

Stop and Search

25 September 2013

You may have seen media coverage over the weekend that followed the PCC's Stop and Search Summit. I therefore wanted to take this opportunity to set out my position as the force lead for stop and search.

Used effectively, stop and search is an essential power for preventing and detecting crime. Used ineffectively it can harm the good relationship we have with our communities.

It is my assessment that, although the force is continuing to improve how we use stop and search we can do better still. To this end I have commissioned the below actions:

- A one day training package for all frontline officers will be delivered later this year. Sergeants and inspectors will receive an additional input around their responsibility to supervise use of the power by their staff.
- The development of a new system for recording stop and search to replace the current paper forms. (Coventry and Solihull LPUs and Operations will continue to record their stop and search activity via Airwave radios for the time being.) Further details will follow.
- The circulation of data that allows LPUs to look at the activity of individuals, teams and entire policing units and which will provide our communities with an accurate account of how effective and proportionate our use of this power is.
- The intelligence-led integration of stop and search into our daily patrol plans.

Although stop and search is intrusive and at times controversial, it will always be a core element of our policing activity and it is therefore essential that officers never feel the need to retreat from it.

Provided strong leadership and good judgement are applied and people are treated with respect, our use of stop and search will continue to help protect our communities.

[Click here](#) to see the Stop and Search policy.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Cann

