**Stop & Search/ Use of Force Meeting**

**Notes of meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2022**

**Chairperson:**

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| Chester Morrison (CM) |

**Present:**

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| Sergeant Sarah Smyth (SS) |
| Kal Khan (KK) |
| Inspector James Tandy (JT) |
| Natalia Lipiec (NL) |
| Michael Hough (MH) |
| Georgie Hancock (GH) |
| Neil Hubbins (NH) |
| Liana Dacres (LD) |

**Apologies:**

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| **1)** | **Opening Remarks:*** Welcome and apologies.
* CM has the opening remarks, asking for arising matters. None are raised for Page 1 or Page 2.
* CM Queries Item 5 Updates, SS has had no update for 1, others will be addressed during the course of the meeting.
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| **2)****SS – A****SS – A****SS - A** | **Stop and Search Overview:*** SS states there has been significant activity around the Guardian Operations with the bus station, which was due to high amounts of anti-social behaviour and robbery offenses. SS explains that there has been grassroots partnership work and what we’ve done with housing groups, safer travel and schools to try and prevent offenses amongst the youth.
* SS mentions the extent of Guardian involvement:
* During the course of the operation 20 arrests of under 16s were made
* Weapon seizures include 1 x knife and 1 x knuckledusters
* High number of stop and searches
* Primary victim group was between 15-19
* CM askes about the breakdown of Guardian operation demographics.
* SS explains that no feedback has been received regarding mixed category and further breakdown . JT explains that customising ethnicity is an option.
* CM askes about the use of powers for searching, SS explains targeted PACE and given that youth would often be searched for PACE vs Drugs grounds, as Drugs are usually adults. SS mentions that operation Guardian may have increased PACE Searches on the graphs shown.
* KK Questions the slides ‘N/A’ searches. SS explains that they refer to vehicle searches and that ‘Not Stated’ means they don’t give an ethnicity when asked.
* SS to find out if the N/A search data populates the ethnicity searches, I.e. does a vehicle search also contribute to the ethnic search results shown.
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| **3)****SS – A****SS – A****SS – A****Group – A****Agenda - A** | **Use of Force Overview:*** SS will find out if drawing a taser contributes to the tactic’s metrics.
* KK Askes what ‘Not Recorded’ means, SS will find out what this refers to in regards to use of force ethnicity disproportionality.
* SS will request whether a more detailed age breakdown in perceived age slide. CM suggests this be 18-25/26 as a metric.
* SS clarified that the spit hood usage has increased to 4.
* KK askes do people usually spit once or more, SS answers that it depends on the individual but it can be a repeated action. KK askes why is the body worn video 88.1%, SS states it is hard to comment without specifics from the situation, but generally this is down to the spontaneous nature of the events officers deal with. KK askes how many officers would have been solo, SS answers there is no way of knowing how many were solo / double crewed. KK askes is the body worn video statistic for the officer deploying the spit hood or colleagues there too. JT answers that the statistics are based on the deploying officers body worn video being available.
* CM asks if there is a cultural relation to spitting, SS will look into a longer period to capture if there is a trend amongst spitting and culture.
* SS will look into making the future selections GDPR compliant.. SS will also check with counterparts as to how we can ensure GDPR compliance is reached. JT will assist with this.
* JT Explains that there is a pilot scheme SVROs with West Midlands Police, explains the purpose and that they can be granted by a judge. If the order is granted, no grounds are needed for searches and can be done any time in public. CM askes about protections regarding harassment with this order, JT has said this will come down to the judge/court if appealed or the offender has objections. JT explains that these orders are triggered by certain criteria/offenses. CM asks if public interest tests are being conducted. JT states the Home Office is working through this. CM askes regarding offenders representation when this order is applied for, JT clarifies that it would be similar to other case papers and it would be open and obvious to the offender that this order is being sought. If the order is successful it could be in place from 1 to 12 months, however JT will provide updates as and when information becomes available. CM asks if there will be formal options for the panel to feedback to the home office. JT is happy for the group to send him concerns or comments and he will collate for the Home Office.
* Agenda Item to be added regarding SVRO scrutiny.
* SS clarifies regarding stop and search scrutiny that smell of a controlled substance in vicinity isn’t grounds alone and that it comes down to several factors. CM asks if acquisitive crime spikes will we know? SS will do a crime picture on acquisitive offenses and handcuff data.
* Following watching the videos, the group requested that we just watch a use of force next time, not stop and search videos.
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| **5)** | **Actions coming from meeting:*** SS query the breakdown of Guardian operation demographics
* SS to find out if ‘N/A’ search data populates ethnicity statistics
* SS to find out if drawing a taser contributes to tactic metrics
* SS to find out what ‘not recorded’ means in the use of force ethnicity disproportionality graph
* SS to provide a more detailed age breakdown in perceived age slide (18-25/26)
* SS to look into a longer period with ethnicities to see if there is a link between culture and spitting
* SS to ensure the future meetings are GDPR compliant JT will assist with this
* SVRO scrutiny to be added to agenda
* SS to compile a crime picture on acquisitive offenses .
* SS to provide data relating to local handcuff use vs force
* SS to remove stop and search video, just providing use of force next meeting
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| **6)** | **Any other business:*** No other business was identified.
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| **7)** | **Closing remarks*** Closing thanks from Sergeant Smyth and the Chair. Actions for the next meeting were discussed and all members thanked for the continued support and participation within the group.
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