



Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner
Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel
Wednesday 4 October 2017, 2pm



Attendees

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| • Pete Browning | Dorset Police – PB |
| • Garfield Charles | Chair – GC |
| • Dr Raymond Davies | Strategic Advisor, Unity in Vision – RD |
| • Rita El-Gazali | Chair, Unity in Vision – RE |
| • Dave Fish | Dorset Police – DF |
| • Jane Jones | Dorset Race Equality Council – JJ |
| • Tom Smith | Governance Advisor, Dorset OPCC – TS |
| • Dave Sweeting | Dorset Police – DS |

Apologies

- | | |
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| • Ebi Sosseh | Dorset Race Equality Council |
| • Nathalie Sherring | Dorset Race Equality Council |

Summary of Meeting

It was noted that this was the first meeting of the PCC's Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel and that it replaces the Dorset Police Stop and Search Independent Scrutiny Group which conducted its final meeting on 13 July 2017. GC highlighted his involvement in the Dorset Police observer scheme and advised the panel he would expect the same from them. GC was appointed as Chair, this appointment was made by the Police and Crime Commissioner and had unanimous support from the panel. The function of the panel was confirmed to provide oversight and offer independent advice to Dorset Police with representatives from Dorset Police attending each meeting. All members will be vetted by the force and will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement. GC asked members to provide him with expressions of interest from potential Panel members along with supporting statements. A discussion was had around the suitability of Winfrith as a venue and it was confirmed that consideration would be given to changing venue to suit panel members.

It was suggested that the terms of reference should outline details on the circulations of minutes/actions and a restricted section of the agenda. This is along with outlining the purpose of the Panel for the Police and the Public. TS is to make appropriate changes and submit for the next meeting.

PB gave a verbal overview of stop and search and confirmed that he is now the Force Strategy lead in this area. It was noted that the 2011 census data showed the ratio of BAME stop searches to be 22:1, however a change in population has been noted and the figure has decreases to 11:1. PB noted that there has been a history of inaccurate recording of the use of Stop and Search however DS and DF have done a good job in resolving this. PB also noted that Bestival has an impact on figures, there were 24 arrests with intent to supply made, none of these were Dorset residents and 13 were BAME individuals. The intelligence for these arrests came from security guards. PB confirmed that a form is

completed for every stop and a Stop and Search Receipt Card (314B) has been introduced which is provided to the person stopped by the officer conducting the stop. The card explains the rights of the individual and what they can expect. The individual can then go to any enquiry office and exchange the card for a copy of the stop and search form, within 3 months. JJ questioned the process around non-English speakers and PB confirmed an interpreter would be sourced. JJ questioned to what extent the burka is considered a security risk from the perspective of the Force, PB confirmed that he would source a response to this.

The panel considered a random selection of stop and search records. PB confirmed that 10 randomly selected cases were provided all personal details had been removed. No BAME cases were provided within the sample, but there were youth cases. JJ questioned the number of cases reviewed, after discussion the panel agreed 25 cases would be reviewed going forward. 60% of the records presented at this meeting comprised drugs or PACE related cases. PB confirmed that this is fairly typical for Dorset.

TS will look into the possibility of getting a guest speaker for future meetings, the panel confirmed that this would be of interest to them. A half day training session will be arranged for all panel members. The use of a leaflet to advertise the role of the panel to the community was raised and a discussion was had as to whether there was any budget available for the panel activities such as this, this is ongoing and further avenues are being explored. It was clarified that, in line with other scrutiny panels, members would be entitled to claim out of pocket expenses for work done in the capacity of the panel.

Dates for the future meetings were confirmed as Thursday 18 January 2018 and Thursday 19 April 2018.