

Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

Location: Stetchford Police Station & Virtual

Date and Time: 22nd May 2023

In Attendance: A French (AF) Chair, N Cox (NC), Al M Baldwin (MW), Al S Powles (SP), T Bickley (TB), N Hooper (NH), N Fletcher (NF) plus five visitors from the Home Office

Apologies: M Sharif, K Khan

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction Minutes of the last meeting, update on any actions taken from last meeting	<p>Actions; Panel questioned the actions of dog handler in deploying dog on male who was trying to escape through water</p> <p>Update: Spoken to head of Dog Unit who has confirmed that this was a mandatory referral to the IOPC and that the officer has been provided advice and re-training.</p> <p>AF asked whether the nominal would be told that the incident had been reviewed by the IOPC. SP said that they wouldn't be told unless they had made a complaint. The panel felt that as a matter of course if the IOPC were involved in reviewing the interaction of an officer and a nominal, the nominal should be told of the review.</p>
2.	UPDATE on stop and search data from T/Insp. Steve Powles	<p>The data presentation didn't reveal any anomalies nor concerning trends from the last few panels.</p> <p>SP reported that Officers were being asked to use the correct power when instigating a Section 23 Stop & Search.</p> <p>The panel will ensure that they note the data surrounding where there is a mismatch between power and outcome of a Stop & Search.</p>



3.	<p>Dip sample of stop and search</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) SSBE-6K-111036587. PC D subject S. 30th April 20232) SSBE-CH-104007499. PC B subject B. 7th April 20233) SSBE-3Q-103944439. PC C subject T. 7th April 20234) SSBE-LY-99980067. PC P subject D. 25th March 20235) SSBE-LU-97339955. PC H subject H. 14th 17th March 20236) SSBW-3D-94582131. PC M subject E. 8th March 2023	<p>Record 3 chosen by TBommissioner</p> <p>The incident involved a search of a 15 year old female after a bus had been stopped. The panel felt that the interaction had been professional and courteous. NC asked why the female officer conducting the search had pulled the females top away from her chest and looked down it?</p> <p>SP to provide a view about the appropriateness given safeguarding concerns that looking down the top was a legitimate action by the officer.</p> <p>Record 5 chosen by NF</p> <p>Officers were dealing with a young female who was visibly distressed and anxious. The panel felt that the interactions initiated by the officers were professional, courteous and sympathetic to the unfolding situation. The nominal was reassured appropriately by the officers particularly regarding placing the nominal in a police are and conducting the search.</p> <p>TB asked whether a nominal would be transported in a police car without being cuffed. A discussion took place around risk assessments etc.</p> <p>Record 1 chosen by NF</p> <p>The search involved two young people who had been in a house when they shouldn't have been there. One nominal ran off upstairs. The panel raised questions about the language used by the officer who at one point swore at the nominal. Discussions also took place regarding the length of time that it took to undertake the search.</p> <p>SP to ask for the search to be reviewed.</p>
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4.	<p>Dip sample of Use of Force records</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Log 2492 of 6th April 2023. PC P2. Log 1074 24th March 2023. PC W3. Log 411 29th March 2023. PC W4. Log 4796 19th April 2023. PS R5. Log 5085 3rd March 2023. PC R	<p>Record 1 chosen by NC The incident involved an armed officer responding to a situation at which there were other armed officers already present. There was little to review of the body worn video.</p> <p>Record 4 chosen by NC The officer gave lots of opportunities for the nominal to comply before handcuffing. The panel felt that handcuffs could have been applied quicker. The language used by the officer was reassuring and calm.</p> <p>Record 5 chosen by AF The nominal of majority global heritage had been accused of shop lifting and was in the back of a police car holding onto a bag. There were a number of officers present who were trying to get the bag off the nominal. The nominal was warned a number of times to let go of the bag otherwise they would have been removed from the police car.</p> <p>The nominal, after a number of attempts was pulled out of the car by an officer who was a dog handler, taken to the ground and knelt on whilst the bag was cut away from his grasp. The panel raised questions about the length of time that the nominal was knelt on and the position in which he was knelt on (top of his back). The nominal continued to be knelt on during the search and also whilst being handcuffed.</p> <p>SP to brief the panel on guidelines for kneeling on a nominal. SP to find out what had happened before particularly why was the nominal allowed to get into a police car with his bag if the officers needed to search this.</p>
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5.	Action noted from discussions for update at next panel	<p>Panel - will ensure that they note the data surrounding where there is a mismatch between power and outcome of a Stop & Search.</p> <p>Stop & Search record 3 SP to provide a view about the appropriateness given safeguarding concerns that looking down the top was a legitimate action by the officer.</p> <p>Stop & Search record 1 SP to ask for the search to be reviewed.</p> <p>Use of Force record 5 SP to brief the panel on guidelines for kneeling on a nominal. SP to find out what had happened before particularly why was the nominal allowed to get into a police car with his bag if the officers needed to search this.</p>
6.	Date and location of next panel	<p>17th July 2023 @ 6.15pm Stechford Police Station & via Teams</p>