

Wolverhampton Stop and Search, Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

Minutes

Tuesday 19th May 2026

Hybrid Teams Meeting

Attendees: In Person

Chester Morrison (CM) Chair

Kal

Esther

Adrian

Adam Davenport - Police

Attendees: on Teams

Ruth

Neil

Matthew

Michael

Emily

Maxine

Apologies received:

Sheze Malik

Natalie Cox

Introductions (Chair)	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Minutes of the last meeting	Since the last scheduled meeting was cancelled it was agreed that the minutes prior to that were not appropriate.
Minutes and Matters Arising	Members could not recall any matters raised at the last meeting that were not on the night's agenda.
Updates from NPU	Operation Red Fox

	<p>AD reported that Operation Red Fox was underway in response to increased violence. In the Bentley Bridge area. He intimated that it would last until it was assessed that the situation had improved and concerns reduced.</p> <p>No Section 60s were reported.</p> <p>Dunstall was a high crime area where the Police were more vigilant.</p>
Data Scrutiny	<p>Members wanted to know how many individuals were involved as repeat offenders and wondered if there might be any element of harassment.</p> <p>Action: AD to find out if that was possible</p> <p>Members emphasised the need for more accurate data and struggled to understand why vehicle stops are included in the ethnic breakdown pie chart. Also, since the figures did not total 100 that further amplified the error.</p> <p>AD reported that a reprofiling of the data was underway but could not give a specific time when the change will be made.</p> <p>Members reported that when they attended the last Stop and Search Commission meeting much was made of the gap in data quality between Wolverhampton and the wider West Midlands as a whole and wanted to know why.</p> <p>Ad to investigate possible causes and report at the next meeting.</p> <p>AD reported a widening of the Trigger Review for young people 10-18 years old. This was welcomed by the meeting, but members wanted to know how safeguarding was handled as part of the process.</p> <p>AD stated, there was no statutory duty to inform parents if a child was stopped and search unless further actions emanated from it.</p>

	<p>A higher percentage of body worn cameras not been turned on remains a concern for panel members.</p> <p>The meeting was disquieted by this information because the approach does not provide parents with any opportunity for early intervention.</p> <p>The meeting suggested that West Midlands Police could make it a policy decision to inform parents and ask for it to be explored rather than leave it until the child becomes 'bad enough' to be reported to parents.</p> <p>Members stated that pure percentage data was not enough to construct a true picture of the prevailing situation and ask if more comparative figures could be reported.</p> <p>Also, since the data was randomly selected it was difficult to consistently see actual police behaviour in relations to different ethnic groups. Consequently, disproportionality remains in the background without being rigorously scrutinised.</p>
<p>Review of Stop and Search and Use of Force videos</p>	<p>The meeting agreed that more time should be spent srutinising police behaviour. Consequently, most of the disquiet expressed about the quality of the data should be recorded in future meetings as ongoing concerns until they have been addressed effectively.</p> <p>Neil volunteered to attend any future meeting where changes to the data set were being discussed or to make representation to the appropriate person.</p> <p>Three videos were viewed. Since the videos are not seen beforehand it is difficult to manage the quality and time effectively.</p> <p>Panel members wanted to know how the use of dogs is evaluated among the use of force range of actions.</p> <p>Panel members expressed satisfaction with police behaviour in all three videos and</p>

	<p>concluded that the search criteria used were relevant. Each member will provide their assessment via the QR Code.</p> <p>In one of the stops and searches the individual was being held by the officers whilst being questioned. However, it was not recorded as a use of force and panel members wanted to know why.</p>
Time and date for next meeting	The next meeting was confirmed for Tuesday 16th July 2026 at 1830 hours, Bilston Street Police Station.
Any other business	No other business was identified.