



## Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

**Location:** Stetchford Police station

**Date and Time:** 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022

**In Attendance:** A. French (AF), S. Graham (WMP Inspector SG), M. Williams (MW) , H. Ratcliff (HR), P. O’Sullivan (PO), A. Hill (AH), N. Fletcher (NF), M. Sharif (MS), T. Stewart (TS), S. Rivers (SR), G. Hancock (PCC office)

**Apologies:** N. Cox, T. Bickley.

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction. Minutes of the last meeting, update on any actions taken from last meeting	There were no actions arising from the last meeting held in May 2022.
2.	UPDATE on stop and search data from Inspector Graham	<p>The pack has been emailed to all panel members in advance so it can be pre read and save a little time in the meeting. If panel members have any questions they can raise them at the time.</p> <p>In preparing for the meeting a number of E Search records did not have the corresponding BWV available. For some officers there were extended date ranges when no BWV had been recorded. <b>Are there any problems with the software which is causing BWV to not be saved? How do you explain it not being available?</b></p> <p>AF asked about the drop in Positive Outcome Rate between Mar/Apr (33%) &amp; Jun/Jul (29.8%). SG stated that a Positive Outcome rate of around 30% was expected.</p> <p>NF asked why the % of records that meet the required standard has dipped for BE (now 90.2% was 96.7% for Mar/ Apr) and is below that for the whole force and also Impact areas. SG suggested that this was due to greater scrutiny of records, a tightening of standards. It was acknowledge that 100% of records meeting the required standard in the impact areas was positive.</p> <p>MS asked what % of Stop &amp; Searches should be recorded on BWV. SG said that it should be 100%.</p>



Comments were made about the increase in Firearms Find Rate being a positive indicator. AH said that the % of Fire Find Rate from the Impact Areas (0% Mar/Apr, 57.1% Jun/Jul) could be the result of effective intelligence led Stop & Searches.

MS asked why the Asian & Black search ratio's are high compared to White people. SG stated that it may be specific intelligence led operations that skew the data. We also need to take into account the ethnic make up of the communities that make up BE area.

NL & SR asked for data relating to Positive Outcomes by Ethnic group to be available at future panels.

Discussion took place regarding the handcuffing data. MW explained that handcuffing was used to protect officers. Handcuffing was used in 59% of Asian, 42% Black, 62% White, 40% Mixed and 71% of non stated ethnicity stop & searches. There is a wide variance between handcuffing rates for ethnic groups. Might handcuffing be used as a way of creating a power imbalance in the search e.g. are the figures so high for non stated ethnicity because handcuffing is used due to a perceived non compliance with a simple question? **How do the police satisfy themselves that handcuffing is used for legitimate reasons rather than for creating power imbalances or punishment for being difficult?**

The trend that see's force used against Black people more than any other ethnic group was noted as was the apparent change in disproportionality ratio's between Asian (Stop & Search 2.6, Use of Force 0.9) and Black (Stop & Search 3.2, Use of Force 2.5) people between Stop & Search and Use of Force.



3. Dip sample of stop and search

1. S S B E -  
WU-13344035  
PC J 19/7/22  
subject M
2. S S B E -  
RE-13764435  
PC B 21/7/22  
subject B
3. S S B E -  
TG-4658571 PC  
S 27/6/22 sub-  
ject K
4. S S B E -  
EE-3468839 PC  
D 23/6/22 sub-  
ject K
5. S S B E -  
XM-3826179  
PC N 24/6/22  
subject A  
Cross ref with  
SSBE-9F-36916  
51 PC G

**Record 2 selected by TS**

The E Search record had been signed off within a week.

The BWV only recorded the final minute of the Stop & Search and therefore missed a significant amount of the actual interaction. The EnSearch record stated that Cannabis had been smelt coming from a car and the occupants of the car had admitted smoking it. Why were the occupants allowed to drive off in the car once the Stop & Search had been concluded? **Are dug tests administered as a matter of course on drivers when officers suspect that cannabis has been smoked in the car that they are driving?**

**Record 5 selected by NF**

**Are there any legitimate reasons behind the 6 week delay in signing off the E Search record?**

**Why was there no BWV recorded for the officer who conducted the search?**

When the BWV was watched for a different officer at the scene they used a different grounds for conducting the search. Although the interaction was professional and contained the required information the subjects zipped bag was not search nor was his top unzipped to search inside it. SR made the point that because the officer had said 'you were in a doggy part of the park' it could be perceived by the youth being searched that a derogatory and unnecessary comment is being made about where they might live. It was felt generally that this search fell short of the standard expected.



4.	<p>Dip sample of Use of Force records</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Log 283/31/7/22 PC P</li><li>2. Log 3382/22/7/22 PC D subject T</li><li>3. Log 3059/5/6/22 PC R</li><li>4. Log 2969/19/6/22 PC K</li><li>5. Log 2881/28/7/22 PC B subject H</li></ol>	<p><b>Record 2 selected by SR - Taser drawn</b> It was felt that the use of force was appropriate and delivered in a highly professional way. Language was clear, unambiguous and forceful. Explanations were given on what was happening. Officers interaction defused the situation.</p> <p><b>Record 1 selected by MS - Dog bite</b> Clear warnings were given that a dog was present and opportunities given to make the subjects location known to an officer. The dog was removed quickly after the bite and clear instructions were given to other officers about what had happened and the need for first aid. AF asked about the necessity of a dog bite as the subject was hiding under a mattress and wasn't presenting a clear threat. MW stated that once a dog is in use it will bite and that the situation around the use of force i.e a dark building that is being repaired needed to be taken into account. <b>Can we have clarification on what the triggers are for officers to use force particularly for dog bites, baton strikes and Taser discharge.</b></p> <p><b>Record 3 selected by AF - Taser drawn</b> It was felt that drawing the Taser wasn't necessary and the subject (a black lady) was lying on her back on the floor with a white male officer sitting on top of her. If the Taser needed to be deployed it was unclear if there was an obvious area to target which wouldn't have hit the other officer as well. The officer came across as slightly overwhelmed by the situation. A third officer arrived on the scene and explained to the subject what was happening. AH stated that some times a officer arriving who wasn't part of the incident and then takes over helps defuse the situation.</p>
5.	<p>Action noted from discussions for update at next panel</p>	<p><b>Are there any problems with the E Search software which is causing BWV to not be saved? How can you account for the missing videos?</b></p> <p><b>Include Positive Outcomes by Ethnic group in future data sets.</b></p> <p><b>How do the police satisfy themselves that handcuffing is used for legitimate reasons rather than for creating power imbalances or punishment?</b></p> <p><b>Are dug tests administered as a matter of course on drivers when officers suspect that cannabis has been smoked in the car that they are driving?</b></p> <p><b>Stop &amp; Search record number 5. Are there any legitimate reasons behind the 6 week delay in signing off the E Search record? Why was there no BWV recorded for the officer who conducted the search?</b></p> <p><b>Can we have clarification on what the triggers are for officers to use force particularly for dog bites, baton strikes and Taser discharge.</b></p>



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6.	Date and location of next panel	<b>Monday 26th September 2022 @ 6pm</b> Stetchford Police Station
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