at: <http://www.release.org.uk/stop-and-search-project-young-people>

11. It must be recognised that the decision to stop and search a young person can have a significant and detrimental affect on them, especially in relation to those who are repeatedly stopped and searched, and goes to the very heart of issues of child protection and welfare. It is, quite frankly, shocking that there are no safeguards in place to protect children in situations where they are stopped and searched. Indeed, up to a quarter of all stops and searches are conducted on children between 10 and 17 years of age.<sup>2</sup> A concerted effort should be undertaken to introduce rigorous safeguards to protect young people during stop and search encounters on the street.

## Intelligence and technology

12. StopWatch welcomes the intention in the action plan to use stop and search in a much more intelligence-led manner accompanied by greater public scrutiny of those powers through the publishing of data on the OPCC website. As strongly recommended by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) recent Inspection of the use of stop and search in England and Wales, we would also stress the need for West Midlands police officers to record whether the object of the search was discovered or not.<sup>3</sup> This would help the OPCC, senior officers and communities to make a more informed decision as to whether the use of stop and search in any given location is being used effectively or not. This system should collect a wide range of data so as to allow for systematic measures of effectiveness.

13. We cautiously welcome the trial of the use of body worn cameras which was highlighted by the HMIC Inspection as a case of good practice to addressing potential confrontations between police officers and citizens stopped and searched. The use of this technology must be subject to independent evaluation and, if found to be successful, regulated properly to ensure that the entire encounter is recorded right from the beginning and not some time into it in order to protect against any scope for misconduct to occur during the initial stages. Communities should be involved in the development of these pilots and be given space to raise concerns about privacy and other associated issues.

## Section 60 authorisations

14. The West Midlands police was one of a handful of police forces subject to a recent programme of action developed by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) out of concern of the ethnic disproportionality in its use of stop and search.<sup>4</sup> The West Midlands had one of the highest disproportionality rates of all English and Welsh police forces and the second highest rates of 'excess' stops after the Metropolitan Police Service. Notably, a subsequent report by the EHRC on the outcome of the programme of action showed

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2 StopWatch and Open Society Justice Initiative (2013) *Viewed With Suspicion: The Human Cost of Stop and Search in England and Wales*. New York: OSF.

3 HMIC. (2013) *Stop and Search Powers: Are the police using them effectively and fairly?*. London: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary.

4 EHRC (2010) *Stop and Think: a Critical Review of the Use of Stop and Search Powers in England and Wales*. London: Equality and Human Rights Commission.

disappointment that the rates of disproportionality had not changed during that period.<sup>5</sup> The OPCC and police force should dedicate considerable efforts towards eliminating the ethnic disproportionality in its use of section 60 and other stop and search powers.

15. StopWatch welcomes the police force's policy which dictates that pre-planned section 60 authorisations require the approval of an ACPO ranking police officer. This should continue to be the force's policy and any emergency authorisations be reviewed by an ACPO ranking officer as soon as possible and subject to a rigorous test including on whether or not it is necessary, proportionate and likely to achieve the aims of the operation.
16. The police force's policy on section 60 should also allow local scrutiny groups to review all authorisations with an ACPO ranking officer through a genuine form of consultation.

### **Schedule 7 to the Terrorism Act**

17. StopWatch welcomes the inclusion of Schedule 7 to the Terrorism Act 2000, the most unregulated stop power in the UK, within the joint program of action. However, the consultation document did not provide details of any changes to the use of Schedule 7. Birmingham is a major regional and international hub of air travel and so has a huge role to play in providing strong leadership for other ports to follow. Therefore, we welcome a more in-depth analysis of how the power is used and how it could be reformed to ensure greater proportionality and fairness in its use. For example, the lack of suspicion required for use and the fact that officers can take people's biometric samples- still without requiring any suspicion to believe that an individual is involved in terrorism- is of great concern to many people living in the West Midlands or those coming from outside the area to use its ports. StopWatch looks forward to seeing more detailed proposals on Schedule 7 and sets out a series of recommendations below.
18. StopWatch believes that Schedule 7 in its current form should be repealed, however, should the Government decide to retain it, we recommend the following:
  - 'Examinations' and 'detentions' under the power should only be conducted where there is reasonable suspicion that an individual is involved in terrorism. Reasonable suspicion should be based upon objective facts, information, and/or specific intelligence so as to minimise the risk of arbitrary or discriminatory application of this extensive power.
  - The legal maximum period of detention for Schedule 7 examination or detention should be reduced to one hour, at which point the person should either be released or arrested.

