

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Scrutiny Panel

Minutes of Stop & Search Scrutiny Session

Date: 23 August 2022

Time: 18:30 – 20:30

Venue: Cambridgeshire Constabulary Headquarters, Huntingdon

Attendees:

- 12 independent panel members
- Superintendent Robbin Sissons, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (RS)
- Sergeant Ciaran Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (CC)
- Jack Hudson, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (JH)
- Matilda Henry, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (MH)
- Inspector Jamie Rice, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Introduction and apologies

- 1.1 The Chair, Al Gadney (AG) welcomed members of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Scrutiny Panel (the "Panel") to the scrutiny meeting of Cambridgeshire Constabulary's (the "Constabulary") use of Stop & Search (S&S).
- 1.2 Apologies received:
The following apologies were received from 2 independent panel members
- 1.3 AG advised that the intention going forward was to hold a panel each month, with a recognition that December 2022, may be an exception, to be discussed nearer the time. Currently no Community Scrutiny Panel is scheduled to take place in either September 2022 or in December 2022. Community Scrutiny Panel meetings for 2022/23 are scheduled for October 2022, November 2022, January 2023 and February 2023. The Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place in March 2023. No Community Scrutiny Panel meetings are currently scheduled for 2023/24. A discussion took place regarding additional scrutiny of Use of Force in Custody, an approach made to the Chair by the Constabulary. It was agreed that AG would speak to the Constabulary to establish scope of the requirements and consider options.

ACTION: 22/08/23/1.3

ACTION: 22/08/23/1.2

2. Minutes of Previous Panel Meeting (24 May 2022)

- 2.1 The minutes of the previous Stop & Search Scrutiny Panel meeting were discussed. The minutes had been circulated by the OPCC, to all attendees, prior to this meeting. No additional comments had been received by the OPCC. AG advised panel members that he had approved the minutes for the Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 24 May 2022, prior to this meeting.

ACTION: 22/08/23/2.1

3. Action Updates from Previous Panel Meeting.

- 3.1 The action log at the end of this document covers all agreed actions from the Stop & Search Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 24 May 2022 in addition to any relevant outstanding actions.
- 3.2 JR advised that he shares a copy of the minutes without names. These are cross referenced with the Body Worn Video reference number provided. A discussion took place regarding the response from officer to the feedback given. Panel members asked the Constabulary for officers' responses to the feedback received from the panel to be included as an Annex to future minutes. This was agreed by the Constabulary.

DECISION: 22/08/23/3.2

4. National Race Action Plan

- 4.1 Guest speaker, Chief Superintendent Becky Tipping (BT), Cambridgeshire Constabulary joined the Scrutiny Panel. BT introduced herself and proceeded to discuss the College of Policing (CoP) and National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) Race Action Plan and activity that was being progressed by the Constabulary. BT discussed a series of focus groups which are being held to support the Constabulary develop their local approach to the Race Action Plan. A focus group was due to take place on 24 August 2022 and panel members were invited to attend.
- 4.2 BT provided further context. The national plan seeks to make policing anti-racist and to identify and address disparities in policing. The plan cuts across the whole of policing with a focus on Black officers, staff and community and aims to improve trust and confidence, which is estimated to be 20% less within those communities. There are four pillars to the plan. They are;
- Use of Force
 - Community Engagement
 - Culture and Inclusivity
 - Repeat victimisation (police response to hate crime, for example)

- 4.3 The first iteration of the plan was issued in May 2022 and is now subject to ongoing consultation with a final iteration due in December 2022. There has been a Black workforce survey that has gone to all those who have self-declared and external feedback has been requested. National and local websites have advertised for and requested feedback from public and external organisations. Focus Groups are part of this process and allow for debate and conversation and are the last part of consultation. The Focus Group is an opportunity for Panel members to provide feedback and influence the plan, with all feedback passed to the national team.
- 4.4 AG reminded all panel members to respond directly to him if they wanted the invitation to the focus group.

5. Vetting / Age Requirements for panel members (Outstanding Actions)

- 5.1 JH provided an update on the decision regarding the vetting of panel members, specifically members of the Use of Force Scrutiny Panel. JH confirmed that a regional decision has been made that there is no requirement for volunteers to be vetted to be members of Community Scrutiny Panels. The Terms of Reference will be amended to reflect this. AG asked whether this applies to accessing the TuServ data supplied for scrutiny selection.

