

Walsall NPU Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

Location: Bloxwich Police Station

Date and Time: 22nd March 2022 5pm-7pm

In Attendance:

Insp Liz Pearson (LP) – Walsall NPU
 Andy Ryan (AR) Engagement Officer WMP
 Rose Burley (RB) Panel Member
 Linda Clark (LC) Panel Member
 Misbhaur Rahmam (MR) Panel Member
 Paul Macey (PM) Chair
 Muhammad Khan (MK) Panel Member
 Maxine Douglas (MD) Panel Member
 Bishop Deverton Douglas (DD) Panel Member

Apologises:

Mkuu Amani (Peace)
 Balbir Seimar
 Mr Ram Kishan Mehmi
 Andy Brown
 Michelle Kelly
 Renne Samra
 Sheze Malik

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome, Introduction and Apologies	AR/Insp LP introduced the meeting and welcomed visitors back to Face to face meetings in Bloxwich Police Station. Each member provided a brief explanation of their background and affiliation to the panel. New panel members MD & DD were both welcomed. Above apologies were received
2.	Confidentiality Agreements	DD signed the confidentiality agreement and AR confirmed that all other members present have signed the agreement.
3.	New Walsall Scrutiny Panel Chair	AR introduced the panel's new chair PM. AR explained that at the previous meeting Peace agreed to take on the Chair role but has subsequently confirmed due to work commitments he is unable to support so AR had asked PM if he would support
4.	Actions from last meeting	AR addressed the room, no actions where debated further.



5.	Overview/Update of recent use of section 60 powers	<p>Insp LP provided an explanation of Walsall NPU's recent use of, and frequency of use for, a section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 which provides policing teams with specific and area focused stop and search powers without prior suspicion.</p> <p>Insp LP explained this related to a potential risk to public safety in a specific area of Walsall following intelligence which suggested violent crime was imminent.</p> <p>Only 5 such orders have been raised in Walsall in 12 months as they are extremely rare in our neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Questions were raised by panel members regarding the actual use of the powers, ethnicity of those stopped and any consequences for the local community. Data on ethnicity was requested by panel members and supplied by Insp LP</p>
6.	Body Worn Video – Live Streaming Consultation	<p>AR introduced a proposal for live streamed body worn video cameras to be worn by officers as an enhancement to current kit available to officers.</p> <p>Insp LP provided additional context and historical background to the introduction of body worn camera's and suggested live streaming video would enhance policing, better protect officers and ensure incidents are managed more effectively for members of the public.</p> <p>Panel members raised questions of how the video would be assessed and prioritised by control room staff and several suggestions for future enhancements were provided by panel members. Overall consent and support for live streaming video was supported by the panel</p>
7.	UPDATE on stop and search data from 01/01/22 to 16/03/22 by Insp LP	<p>Insp LP presented Walsall S&S performance data for this period.</p> <p>Total searches on WS – 576 Positive outcome rate – 22.6% Meets required standard – 99.8% BWV Used – 95.5% Asian search ratio – 1.9 Black search ration – 2.2</p>



8.	Dip sample of stop and search and Use of Force from 01/01/22 to 16/03/22 by Insp LP	<p>Panel members raised a question regarding the selection process for random S&S records that are discussed by the panel</p> <p>AR explained that the process is for all Walsall S&S and UOF reference numbers for this period are emailed to the Chair (PM) ahead of the meeting and the Chair is asked to choose at random 30 S&S and 3 UOF records which are then emailed to Insp LP This is done to ensure no bias is applied and that the process is transparent.</p> <p>The below stop & search references were chosen by PM and were reviewed during the meeting.</p> <p>150606 / 150616 / 150663 / 150733 / 150873/ 150876 / 150877 / 150947 / 150964 / 151052 / 151293 / 151444 / 151515 / 151579 / 151583 / 151746 / 151771 / 151876 / 151976 / 151990 / 151994 / 152003 / 152044 / 152104 / 152328 / 152400 / 152429 / 152512 / 152611 / 153087</p> <p>128771 – 16/02/22 BWV viewed by panel, no issues raised by panel, panel commented on the good quality of the sound and footage.</p> <p>127347 - 24/01/22 Insp LP explained that BWV was not available for this incident; the officer had not recorded the incident. LP informed the panel that she was aware of this and feedback has already been given to the officer concerned. A video from an alternative officer from the same incident was shown as an alternative.</p> <p>The panel wanted to know the age of the subject involved in this incident. The data is only recorded as aged between 11-17 years.</p> <p>ACTION - Insp LP has taken this action away to confirm the age of the subject in relation to UOF 127347</p> <p>Panel members raised question about the data file saving process and Inspector Pearson explained the docking process for uploading files could malfunction on occasion and provided data to show the volume of files loaded successfully by Walsall NPU in comparison to peers and there was no material variation in performance from other force teams.</p>
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9.	Action noted from discussions for update at next panel	<p>Insp LP has taken this action away to confirm the age of the subject in relation to UOF 127347</p>
10.	AOB /Notes	Non-raised
11.	Date and location of next panel	TBC – Meeting concluded at 7pm.