Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

Location: Stechford Police Station

Date and Time: Tuesday 10th December 2024 rearranged from Monday 2nd December

In Attendance: N Cox (NC), A French (AF), N Kaid (NK) – Chair for the meeting, T Bickley (TB),

Insp J Carroll (JC)

Apologies: M Sharif, J Balu, A Afzal, D Burdett, A Ahmedwali

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction, minutes of the last meeting, update on any actions taken from last meeting	JC confirmed that the relevant Praise & Reward had been actioned from the previous meeting. Two actions from the previous meeting remain outstanding and will be picked up at the next meeting Check to see that the Use of Force app is working properly and that the data is reliable. To request a review of the BWV from Use of Force record 1 together with answers to the questions posed.
2.	UPDATE on stop and search data from Insp J Carroll	 The panel noted the following: The number of Stop Searches (SS) for the force as a whole had increased which is possibly down to longer nights. SS on BE NPU have increased due to targeted policing actions. The panel noted the pleasing increase in positive outcomes and the % of incidents on BWV It was pleasing to see the increased % of find rates for drugs in BE NPU Impact Areas. The disproportionality ratio for SS has fallen both for Asian and Black ethnicities. The panel were told that searches under Section 1 PACE ideally should be higher than under the Misuse of Drugs Act as there is a focus on knife crime within the force. Use of Force data (UoF) has increased due to every use of handcuffs now being recorded

		 as UoF. It was pleasing to see a high % of Use of Force within BE NPU being recorded on BWV. The panel noted the time delay between the date of panel meetings and the data set being looked at. The next panel will look at three months of data together which will allow panel meetings to be held in the month after the end of the data set.
3.	Dip sample of stop and search	Record 7 269674527 selected by NK A tutor was guiding a student officer through a Stop Search. There were at least seven officers gathered around. The Stop Search was punctuated with periods of instruction from the tutor to the student officer. Although it was a neutral search the panel felt that it was a process and not an interaction between the officer and nominal. Record 1 260585479 selected by TB No BWV is available Record 6 268194719 selected by TB No BWV is available despite the nominal being arrested and it being categorized as evidential. Record 2 261077347 selected by TB A trainee officer was conducting a search on a nominal who had been in a fight and eventually recovered a sword and baseball bat from a van. The BWV watched belonged to the trainee officer who didn't carry out the SS although the e-search record showed she did. She eventually arrested the nominal after the SS conducted by someone else. The nominal was not managed well and was left free to wonder about. The panel felt that it was a negative SS due mainly to the jumbled nature of different officers conducting different parts of the search and no ownership of the nominal. JC to feedback panels concerns about how trainee officers are taught SS in 'the field'.
4.	Dip sample of Use of Force records	Record 4 2270654 chosen by NC A number of officers attended a nominal at night by a park. The officer with the BWV arrived later to the incident and placed a hand on the nominals shoulder. The BWV then captured the nominal being

folded into the police care. The panel felt that it was a proportionate and fair use of force.

Record 8 2317802 chosen by NK

There was no BWV of the use of force incident where a nominal had been damaging their house. The only BWV was the interview with the family some time afterwards.

Record 6 237058 chosen by AF

No BWV was available despite it being reviewed by a supervising officer.

Record 5 238860 chosen by AF

No BWV available

Record 3 2331264 chosen by AF

Two children had been caught stealing sweets, one was apprehended and the other ran away. The video captured at the start an officer attempting to push the nominal off a bike that he was standing either side of but not riding. One officer gave pursuit but lost the second nominal. On returning to the first nominal, who was standing compliantly with another officer he put one hand around his throat, the other on his shoulder and verbally abused him. The nominal (under 17) was walked to the police car placed in the back and was then told by the officer to calm down despite showing no signs of being anything but calm. The panel felt unanimously that the officer's use of force was inappropriate, unfair, that his verbal interaction was abusive and that he showed minimal professionalism.

As the incident has been reviewed JC to follow up with the supervisor to see what the feedback to the officer was. If it didn't align to the panels thoughts, then JC would ask for it to be reviewed.

5. Action noted from discussions for update at next panel

Rolled over from Octobers meeting Check to see that the Use of Force app is working properly and that the data is reliable.

To request a review of the BWV from Use of Force record 1 together with answers to the questions posed.

From this panel
Roll three months data together – Nov, Dec and Jan

		JC to feedback panels concerns about how trainee officers are taught SS in 'the field'. Record 3 U of F to be followed up with the officers supervisor.
6.	Any notes, questions, requests for the next Biannual Stop and Search commission	Why is there such a high rate of BWV unavailable and why does this seem to be an intractable problem to fix?
7.	Date and location of next panel	Monday 3 rd February 2025 at 6.15pm, Stechford Police Station.