ACTION: 22/08/23/5.1

- 5.2 JH provided an update on an outstanding question relating to the minimum age of panel members. AG had identified a potential volunteer for the Panel who was aged 16. JH highlighted that now the vetting issue had been resolved, it was acceptable to recruit Panel Members aged between 16 and 18 years as long as Parental consent was agreed. Consent form to be created. AG stated that he is keen for this to be progressed to ensure that wider demographics are covered. A conversation took place over the appropriateness of having under 16s in attendance. JH will explore the potential of this but raised issues re safeguarding and the need to protect individuals if younger than 16.

ACTION: 22/08/23/5.2

6. Data Reports - Update from Chair

6.1 AG & RS confirmed that going forward it is intended that SnS performance data will be presented no more than 4 pages in length, whilst not yet finalised data is expected to cover :

- SnS total numbers, ages and ethnicities of subjects, as well as location and legal authority.

6.2 It was agreed that to avoid unnecessary delay during Panel meetings, data will be shared with the calling notice in advance. Members would be expected to have reviewed data and raised discussion points prior to meeting. Data will be presented at meetings for completeness and historic records creation.

7. Web Presence (Outstanding Action)

7.1 The requirement for a Community Scrutiny Group Web presence was an outstanding action. This has progressed and is hosted on the Commissioners Website, but this is work in progress. See link:

[The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire | Community Scrutiny Group \(cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/community-scrutiny-group)

7.2 AG shared his thoughts on the page and welcomed suggestions from panel members to help with the development of this site. An issue with accessing from mobile phones was identified. AG to meet with OPCCs Communications & Engagement Manager, Catherine Kimberley (CK) to explore ideas and further opportunities to enhance the web presence. It was agreed that AG will also discuss the creation of some promotional material that can be used to promote the panel and support recruitment of new members.

ACTION: AG and OPCC to meet and discuss the further development of the current Web presence and promotional material.

8. Community Scrutiny Logo

8.1 AG shared and sought views upon a logo that he has created for use by the Community Scrutiny Panel. General feedback was provided and a favoured option selected. A discussion took place re a marketing budget and opportunities to enhance the logo. JH confirmed there may be an option to

provide a budget towards the design of a logo. The panel agreed that professional input is needed to ensure it is the best it could be. AG agreed to speak to CK along with his discussions outline at 7.2 above.

9. Constabulary Data

- 9.1 CC spoke to the presentation. The slide deck includes a breakdown of information regarding an Officer that was requested in the previous meeting. The conclusion that was drawn from the evidence provided is that this officer is using his powers regularly because he is confident and successful in doing so.
- 9.2 Information on officers who exercised their powers the most and what the breakdown is of each incident is presented in the slide deck. The Constabulary provided an overview of anonymised data relating to officers who had exercised their powers in July 2022, see Annex 1. MM questioned how these statistics compare to other counties. CC confirmed this information would be hard to find and that priorities differ across counties and therefore Chief Constables invest their resources into different areas of business.

ACTION:22/08/23/9.0

10. Body Worn Video Reviews

- 10.1 Re the availability of Body Worn Video, CC identified that every incident that AG requested for the purposes of this meeting had BWV available. The panel recognised and commended the work by RB and his team in improving availability of BWV.
- 10.2 Stop & Search Review 1 SS/3582191272/39
Brief circumstances: Officers received information that an address is being used by persons believed to be county lines drug dealers. Resident was a known class A drug user who allowed officers entry after a brief delay. Hiding in the rear bedroom was a male recognised as having been involved in offences under s.23 Misuse of Drugs Act.

For the Panel and Chair's comments see Annex 2. The panel rated it as Green with positive feedback to be provided to the officer.

A discussion took place regarding positive behaviour of the officers during strip search audio: CC spoke to this and stated the officers acted professionally and empathetically making sure the individual was aware of everything that would happen. All in agreement that they acted professionally. AG observed that this was the first time that audio has been used for this purpose. AG commended the Constabulary for this as it was a recommendation from the panel to find a way that strip searches could be scrutinised ethically.

ACTION: 22/08/23/10.2

10.3 Stop & Search Review 2 SS/1059437496/11

Brief circumstances: Officers on patrol in an area, which has seen recent incidents involving weapons being carried in the street. Officers sighted the subject of the search, who immediately ran away. Officers located the subject and based upon information available, the location and the actions of the subject, they had reasonable grounds to suspect that the subject was carrying an offensive weapon.

For the Panel and Chair's comments see Annex 3. The panel rated it as Green with positive feedback to be provided to the officer.

