Stop and Search Panel Meeting

20/10/20 - Homer Road Station at 6:00pm

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| Timings | Agenda | Actions |
| 18:00 | In attendance: | Anna Evans, Linda Fox, Natalia Cox, Yvonne Clements, Keith Hamilton (acting chair), Norman Kaphan, Theo Thompson, Adam Gibbs (WMP), Chris Billingham (WMP) |
| 18:00 | Apologies: | Jatinder Mathuru, Naomi Ridgeon |
| 18:00 | Welcome | Welcome to the new members of the panel, Linda Fox and Theo Thompson, attending their first meeting (completed confidentiality agreements passed to Adam). |
| 18:10 | Run through of who would like to go out with the Police to experience their world | There is an opportunity for members of the panel to spend time with the Police in Solihull, possibly as part of Operation Servator which ‘goes live’ in Solihull later this month. Adam will provide dates/ details. |
| 18:20 | Run through of requirements of a vice chair and next steps if we have more than 1 interested member | All other panels are structured with both a chair and a vice chair. Both Yvonne and Norman had previously expressed interest in taking on the role. Yvonne said that she was happy to withdraw her application for vice chair. There were no other nominations, and Norman was confirmed in the role on a show of hands from those present. |
| 18:30 | Any updates from Adam/Chris | Adam explained that body worn video compliance was a big thing for the SLT. Business Insights system is indicating 90% compliance currently, but Adams self-review suggests only 80% compliance, so room for improvement (possibly a training need?). Issues can arise matching the search record with the video footage where one officer raises the log and another officer is actually filming; a new field has been introduced when logging the search to link it to the video footage. Accepted that the present system has been developed piecemeal and there is a lack of systems integration; the new ‘Connect’ system being introduced at the start of 2021 should address/improve matters. Adam also explained that body worn footage is deleted automatically within 30 days, unless action is taken by the officer to save for longer as evidence/ or where a complaint against the search has been raised. |
| 18:50 | S&S/UoF/Covid related video footage | Natalie has asked if all panel members could complete an online survey based on the video that was shown today as an example of what a ‘good S&S’ looks like.  Details are below  <https://westmidlandspolicepnn.researchfeedback.net/s.asp?k=159905454804> |
| 19:45 | Updates:   * Prashant - Knife Bins * Natalie – funding for recruitment video * Tom - work with Police Comms to do a piece on the desire of young people to increase Stop and Searches | Carry forward to next meeting  Update on this piece once started  Carry forward to next meeting |
|  | General Feedback | Could we have overall body worn footage volumes? |
| 20:00 | Close |  |

Next meeting: 22nd December

**Stop and Search Use of Force Footage**

You or a vehicle that you are in can be stopped and searched if a police officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that you are carrying drugs, weapons, stolen property, or items that could be used to commit a crime.

The officer searching you must explain why you are being searched, what they are looking for, and what law you are being searched under.  They must tell you their name or ID (“collar”) number and the police station where they are based.  The police officer must offer you a receipt with details of the search.

The police officer will ask you to identify your ethnicity within pre-set categories.  This allows the public and the police to monitor whether stop and search powers are being used fairly, proportionately and effectively.

The police officer should treat you respectfully, professionally and with dignity throughout the search.

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| **Footage No:** | **1.Justified** | **2.Objective and reasonable suspicion** | **3.Respectful** | **4.Search was necessary/**  **proportionate** | **5.GOWISELY**  **adhered to** | **Notes** |
| 1 | Person stopped (Black man, black jacket) not a good match to the description (Asian man, beard, black jacket) | Yes | Yes (although we queried the male being searched by a female officer, and whether this was appropriate) | Yes (although the person stopped was handcuffed throughout the search, to safeguard himself and the officer) | Yes (although some concerns over grounds for the S&S) | Stop & Search conducted by WMP officer on Birmingham canal towpath  Video  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0mL7CsnHQIw> |
| 2 | Clear breach by the hotel of lock down restrictions (venue did not ask people for test and trace details and social distancing was not observed) | Yes (organiser had previously been spoken to by the police, made aware of his responsibilities) | Yes (a good outcome, people attending dispersed when requested, sensitively handled by the police (was a funeral gathering) | N/A | N/A | Covid related Stop and Search Castle Bromwich Hall Hotel |
| 3 | Skirmish in a car park, multiple people involved, one person struck with a glass, risk of rapid escalation | Yes (3 officers, 2 drew and raised batons, which were not used, no Taser available (officers present not trained in its use), offenders pushed back, police quickly controlled the situation) | N/A | N/A | N/A | Use of Force, record 4064 12/10/20 |
| 4 | Car parked up in country lane, smelled of weed | Yes (lads smoking weed) | Yes | Yes (search followed JOG – jacket, outer clothing, gloves) (Chris explained any further search e.g. of shoes, would have to be carried out at the station) | Yes (although some confusion as to conduct of the S&S, one officer assisted by 3 PCSOs who undertook a clumsy search of the vehicle and its contents) | S&S, record KP-117791, 2020/09/25 |
| 5 | Lad stopped in tasking area, couldn’t give an explanation why he was there, suspected of drug dealing | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes (although incorrect information was given regarding suspect’s right of access to search record, stated person had 3 months to collect from station ; this information can be accessed almost as soon as the S&S is completed) | S&S, record KP-117701, 2020/09/24 |

1. the search is justified, lawful and stands up to public scrutiny
2. the officer has genuine and objectively reasonable suspicion they will find a prohibited article or item for use in crime
3. the person understands why they have been searched and feels they have been treated with respect
4. the search was necessary and was the most proportionate method the police officer could use to establish whether the person has such an item
5. GOWISELY

G: Grounds for the search  
O: Object the officer is searching for  
W: Warrant, particularly if the officer is in plain clothes  
I: Identification, proof that the officer is indeed a police officer!  
S: Station to which the officer is attached to  
E: Entitlement, any citizen being searched by a police officer is entitled to copies of all paperwork  
L: Legislation, the legal power which gives the officer the right to stop and search  
Y: YOU are being detained for the search or for the purpose of…essentially informing the citizen in no uncertain terms the purpose and nature of the search