

30th March, 2021



Minutes

Hertfordshire Community Scrutiny Stop and Search Panel:

Tuesday 30th March, 2021

Panel Members Present: Jeffrey Burke (JB), Caroline Malcolm (CM), Mohammed Islam-Ruman (MI-R), Marianne Murphy (MM), Alexander Allen (AA), Tahlia-Rose Carter (TC), Marian Langley (ML), Robert Lloyd (RL), Demitrius Nurse (DM), Marian Brusselen (MB), Ashley-Louise Sinclair (AS), Rod Cates (RC)

Hertfordshire OPCC/Constabulary

- Nicki Dean (Hertfordshire Constabulary, Inspector Crime Reduction and Community Safety) (ND)
- Sara Miles (OPCC CJ Policy and Research Manager) (SM)
- Superintendent Matt Phillips, Crime Reduction Community Safety (MP)
- Chief Superintendent Geoff Camp (GC)
- PC Nicholas Anstead (NA) and Sergeant Terry Alcock (TA)

Apologies: Ben Platt, Bukola Efunshile, Afam Onyenakala, Monica Sudera, Kristina Dimitrova, Barbara Graham, Chelsie Osborne

The meeting was chaired by JB

1) Welcome, introductions and apologies

Welcome to Inspector Nicki Dean and Superintendent Matt Phillips from Crime Reduction Community Safety. A number of guests were also welcomed to the meeting:

Chief Superintendent Geoff Camp – GC is the Chair of the Coercive Powers Board and joined the meeting to observe

PC Nicholas Anstead and Sergeant Terry Alcock joined the meeting to observe the panel session and the dip sampling of records.

2) Approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting on the 25th February were agreed.

3) 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

The data session took place on Thursday 14th January 2021 with Chris Pratt, Head of Thinking and Analysis.

There have been a number of updates since the last meeting:

- Slides from the Coercive Powers Board have now been shared with the panel.
- SM has written a paper to pull together the discussions that have been had over the past 12-18 months on these topics and this has been shared with the panel.
- CSP data graphs that Alex pulled together have been circulated and a big thank you to AA for this.
- Moving forward there will be separate meetings to focus on the data as per SM's email. This should ensure that the panel receive appropriate responses, that work can be escalated to the coercive powers board and that we do not duplicate work happening elsewhere.

It was discussed that the Panel have been highlighting some areas in the data that require more time to review in detail and that are also being discussed at the Coercive Powers Board. A number of these areas are also picked up in the recent HMICFRS report.

4) HMICFRS report

SM shared a summary paper of the HMICFRS report ahead of the meeting:

MP thanked the panel for what they do before talking through the HMICFRS report. Highlights included:

- Work currently being undertaken to explore disproportionality such as CSP deep dives.
- Upgrade to Tu Serve which will see the ethnicity field being mandatory to complete.
- Working to address drug supply however they are duty bound to deal with what they see – if there is dealing or drug use noted in the streets as they drive past, they have to deal with this positively.
- Lot of activity happening with regards to training. There has been a lot of training over the last year which has mainly taking place remotely rather than in person. The Constabulary have been creating 6 different 2 minute training videos. These will be coming out soon and are looking at issues raised by scrutiny panels and from Community Engagement. These will cover different levels of search, quality of grounds, supervision, quality of interaction with

the member of public and awareness of why someone might behave in that way. They are also looking at informal training skills for day to day interactions.

- Reasonable grounds are being addressed in training.
- Sergeants currently dip sample and review body worn video footage. It has now been introduced for Inspectors to dip sample the Sergeants too.

MP noted that a Home Office report in to Stop & Search rated Hertfordshire as being the 4th highest for arrest rates in the country.

Action: MP to share the Home Office report with the panel

Finally MP noted that a S&S feedback trial is currently in progress. Anyone who has been stopped and searched can now go on to Hertfordshire police internet page and give direct feedback.

5) Dip-sampling of Stop and Search Records and 6) Feedback

Group one reviewed 20 records

Includes group of 4 and group of 2

Confident in 15, not confident in 2. Found that 3 needed more narrative too and were unsure on.

Noted that in general this month's explanations had improved.

Group two reviewed 18 records

Confident in 9, not confident in 9.

Discussed a couple of examples with the group and noted a number of records had smell of cannabis as the only grounds.

Group three reviewed 8 records

Confident in 6, not confident in 2.

Total records reviewed	46
Confident	30
Not confident	13
Not sure	3

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7) 2020/21 Annual report

SM briefly discussed the timings for completing the annual report with the panel along with a few areas that we are seeing in the data. The report will be published ahead of the 24th June Police & Crime Panel meeting.

Discussion with the panel to identify the areas that they want to focus on in the report. These included:

- Recruitment of new panel members
- Continuing to carry out their scrutiny function despite the challenges of the pandemic
- Continued scrutiny with regards to the available data around ethnicity

8) AOB:

The panel confirmed the appointment of Marianne Murphy in to the role of Chair and thanked Jeffrey Burke for his leadership as Chair over the past year.

The nominations for the Deputy and Vice Chair positions will take place ahead of the next meeting.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 29th April 2021 6pm – 8.30pm