10.4 Stop & Search Review 3 SS/3653535331/22

Brief circumstances: Report of a male with handgun. A description was obtained. As Officers approached a male, matching the description he ran off, but later returned. From the matching description and his actions when approached the Officers, they believed that had reasonable grounds to conduct this search.

For the Panel and Chair's comments see Annex 4. The panel rated it as Green with positive feedback to be provided to the officer.

A discussion took place regarding the demeanour of Armed Policing Officers. Some of the panel felt that they escalated the situation unnecessarily at the point they intervened. CC & RS confirmed that this is not unreasonable behaviour when intelligence suggests the suspect has a gun. There were mixed opinions on this and a general consensus was not reached. AG noted that Joint Protective Services also had a proactive Stop & Search Scrutiny Group. Panel wanted to stress that during review of the cases in this meeting, all neighbourhood front line Cambs officers had shown excellent demeanour and professionalism. Whilst the debate about the JPS officers demonstrated differences of opinion, Panel members were unanimous in their support for the ethical execution of duties by local constabulary.

10.5 Stop & Search Review 4 SS/2780764422/11

Time did not allow for Stop & Search Review 4 to be scrutinised by the Panel.

11. Any Other Business

11.1 JPS panel (hosted by Bedford on MS Teams): AG invited all attendees of the panel to contact him if they wish to attend.

12. Date of Next Meeting

12.1 The date of the next Community Scrutiny Panel on the Use of Force is scheduled to take place on 25 October 2022 at Thorpe Wood Police Station.

The possibility of a September meeting has been actioned.

Action and Decision Log: Stop & Search Community Scrutiny Panel

Action/Decision	Date	Information	Owner	Update
ACTION:22/08/23/10.4	23/08/22	Grading numbers to be added to RAG GRADING. Green 1-3, Amber 4-6, Red 7-9.	PCC	
ACTION:22/08/23/10.1	23/08/22	Grounds Assessment Criteria to be printed and made available at all panel meetings.	PCC	
ACTION: 22/08/23/10.2	23/08/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel for SS/3582191272/39 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.	RS	
ACTION: 22/08/23/10.3	23/08/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel for SS/3582191272/39 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.	RS	
ACTION: 22/08/23/9.0	23/08/22	Explore the potential of the slide deck for the meeting being shared in advance so that panel members have the opportunity to review content in advance of the panel.	AG & RS	
DECISION: 22/08/23/6.0	23/08/22	Data will be shared in advance of the meeting and only questions raised in advance will be addressed in the panel.	AG	
ACTION: 22/08/23/5.2	23/08/22	Consent form to be created for panel members 16 years of age. What are the restrictions around having people under the age of 16 attend?	OPCC	

ACTION: 22/08/23/5.1	23/08/22	Explore whether vetting is needed of panel members in order to access force data.	RS	Panel members do not have unfettered access to force data so this is not needed.
ACTION: 22/08/23/5.0	23/08/22	ToR to be updated to reflect recent changes: No vetting needed for panel members 16 y/os with consent able to attend	OPCC	
DECISION: 22/08/23/3.2	23/08/22	Actions and feedback from constabulary side should be distributed within SP papers.	JR	
ACTION: 22/08/23/1.2	23/08/22	RS and AG to work together to establish whether or not a September meeting is possible. Ideally AG would like the focus to be Use of Force in Custody and hosted on MS Teams. If this isn't possible it will be Use of Force Peterborough. Rotation to be updated depending on September possibility. If not, then the October meeting can be brought forward and future meetings rotation altered as necessary. OPCC to scheduled alternate Stop & Search / Use of Force Scrutiny Panel meetings for 2023/24 in addition to an AGM in March 2024.	RS AG	
ACTION: 22/08/23/2.1	23/08/22	Minutes of S&S Scrutiny Panel to be published on the Police & Crime Commissioners Website.	OPCC	

		<p>A conversation took place around whether members would be willing to have names and faces appear on the website. General consensus was yes.</p> <p>JH will send consent form around to all panel members, via AG.</p>		
ACTION: 22/08/23/1.3	23/08/22	Chair to speak to the Constabulary to consider the scope of their requirements in relation to the Use of Force in Custody. Update from AI needed.	AG	
	24/05/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel for SS/1340331462/18 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.		No update at SP 23/08/22
	24/05/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel re SS/0419581062/30 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.		No update at SP 23/08/22
	24/05/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel re SS/3141959646/87 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken		No update at SP 23/08/22
	24/05/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel re SS/2608895841/7 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.		No update at SP 23/08/22
ACTION 1.3	21/02/22	The Stop & Search Review Form to be amended to include an additional section for reviewing the Grounds as written in the TuServ system, which will be undertaken		Action complete 23/08/22.

