



## Minutes

### Hertfordshire Community Scrutiny Stop and Search Panel:

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2020

**Panel Members Present:** Chris Cowdrey (CC), Caroline Malcolm (CM), Jeffrey Burke (JB), Roger Bosley (RB), Nelson Agbor (NA), Kristina Dimitrova (KD), Mutee-ur-rehman Saifullah (MS), Mohammed Islam-Ruman (MR), Sharon Farquhar (SF)

#### Hertfordshire OPCC/Constabulary

- Nicola Dean (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Inspector Crime Reduction and Community Safety) (ND)
- Lynda Coates (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Chief Inspector LPC St Albans CSP) (LC)
- Alistair Jones (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Inspector LPC Broxbourne CSP) (AJ)
- Matthew Pugh (OPCC, Policy and Project Officer) (MP)
- Amie Birkhamshaw (OPCC, Director of Strategy) (AB)
- Sara Miles (OPCC, CJ Policy and Research Manager) (SM)

**Apologies:** Marianne Murphy (MM), Marian Langley (ML), Ben Platt (BP),

The meeting was chaired by CC

#### 1) Welcome, introductions and apologies

#### 2) Approval of minutes and update on actions

The minutes of the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> January were agreed.

#### Update on actions:

Action two: MP has identified a few opportunities for community engagement. These include the Hertfordshire Criminal Justice Board Community Liaison Group, Serious violence workshop with the children & young people's team which Chris Treadwell is taking forward with CI O'Keeffe, linking up with the University of Hertfordshire to present at Oaklands College, presenting to the Chaplaincy, Herts Black and Asian Police Association around black history month in October.

Action three: MP has spoken with Christian Birch who can put together a 6 month data pack.

AB offered that we could pull together the rationale such as the lag in Athena updates, Supervisor signing off searches and all the data validation that goes through the system.

AB also offered the possibility to have an analyst run a training session on how the data is work through outside a panel meeting. This was welcomed from CC and noted that BP would be interested in attending.

### **3) Overview of CSP's - St. Albans & Dacorum**

CI Lynda Coates gave an overview of both St Albans and Dacorum which form a double district and experiences the highest volume of crime in the county. Dacorum experiences on average 95 incidents a day. The majority of recorded crime are violence against the person, followed by motor vehicle, criminal damage and domestic abuse.

Crime has fallen by 5.2% this year in St Albans and 5% in Dacorum.

The demographic breakdown of St Albans is:

- 174,000 population
- 90% White British
- 4% Asian
- 1.9% Mixed race
- 1.7% Black
- 1.4% Chinese / other
- 50/50 gender split

A significant number of the stop and searches taken place in St Albans district are with individuals that do not live in the district.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2020 there were 375 stop and searches conducted with 30% resulting in a positive outcome.

Of the 375 stop and searches, 54% were with those aged 18 or under. Those searched resulted in a 20% positive outcome.

Young men carrying knives and dealing drugs are an issue in the district.

AJ noted that in Broxbourne there are a lot of individuals who come into the area from the Met.

### **4) Review of January CSP Summary Data**

Noted that there has been no dramatic change.

Arrest figures as opposed to positive disposal figures have been drifting slowly down for some time. This may possibly be explained as the other disposals are being used more.

This may have some correlation to the number of younger people being searched as custody is not the place they can be taken (particularly later in the evening). There needs to be a really strong rationale to keep a young person in a custody suite, particularly overnight.

**5) Review of Body Worn Video (2 clips)**

**Dacorum** – Pleased with how the Officer treated the individuals. Confident in the search.

**St Albans** – No GOWISELY for the 2<sup>nd</sup> individual. Grounds were lacking details and needed to outline how the individuals matched the description.

BWV – Officer did not let the subject know he was being videoed.

It was felt that Officers should take each individual being searched away from the area. The searched felt relaxed and individuals were not asked to remove bandanas, hoods, jackets etc.

**6) Dip-sampling of Stop and Search Records and 7) Feedback**

Group one reviewed 11 records: The group felt confident in 10 records reviewed. The group did not feel confident in one record. In one instance, the officer gave the sole reason for the stop and search as the smell of cannabis.

Group two reviewed 13 records: The group felt confident in 12 records reviewed. The group did not feel confident in one record which they felt did not have sufficient detail.

Group three reviewed 9 records: The group felt confident in all 9 records reviewed. Although they felt confident all the group did note that some need more description to link the intelligence to the individual.

*Summary:*

Total records reviewed	33
Confident	31
Not confident	2
Unsure	0

**6) AOB:**

**Date of next meeting:**

Thursday 26th March (1000 – 1230), R Gold Command Conference Room, Police HQ, Stanborough Road, WGC, AL8 6XF