



Stop and Search, Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

Location: Erdington Police Station

Date and Time: 05/03/2026

In Attendance: WMP: Insp Hayley Thompson (HT), PC Laura Gordon

OPCC: Natalie Cox (NC) T/Chair,

Panel Members: M. Jones, S. Weston-Hayles, J. Hussain, C. Fowler, P. Fozard, M. Lewis, M. Fahey

D. McLaughlin, S. Jakhu, J. Sturgess, P Stirrop, M. Cauthery, K. Cooper

Apologies: Leon Skerritt (LS)

	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	Welcome and introduction	NC welcomed the new panel members with no independent chair, NC will continue be interim chair, once new members have had a few panels this will be offered back out to select a new chair.
2.	Update on stop and search data and Use of Force from PC Laura Gordon	The panel reviewed the data pack, went through in detail for new panel members.
3.	Section 60	None in this period
4.	Dip sample of stop and search	<p>Stop and search record and footage reviewed.</p> <p>Search 1 – Positive S1 PACE search of a 12yr old female child, very late at night. Called out to person trying car doors. Child said was just sitting on the car whilst talking to friend.</p> <p>Feedback from panel was mixed on this search, feedback on how many officers attend but that not all engaged and allow 2 female offices to lead. Raised questions around safeguarding and that the child was taken home. Panel felt that reason to call out may not of been there or misunderstood but could see why police attended. But overall positive. No QR CODE offered.</p> <p>Search 2 Group of young people stopped, ran from police, chased and searched</p> <p>Feedback – panel felt overall was a good search, interacted positively with YP, panel felt could have had more questions around incident responding to and their involvement and needed to be clearer on grounds as grounds for search were matching description but no detail given on what that was to explain why them. Overall generally relaxed and informative search. Panel made comments to the</p>



		Cat/Mouse chase between YP and police. NO QR CODE seen offered
5.	Dip sample of Use of Force records	<p>2x UOF records reviewed on BWV</p> <p>UOF 1 – Baton, handcuffing and unarmed skills used Hospital/Mental health crises called out to, Feedback – panel had mixed response 46% positive, 38% neutral to this incident panel understood challenge officers were under but at times felt lack of empathy, fatigued and chaotic. Panel felt not all officers had experience to deal with situation but do feel that all force was used was to protect the person from themselves.</p> <p>UOF 2 Spit hood, Unarmed skills and restraints used Another incident involving taking a person from custody to hospital due mental capacity Feedback: 69% Neutral- panel felt it seemed to escalate very quickly, defiantly a language barrier and lack of understanding of commands shouted at him by multiple people at the same time. Panel felt at times force wasn't effective and proportionate to environment and situation and not helped by poor communication.</p>
6.	Action noted from discussions for update at next panel	NC to send invite to Taser T10 Community engagement event.
6.	Any notes, questions, requests for the next Bi annual Stop and Search, Use of Force Commission	No questions were raised that need to be forwarded to the Force Commission at this stage
7.	Date and location of next panel	Erdington Police station – 21 st May 2026 @ 18:00-20:00