

## Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

**Location:** Stechford Police Station

**Date and Time:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**In Attendance:** N Cox (NC), A French (AF), N Kaid (NK), Insp J Carroll (JC), J Balu (JB), D Burdett (DB) Chair for the meeting, A Ahmedwali (AA), M Clarke (MC)

**Apologies:** J Bilau

	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 actions had been undertaken following the previous meeting. The U of F videos all revolved around the use of a Taser for this meeting.
2.	UPDATE on stop and search data from Insp J Carroll	The panel noted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The amount of data reported on had changed so there were additional slides included.</li><li>• The % BWV for the LPA remained high as did the Positive Outcome rate.</li><li>• Within the Positive Outcome rate there had been a relatively high knife find rate which was pleasing.</li><li>• A question was asked around the Ethnicity Breakdown for Stop Searches and whether the census data had an impact.</li><li>• The panel noted the disparity in disproportionality ratios, particularly with those from a Black ethnicity.</li><li>• The panel noted the new slide on 10-17 year olds and found this a useful addition.</li><li>• 50% of knife find rates are for 10-17 year olds.</li><li>• The % BWV for Use of Force for the LPA was noted as being higher than the force as a whole.</li><li>• The disproportionality ratios were the lowest the panel could remember seeing.</li></ul>
3.	Dip sample of stop and search	<b>Record 317705227</b> No BWV available as it was an off duty police officer..  <b>Record 313408739 selected by AA</b> Armed response to a VW van, intelligence led,

		<p>nominal with weapons. Professional, controlled stop search. The nominal was asked 'do you know why I am doing the search?' but no grounds etc were given. A neutral stop search.</p> <p><b>Record 316687859 selected by TB</b> No BWV was available despite the e search record stating that stolen items were search for and a shotgun, machete and ammunition were found. <b>Why was there no BWV?</b></p> <p><b>Record 315350987 selected by TB</b> Nominal was a young man chased across a park at night. Found to be in possession of a knife and cannabis, arrested for both. The panel felt that the officer deal very professionally and in an age appropriate way with the nominal. The officer remained very calm, engaging and spoke in a way which the young man would have understood, covering all of the necessary GOWISELY details. <b>Instigate a Praise &amp; Reward.</b></p> <p><b>Record 310932583 selected by MC</b> The nominal had been stopped by store security for stealing items and had been moved into a back office. The items allegedly stolen had been removed from her before the police officers arrived. The police officer quickly and appropriately recognized the gender imbalance in the room and how as a male he was conducting a Stop Search on a female. His interaction was appropriate and covered all the necessary details. A positive Stop Search.</p>
4.	<p>Dip sample of Use of Force records</p> <p>All Taser incidents.</p>	<p><b>Record 2870 chosen by AF</b> The nominal was suffering from a mental health episode and was at the top of an outside stair well holding a knife. The officer drew his taser interacting with the nominal in a calm, authoritative and appropriate way. Control was gained immediately over the situation and the nominal complied with his instructions. An appropriate and proportionate use of force.</p> <p><b>Record 276 chosen by NK</b> The nominal was a drunk male in the road at night. The officer red dotted him, handcuffed him speaking in a very calm and reassuring way. The nominal started to bang his head on the pavement which the</p>

		<p>officer responded to. The panel felt that the officer could have stopped the self-harm sooner. As the incident unfolded other officers used a spit guard, laid on their hands and applied leg restraints. The applying of leg restraints and the laying on of hands was not recorded on this officers incident record despite him doing both of these. A fair and proportionate use of force.</p> <p>Why weren't the two other methods of applying force recorded on the incident log?</p> <p><b>Record 5943 chosen by DB</b></p> <p>The nominal was in his room in a HMO suffering from a mental health episode. There was a nurse and paramedic in his room along with two police officers. The nominal had a knife and part way through the incident started to smash his room up. The officer remained calm, professional and in control of the situation. The officer appeared to be trying his hardest for the incident not to escalate. Eventually the nominal started self-harming at which point the taser was deployed. The panel felt that this was an exemplary use of a taser as a last resort to ensure the safety of those in the room. A fair and proportionate use of force.</p> <p>Instigate a Praise &amp; Reward.</p> <p><b>Record 5471 chosen by NC</b></p> <p>The nominal was walking down a road at night having been suspected of trying to gain entry into a property. The police offer in a car drew up alongside and asked repeatedly for the nominal to stop walking as he drove alongside. Eventually the nominal stopped and then approached the drivers side door of the police car quickly. The offer exited the car drew his taser and the nominal compliantly lay on the floor. The panel debated whether the officer was right to perceive the level of risk that he must have done. A fair and proportionate use of force.</p>
5.	Action noted from discussions for update at next panel	<p>Select Stop &amp; Searches and Use of Force for 10-17 age range.</p> <p>Why was there no BWV for Stop Search record 316687859?</p>

		<p>Instigate a Praise &amp; Reward for Stop Search record 315350987.</p> <p>Why weren't the two other methods of applying force recorded on the incident log for Use of Force record 276?</p> <p>Instigate a Praise &amp; Reward for Use of Force record 5943.</p>
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	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 at 6pm, Stechford Police Station.</b>