



# Stop and Search, Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

**Location:** Online (Teams)

**Date and Time:** 18 February 2026

## In Attendance:

### Panel members:

Chair: Peace (P)

Vice Chair: Balbir Seimar (BS)

Tony Rowley (TR)

### OPCC Representatives:

Shehzadi Malik (SM)

### WMP Representatives:

Sarg. Mohammed Khalid (MK)

Ch. Insp Samantha Jones (SJ)

## Apologies:

Karen Hansford. Michael Unitt. Nazia Rehman. Mark Brindley.

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction	<p>Panel members introduced themselves and considered the actions brought forward from previous meeting.</p> <p>Actions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>P to send the link to the Walsall Stop and Search web page on WMPCC website to TR and MU.</b></li></ul> <p>Completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>P to share minutes of meeting to panel when available.</b></li></ul> <p>Completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>MK to confirm if search conducted under Criminal Justices Act related to search on school premises.</b></li></ul> <p>Confirmed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>MK to feedback panel observations to relevant officers.</b></li></ul> <p>Completed.</p> <p>With the feedback to officers in mind BS and MK discussed further the feedback relating to one of the cases scrutinised at the previous meeting.</p>



		<p>BS reaffirmed the panel's wish to see officers inspired to build better relationships with community members where the opportunity arises.</p> <p>BS asked how the officer responded to the panel's feedback. MK shared that it was taken in good faith.</p>
2.	Update on stop and search data from Mohammed Khalid (MK)	<p>In advance of the data being considered, BS asked if new taser is in use yet.</p> <p>SJ informed the panel that she has personally tested the equipment and shared some of her findings.</p> <p>The new equipment is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• more accurate,</li><li>• can fire more tasers,</li><li>• has less noise,</li><li>• can fire from a wider range close and far,</li><li>• is less likely to cause un-wanted electrocution,</li><li>• includes monitoring.</li></ul> <p>SJ added that she found the new taser comfortable to use and informed the panel the new equipment also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• responds more quickly,</li><li>• records more data</li></ul> <p>SJ shared that the feedback to date is positive. She added that when a taser is drawn, a green light will illuminate on the person alongside an LED light that flashes and works alongside officer warning of the potential use of taser.</p> <p>SJ feels that they are much safer for both public and officers.</p> <p>WMP is second force in country to receive T10. Officers are currently being trained to use the new taser.</p> <p>WMP are below national average for firing of tasers.</p> <p><b>Action - Panel suggests that we keep this under review so that we can be kept up to speed regarding progress and development of training and taser use.</b></p> <p>MK presented the data (10/12/25 – 31/01/26).</p> <p>Data confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Walsall LPA % Body Worn Video Recorded higher than WMP Force area – although it has fallen below previous reporting period figure.</li><li>• Improvement in positive outcome rate.</li><li>• Decrease in both drugs find and knife find rates.</li><li>• Increase in firearm find rate.</li><li>• Decrease in black search ratio</li></ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase in 'other' ethnic group searches.</li><li>• Decrease in repeat search rate.</li><li>• Increase in Asian search ratios in 10–17-year-olds category.</li><li>• Decrease in Black search ratio in 10–17-year-olds category.</li><li>• Less knives recovered during stop and search in 10-17 years category.</li><li>• More arrests and higher positive outcome rate for stop and search in 10–17-year-olds category.</li></ul> <p><b>Action - MK to examine why Black search ratio has decreased to 3.0%</b></p> <p>Panel queried:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Firearm Find Rate (50%). MK offered explanation.</li><li>• Use of Force Mapping (Indicator appears to be in Wednesbury). MK offered explanation.</li><li>• Use of Force Forms – Panel discussed this matter noting the guidance offered by WMP and SM. Panel queried - can the use be further broken down so that increase can be better understood.</li></ul> <p><b>Action – Panel to return to this matter in a future meeting after WMP has had an opportunity to examine any further information that can be made available inhouse.</b></p> <p>Panel discussed monitoring of Use of Force considering that there is increase of use of force forms - TR suggested that incidents data should sit alongside the use of force forms data.</p> <p>Use of Force Data also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shows increase in Asian UoF incidents but decrease in UoF ratio</li><li>• Shows increase in Black UoF incidents and ratio.</li><li>• Shows increase in White UoF incidents.</li><li>• Shows decrease in Black UoF ratio in 11–17-year-olds category.</li><li>• Shows increase in Use of Force Forms in 11–17-year-olds category.</li><li>• Decrease in % Body Worn Video Recorded in 11–17-year-olds category.</li></ul> <p>SJ informed panel that Pilot Youth Scrutiny Panel is still under review.</p>
3.	<b>Section 60</b>	<p><b>No Section 60s have occurred during the reporting period.</b></p> <p>MK provided an explanation to the panel describing what Sec 60 is and how/when it is used.</p> <p>Panel discussed the use of Sec 60 in detail both in terms of recent history and purpose.</p>