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5 EHRG (2013) *Stop and Think Again: Towards Race Equality in Police PACE Stop and Search*. London: Equality and Human Rights Commission.

- The power to take non-intimate biometric data (fingerprints and non-intimate sample) should be repealed. Biometric data of any type should only be taken after the person is arrested.
- The copying and retention of electronic data belonging to people stopped under Schedule 7 should only take place after arrest, and should be limited to purposes related to the exercise of that power.
- All interviews conducted during Schedule 7 examinations or detentions should be recorded.
- There should be no compulsion for a person stopped under schedule 7 to answer questions. Instead, if someone stopped is subsequently arrested, the current rules of drawing inference from silence should apply.
- Restrictions should be placed on the scope of questioning that can legitimately be undertaken under Schedule 7 to ensure that those stopped are not required to answer questions about their religious or political beliefs or involvement in legitimate political, social and community activities.
- Assistance should be provided to people who miss their flights or other transportation as a result of an examination or detention.
- Officer training in relation to Schedule 7 should be developed in consultation with a range of legal, academic and equality and community groups and also subject to independent and public evaluation.
- Code A of PACE, which governs other stop and search powers, should be extended to cover stop and searches conducted under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000. This would require that Schedule 7 stops be monitored under the same recording framework as all other stop and search powers and that data be shared with community and monitoring groups. This should include information on arrests, convictions and complaints.
- HMIC should be invited by the OPCC to inspect the use of Schedule 7 stops at ports in the West Midlands and the results made public.

19. Whilst Schedule 7 is a national power with codes of practices also set by national agencies, considerable autonomy and discretion is afforded to Counter Terrorism Units at ports. Therefore, there is no reason why its use within the West Midlands can not abide by the principles outlined in our recommendations above.

### **Further areas not covered in the action plan**

20. In addition to the above, a number of points from the summit was missing and we felt deserve greater attention.
21. This joint action plan only briefly covers the major issues facing communities within the West Midlands and has not been accompanied by a detailed program of action, including the need to address head-on the problems of



disproportionality and effectiveness. These two pillars should form part of a concrete policy with indicators to outline how practice is going to improve and then allow the police, OPCC and the public to measure this. Some of the best practice in the country includes that of the Metropolitan Police Service whose “*Stop It*” programme has led to measurable change in the police force area. This was achieved by setting indicators for which officers could be held to account for and these indicators are continuously adjusted based on scrutiny and periodic reviews.

22. The action plan completely missed out the issue of stop and accounts which we recommend being recorded- a pledge made by PCC Bob Jones during the election campaign. As already stated, people do not distinguish between the various legal powers of stop and search and a stop and account; reintroducing the requirement to record stop and accounts would go a long way towards better capturing the wide experiences of police-public interaction within the West Midlands. We would also wish to see other points on stop and account raised by StopWatch at the summit addressed. These include a change to the current West Midlands Police policy which states that stop and account should always be used in preference to stop and search, which we consider to be a ploy to avoid accountability mechanisms attached to stop and search. The policy should be changed to require that whenever the necessary reasonable suspicion exists statutory stop and search powers should be used. Also, as part of ‘know your rights’ initiative outlined in the action plan, police officers should be required to inform those stopped and accounted that they are not being detained and are not required to answer police questions.
23. Greater attention should be dedicated towards looking at alternatives to the use of stop and search powers and this a debate which StopWatch will seek to spark early next year when we publish the findings of a major research project looking into this issue.
24. Furthermore, records of stops and searches under the Road Traffic Act should also be introduced in light of the sheer scale of its use despite any proper accountability mechanisms and aggravation it causes road users.
25. We also recommend that the responsibility for police complaints should be taken out of the police force and transferred to the office of PCC. Whilst this would involve moving the entire process of complaints away from the police, it would also include grievances raised on stop and search and hopefully improve trust and confidence in the complaints system. In order to gain the trust and confidence of communities, there should be community involvement in the investigation and determination of complaints and for mechanisms such as informal mediation to be developed with local groups.

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### **About Us**

StopWatch is a coalition of legal experts, academics, citizens and civil liberties campaigners. We aim to address excess and disproportionate stop and search, promote best practice and ensure fair, effective policing for all.