



Minutes

Hertfordshire Community Scrutiny Stop and Search Panel:

Monday 30th November, 2020

Panel Members Present: Jeffrey Burke (JB), Caroline Malcolm (CM), Ben Platt (BP), Mohammed Islam-Ruman (MI-R), Marianne Murphy (MM), Robert Lloyd (RL), Bukola Efunshile (BE), Roger Bosley (RB), Kristina Dimitrova (KD), Alexander Allen (AA), Demitrius Nurse (DN)

Hertfordshire OPCC/Constabulary

- CI Christopher Treadwell (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Chief Inspector Crime Reduction and Community Safety) (CT)
- Sara Miles (OPCC CJ Policy and Research Manager) (SM)
- CI Simon Mason (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Chief Inspector Welwyn Hatfield) (SM)
- Inspector Kash Hussain (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Inspector Welwyn Hatfield) (KH)
- CI Simon Tabert (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Chief Inspector Stevenage) (ST)
- CI Sally Phillips (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Chief Inspector North Herts) (ST)

Apologies: Marian Langley, Barbara Graham

The meeting was chaired by JB

1) Welcome, introductions and apologies

Welcome to Chief Inspector Chris Treadwell, Chief Inspector Mason and Inspector Hussain. It was noted that Chief Inspector Tabert and Chief Inspector Phillips will join later in the meeting.

Welcome to new members – Demitrius Nurse and Alexander Allen.

Apologies noted from Marian Langley & Barbara Graham

2) Approval of minutes and update on actions

The minutes of the meeting on the 30th November were agreed.

3) Section 60 authorisations

CI Mason noted that four press releases were put out about the Section 60's that were authorised in Welwyn Hatfield – two of these were before the authorisations and two afterwards as a follow up and with the results.

First authorisation: Two people searched as part of the first Section 60 and nothing found on either of them.

Second authorisations. Stopped a young man who was already on bail and bailed not to be attending the University campus. 2 arrests made – this individual and driver of the vehicle. In total for the second authorisation there were 4 stop searches which resulted in 4 positive outcomes.

Media releases were:

Friday 30th October: Section 60 press release issued by police: <https://www.herts.police.uk/news-and-appeals/section-60-stop-and-search-powers-authorised-in-hatfield-0813>

Sunday 1st November: Section 60 press release issued by police <https://www.herts.police.uk/news-and-appeals/section-60-stop-and-search-powers-authorised-again-in-hatfield-0816>

Monday 2nd November: Update on Section issued as a press release by police: <https://www.herts.police.uk/news-and-appeals/two-arrested-following-section-60-in-hatfield-overnight-0822>

Whilst joining the panel CI Mason was also asked by the panel about positive disposal rates and BAME stops in October.

Action: CI Mason noted he would review the data for Oct and feedback to the panel.

4) Update on actions

Action 4: Deep dive into data to be held by the Constabulary with those panel members interested.

Action 6: Constabulary to provide response for why positive disposal rate has decreased

CI Treadwell updated the panel on these significant areas of work. It was noted that the Constabulary are 5-6 weeks in to this work. It is currently a priority and looking towards the end of Jan to have something to share. There will be an update to the next coercive powers board meeting.

Action: Chris to send the Terms of References to Sara to share with the panel.

5) Review of September Summary Data

The data for September was reviewed with a couple of areas noted:

Stevenage 20% positive disposal

Watford saw a very high level of BAME stops with 14% positive disposal rate.

There were some questions and interest about impact lockdown and tiers may have had. Panel would be interested to look back on this later in the year.

There was a question if anything had been going on in Broxbourne in October as there were more stops in Broxbourne than anywhere else with 127 stops compared to 66, 100 and 72 stops in previous months. It was noted that there has been a new Chief Inspector in to Broxbourne as well as a small spike in street robbery offences that could account for this increase.

4) Dip-sampling of Stop and Search Records and 5) Feedback

Group one reviewed 8 records

Confident in 5, not confident in 2 records, unsure about 1

Questioned one record where it went to full body search which didn't feel necessary. CI Tabert took this away to look in to.

CI Tabert noted where feedback will be given to Officers where the grounds aren't clear enough

Group two reviewed 11 records

Confident in 9 and not confident in 2 records.

Noted one records where there was lots of the use of the word 'known' without saying what they are known for and where they intel came from.

Also noted one record that was a particularly good example.

Group three reviewed 13 records

13 in total – a number were multiple cases.

Confident in 5 records, not confident in 2, and unsure in 6

CI Phillips asked for feedback to be sent on to her so records can be looked in to and feedback passed on to Officers.

Group four reviewed 11 records

Confident in 10 records, not confident in 1

Noted that there was quite a few that were cut and pasted

Summary:

Total records reviewed	43
Confident	29
Not confident	7
Not sure	7

7) AOB:

None

Date of next meeting: Thursday 17 th December 10-12.30pm