		<p>SJ offered further explanation about the use of Sec 60, how it was being used and how and why its use has been supported.</p> <p>SJ explained that scrutiny of Sec 60 is undertaken inhouse also.</p> <p>P noted the views of WMP regarding previous positive use of Sec 60 and enquired if the absence of use of Sec 60 is also viewed as a positive.</p> <p>SJ confirmed that the absence of use of Sec 60 is viewed as a positive and also spoke about the positive impact of the Sec 60's previous use and the related developments regarding a recently highlighted murder case in Walsall.</p>
4.	Dip sample of stop and search	<p><b>E Record 1</b></p> <p>No issues raised.</p> <p><b>BWV 1</b></p> <p>No issues raised.</p> <p><b>E Record 2</b></p> <p>No issues raised.</p> <p><b>BWV 2</b></p> <p>TR and P felt that the suspicion wasn't as clear as it could have been. Panel agreed that the officers handled the search in an acceptable manner – however it was also felt that the officer could have been more courteous. And given that nothing was found during the (weapons) search, panel felt that this was a missed opportunity to build rapport and confidence in police/community relations.</p>
5.	Dip sample of Use of Force records	<p><b>BWV 1</b></p> <p>Panel considered the footage. Panel agreed that this was a difficult encounter for the police. Panel noted that it was difficult to follow what was happening at times with the focus being on two different people being arrested at different times and the footage viewed being from an officer who didn't carry out an arrest</p> <p>Consideration was given to whether there were opportunities to de-escalate that weren't taken, and whether there was some antagonistic behaviour by an officer. However, panel also noted the hostility of the woman being arrested and noted that by the time the arrested woman was taken into station custody she had calmed down.</p>



		<p><b>BWV 2</b></p> <p>Panel considered the footage and agreed that the officer conducted herself professionally and calmly and managed the situation extremely well.</p> <p>However, the panel also noted that although the officer attempted to give her name, station and number she didn't manage to do so meaning GOWISELY wasn't fully implemented.</p> <p>The panel would like the officer to receive feedback accordingly.</p> <p><b>Panel enquired about the recent death of someone in custody.</b></p> <p>SJ confirmed that a 44-Year-old woman was found unresponsive at the station. SJ informed the panel that a referral has been made to IOPC, and an inquiry is being conducted.</p>
6.	Action noted from discussions for update at next panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Action</b> - SM would like to take Stop and Search BWV 2 to the Youth Panel for review and asked if the panel would have any objections. Panel agreed that the BWV could be reviewed by the Youth Panel.</li><li>• <b>Action</b> - MK to examine why Black search ratio has decreased to 3.0%</li><li>• <b>Action</b> – WMP to investigate providing a more in-depth breakdown of Use of Force Forms.</li><li>• <b>Action</b> – WMP to provide feedback to the officers related to the records that the panel has scrutinised.</li><li>• <b>Action</b> - WMP to provide updates regarding progress of new taser training and use as and when information becomes available.</li></ul>
6.	Any notes, questions, requests for the next Bi annual Stop and Search, Use of Force Commission	No issues raised.
7.	Date and location of next panel	<b>Wednesday 15th April.</b> <b>18:00 – 20:00</b> <b>Online (Teams)</b>