



Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner

Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday 2 May 2018



Attendees

- Maggie Ayre Member of the Public Representative - MA
- Pete Browning Dorset Police – PB
- Simon Bullock Chief Executive, Dorset OPCC – SB
- Garfield Charles Chair – GC
- Dylan Clarke Member of the Public Representative – DC
- Michael Cummings Member of the Public Representative – MC
- Jessica Farrow Member of the Public Representative – JF
- Garry French Member of the Public Representative – GF
- Dave Fish Dorset Police – DF
- Anna Giles Governance Officer, Dorset OPCC – AG
- Tom Smith Governance Advisor, Dorset OPCC – TS

Apologies

None

Summary of Meeting

It was noted that the panel membership had changed since the last meeting in order to increase the independence of the panel. The minutes and the summary from the previous meeting were confirmed as a true record. The action list was reviewed and attention drawn to the arrangements for panel members to attend stop and search training and pick themes for future meetings.

The panel were provided with a draft of the terms of reference and it was noted that these would evolve as the Panel develops. It was confirmed that all panel members had signed a confidentiality agreement as set out in the terms of reference.

The panel considered the key points arising from the Lammy Review in relation to stop and search and the disproportionality of the stop and search statistics for Dorset in relation to BAME people. It was noted that the Criminal Justice Alliance had written to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) on this issue within the Dorset area and the PCC was to discuss this further. Intelligence led stop searches of those from out of county (county lines activity) linked to organised crime, as well as issues relating to the accuracy of recording stop searches were felt to be possible contributory factors. Additionally, the figures are affected by seasonal variations in the population of Dorset due to tourism - for example Bournemouth has a significant impact. The PCC had confirmed his intention to commission a review to understand the reasons for the disproportionality.

The panel were provided with the performance data for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 December 2017. This indicated that the majority of cases (1,375) are drugs related with the next highest category (503 cases) relating to stolen property under Section 1 Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. It was confirmed that DF reviews all stop and search forms with a view to validating their accuracy. PB informed the panel that a mobile app for stop and searches is expected to be launched

shortly, and this should reduce the potential for human error, enabling the officer to complete the form more promptly, thus reducing the risk of anything being forgotten. The panel reviewed a dip sample of stop and search cases. After discussion it was confirmed that there were no major concerns around any of the cases presented.

The Chair commented on the successful panel recruitment process and noted that he was hoping to attract additional panel members from ethnically diverse backgrounds.

It was noted that it may be beneficial for the panel members to observe a patrol and they were all asked to give further thought to this.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 11th September.

DRAFT