

Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

Location: Stetchford Police Station and Virtual via Teams

Date and Time: 15th March 2023

In Attendance: Al M Baldwin (MB), A French (AF) Chair, N Cox (NC), T Bickley (TB), N Hooper (NH)

Apologies: M Sharif

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction Minutes of the last meeting, update on any actions taken from last meeting	<p>Actions; The record was signed off within two days. The panel felt that the officer dealt with the nominal in a very professional, clear, calm manner. The nominals dignity was upheld in all that was said and done. Agreed that this was a positive Stop & Search. Feedback given by Insp. Graham</p> <p>The officer's supervisor had decided that this search did not meet the required standard. It seemed to take a long time to get to the point of searching the two individuals whose car had been stopped in a car park. Neither individual was handcuffed. This has been referred back to the officer's inspector to make enquiries and review circumstances in full.</p> <p>There was an eight day sign off for the handcuffed search undertaken by a Motorway unit. A number of officers were present in a car sales lot. The nominal was very vocal and agitated. The panel felt that the officer remained calm and professional in the face of a difficult situation. Agreed that this was a positive Stop & Search and use of handcuffing. Feedback given by Insp. Graham</p>



2.	UPDATE on stop and search data from Acting Inspector Baldwin	<p><u>Stop and Search</u></p> <p>The panel noted that Positive Outcome rates for Stop Searches have declined since the previous panel but were about average when looking across the last eight months of data.</p> <p>There had been a dip in the % that met the required standard.</p> <p>Within the Impact Areas both the Positive Outcome Rate and the % that meets the required standard had fallen and were at their lowest level across the last eight months. Mirroring this trend the find rates for drugs, knives and firearms across the Impact Areas had all fallen from the previous data set, most notably the finding of knives.</p> <p>TB asked whether the powers used to conduct the Stop & Search actually matched what was found. Data to be produced for the next panel which will look at the correlation between the two.</p> <p>It was noted that the disproportionality ratios had both fallen possibly due to the new 2021 Census data now being reflected in the data set.</p> <p>NC commented that a larger fall in the Disproportionality ratio for Asian people had been expected.</p> <p>The panel will keep these ratios under review.</p> <p><u>Handcuffing</u></p> <p>There has been a significant increase in the use of handcuffs during Stop Searches within BE NPU. The data suggests that nearly 70% of nominals involved in Stop Searches are handcuffed.</p> <p>When looking at handcuffing by ethnicity the largest increases in the use of handcuffs involve on Asian, White and Mixed nominals.</p> <p>MB stated that the force are conducting a piece of work looking in more detail at the use of handcuffing including how well officers are trained, whether handcuffing rates are higher in officers who have less than 5 years experience,</p> <p>The panel will continue to scrutinise the use of handcuffs.</p> <p><u>Use of Force</u></p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding the low % of Body Worn Video for Birmingham East NPU. The panel will keep this under review.</p>
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3.	Dip sample of stop and search	<u>Record 3 chosen by TB</u>
	1) SSBE-3K-69 547311. PS D subject V. 3rd January 2023	Although it had taken approximately 4 weeks to sign off the record the panel felt that this was a positive example of a Stop & Search. The officer remained calm, quickly established rapport with the two nominals. Trust was demonstrated in that handcuffs weren't used.
	2) S S B E - UR-7888859 9. PC W subject (vehicle). 28 th January 2023	Initiate a Praise & Reward for the Officer.
		<u>Record 5 chosen by NC</u>
	3) S S B E - LJ-55236895 . PC L subject (U/K). 6 th January 2023	Sign off was on the same day. This was a dynamic, evolving situation which started with concern for the nominals safety. The officers remained extremely calm and professional throughout the incident and did all that they could to reassure and look after the nominal. The panel felt that this was an exemplary example of a Stop & Search being exercised within a broader approach of care, concern and support for a member of the public.
		Initiate a Praise & Reward for the Officer.
	4) S S B E - GE-8694346 3. PC O subject S. 17 th February 2023	
	5) S S B E - ZN-7359155 9. PC P subject C. 14 th January 2023	



4.	Dip sample of Use of Force records 1. Log 2721 of 26 th January 2023. PC C 2. Log 2755 24 th February 2023. PC H 3. Log 766 29 th January 2023. PC E 4. Log 3732 17 th January 2023. PC B 5. Log 138 9 th January 2023. PC T	<p><u>Record 5 chosen by NH</u></p> <p>The use of force revolved around the deployment of a dog which then bit and dragged a nominal on the ground. The panel discussed the video at length and were unsure whether the use of force was justified. The specific questions that the panel had revolved around</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Whether a clear and sufficient instruction had been given to the nominal that the dog would be released2. Whether the nominal had been given a chance to comply with any instruction about their behaviour before the dog was released3. The reason why the dog was released. It wasn't obvious on the video why the dog was used as the nominal was stood still in a stream and didn't appear to be posing a threat or that they were endangering themselves4. Why the dog was allowed not just to bite the nominal (who was on the ground) but to drag them up the bank of the stream when an officer had hands on him and other officers were in the vicinity. <p>Answers to be gained to the panels questions and the Supervisor of the Dog Unit to be asked to review the footage.</p> <p><u>Record 2 chosen by AF</u></p> <p>This was a calm, measured, professional hard stop by the Armed Response team. As there were already other armed officers on the scene when the video started the panel looked at a further video to see an armed stop involving just two armed officers.</p> <p><u>Record 4</u> - see comments above for record 2</p> <p>This was a calm, measured, professional stop with clear instructions given.</p>
5.	Action noted from discussions for update at next panel	<p>Initiate a Praise & Reward for the officer involved in Stop Search record number 3.</p> <p>Initiate a Praise & Reward for the officers involved in Stop Search record number 5.</p> <p>Ask the Dog Unit supervisor to review record number 5 from the Use of Force video's and find answers to the four questions raised.</p> <p>Data set for the next panel to match the powers that a Stop & Search was instigated under to what was found.</p>
6.	Date and location of next panel	22 nd May @ 6.15pm @ Stechford Police Station and on Teams.