



Stop and Search, Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

Location: Brierley Police Station.

Date and Time: 8th October 2025 4.30 pm.

In Attendance: Julie Wilkinson (Chair) Inspector Sarah Smyth, Shezaida Malik (OPCC).

Simon Biggs, Thomas Sharwood, Alex Ross and Andrea Hyatt.

Apologises: Danny Evan's, Leon Fletcher, Mariann Bayliss and Dean Stephen's.

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction the panel welcomed our newest team members and thanked them for joining .Sheze confirmed all documentation and identification documents.	No further actions from our last panel meeting so Insp Smyth shared details of young people stop and search powers and gave clear insight into the justification for searching a young person.The panel agreed a youth panel in the Black Country would be so valuable and Sheze has some points to take away and explore in terms of setting up a panel.
2.	Update on stop and search data from Insp Sarah Smyth data taken from 1 st July to 15 th September performance metrics relating to the Dudley Borough.	<p>Insp Sarah Smyth gave a gentle reminder for there to be no recording of names during the meeting.</p> <p>174 stop and searches for a variety of different reasons.35.6 % positive outcomes based on what officers were looking for.The % is above for e average.Insp Smyth confirmed to the panel all data is documented in a transparent way all SS is recorded to be scrutinised by a senior line manager.The supervisor will view every record to ensure there are no concerns.</p> <p>For the panel it was confirmed its mandated in policy that every search is recorded. 98.3 % BW recorded.</p>
3.	Section 60	<p>No section 60s brought to the panels attention for the time frame discussed.Insp Smyth explained what a section 60 is and the panel held a discussion .</p> <p>Haroon asked how do we know a repeat subject ?Sheze explained its purely by name and subjects need to self define .</p> <p>Andrea asked when is their name taken ?Insp Smyth confirmed it's a requirement usually at the end of the search.Intelligence alone is not enough to search there must be grounds explained Insp Smyth.</p> <p>Drugs find rate 38.8%.</p> <p>30 arrests and 9 knives found.</p> <p>Positive outcomes were explained to the panel .</p> <p>Sheze explained in detail to the panel situation based to understand the numbers.</p> <p>Insp Smyth discussed general guidance from force and shared impact areas and mapping. It's a expectation to have more searches around the colleges and campuses.Ethnicity data was shared with the panel and explained to the newest members the use of the most recent census data.July to</p>



		<p>September 10 to 17 year old data was discussed .Drugs find rate 50 %. The panel agreed a action would be to breakdown 10 to 17 years data by gender going forward. Insp Smyth shared officers best practice in terms of cuffing.</p>
4.	<p>Dip sample of stop and search</p> <p>SS video 1 – Someone stealing from Gregg's in Dudley town centre.Two female officers stopped a man matching the description PC Clifton explained it would be a pace 1 search.The officer explained the copy of the search would be available for 90 days and the QR code was introduced. Other officers did arrive at the scene the panel did have a conversation regarding the amount of officers deployed to the incident.</p> <p>SS Video 2 was regarding a call for concern from the public about a parked car in a crime hot spot.The suspect was asked to step out of the car the officers were searching for drugs as this was a known hot spot for drugsAlso the occupant matches a description. Insp Smyth explained the officers showed good judgment and it wasn't appropriate to search the female passenger. However if there were suspicious grounds a female officer would be called for.The QR code was shared and the panel agreed the search was fair and transparent.</p>	<p>Overall feedback positive from the panel.</p>
5.	<p>Dip sample of Use of Force records 620 UOF forms. 97.4% BW. 2 Tasers fired. Insp Smyth discussed UOF data and discussions were held regarding 11</p>	<p>UOF video was shared regarding a troublesome 12 year old.She has learning disabilities and known to social services.The officer involved encouraged social services to find a resolution as police protection was not appropriate she was trying to run into the road and it was late at night and the hotel she had been placed refused to have her back. The panel held a discussion and agreed the outcome was for the best as this wasn't a police matter.</p>
6.	<p>Action noted</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held at the new police station at Castlegate,Dudley Insp Smyth shared information regarding the new station.</p>



6.	Any notes, questions, requests for the next Bi annual Stop and Search, Use of Force Commission	No specific questions as the meeting was informative for our newest members.
7.	Date and location of next panel	Next panel scheduled for Wednesday 3 rd December.