		<p>prior to BWV review. This will be assessed on its own merits and then the whole S&S will be assessed with an overall grading. Action allocated to OPCC.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: There are several iterations of this form and the latest iteration was in use at this meeting. The forms have evolved over time. Feedback was required. It was agreed that a final iteration would be signed off by the Chair prior to the next S&S Scrutiny meeting. Action complete.</p>		
ACTION 4.1	21/02/22	<p>Re Training Incident Feedback. AG to share findings with the Panel once all discussion has taken place.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: AG advised that this feedback had been shared with all Panel members.</p>		Action complete.
ACTION 4.3	21/02/22	<p>RS to notify AG when the next Unconscious Bias input session would be so that invites could be shared with Panel members.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: This was progressed following the last meeting. Dates of training input to student officers had been circulated. For clarity the purpose of Panel members attending Unconscious Bias input was to enable Panel members to understand what training student officers</p>		Action Complete.

		receive. This followed the training incident experienced during a role play sessions.		
	24/05/22	Constabulary to be the liaison point for future training needs and requirements.		Action complete 23/08/22
ACTION 5.1 21/02/22	21/02/22	<p>RS to progress use of audio during strip search and update panel at next meeting.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: RS provided an update on the use of audio during strip searches and the challenges associated with using audio only on Body Worn Video (BWV). It has been agreed that medical rooms in Custody Suite, which have audio recording facilities will be used for the purposes of strip searches. A discussion took place regarding the extent to which a strip search can be undertaken. RS explained this to the Panel.</p>		Action Complete.
ACTION 6.1 (21/02/22)	21/02/22	<p>AG requested that the Constabulary provide the Panel with monthly anonymised data for the use of S&S related powers.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: The presentation provided by the Constabulary, see Section 4 below, included the data as requested. This will become a standing agenda item. AG asked whether the Panel considered that it would be useful to receive this information prior to the meeting. MM asked</p>		Action Complete.

		<p>why can't TruServ data show officer reference, i.e. Collar Number not just ID Reference. CC advised that this data had been taken out of TruServe and that the ID Reference was a unique reference which related to the Officer. AG suggested that this was the first time that the Panel had seen this data and that the Panel would monitor the data provided to establish whether further data was necessary.</p>		
ACTION 8.2 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	<p>Stop & Search Review 1 (SS/1772572622/42. RAG Assessment – Amber. Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: Feedback from the Scrutiny Group was considered by the Constabulary and fed back to the Officers.</p>		No update given at 23/08/22
ACTION 8.3 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	<p>Stop & Search Review 2. SS/0500697070/9. RAG Assessment – Green. Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: Feedback from the Scrutiny Group was considered by the Constabulary and fed back to the Officers.</p>		No update given at 23/08/22
ACTION 8.4 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	<p>Stop & Search Review 3. SS/3141959646/72. RAG Assessment –</p>		No update given at 23/08/22

		<p>Red. Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel and update the panel on any subsequent action taken. The agreed protocol for those assessed as Red is that this S&S should be referred to PSD, by the Constabulary for their consideration.</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: PSD reviewed this matter and have reviewed the body worn video footage of the search. Whilst there are elements that may have been missing from the encounter, PSD are content that the behaviours do not amount to a significant breach of the standards of professional behaviour to merit a conduct investigation. As such no further action is to be taken by PSD and this matter will be closed. It will remain on PSD systems for corporate memory and is passed back to Cambs for localised learning to be addressed by line managers for the officers concerned.</p> <p>RS advised that following PSD's determination, they will now go back to the officer's line manager informing them of the panels observations. The expectation being that they will make the officer's aware so that learning can be achieved.</p>		
ACTION 8.5 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	Stop & Search Review 4. SS/3141959646/73. RAG Assessment –		No update given at 23/08/22

		<p>Green. Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel and update the panel on any subsequent action taken</p> <p>UPDATE as of 24/05/22: Feedback from the Scrutiny Group was considered by the Constabulary and fed back to the Officers.</p>		
	24/05/22	Constabulary to provide further clarity on the data provided, for example why one officer had eleven stops.		<p>Update given at 23/08/22 SP.</p> <p>Action closed.</p>