

## Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Scrutiny Panel

### Minutes of Stop & Search Scrutiny Session

Date: 25 October 2022

Time: 18:30 – 20:30

Venue: Thorpe Wood Police Station, Peterborough

#### **Attendees:**

- 10 independent panel members
- Superintendent Robbin Sissons, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (RS)
- Sergeant Ciaran Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (CC)
- Detective Constable Julie McDougall-Waters, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (JM)
- Caitlin Bones, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (CB)
- Jack Hudson, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (JH)
- Fran Toovey, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (FT)

## **1. 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 Introductions were made including a welcome to CB, Cambridgeshire Constabulary's Ethics & Legitimacy Co-ordinator who joined the meeting for the first time.
- 1.3 AG suggested that the Panel membership needed to be formed from a diverse group which is representative of the communities it serves. BO and AW suggested there may be opportunities to approach people within their communities in Peterborough which AG agreed was worth consideration.
- 1.4 The following apologies were received:
  - Ellis Weinberger
  - Roland Pears
  - Keith Parish
  - Amir Suleman
- 1.5 AG briefly updated the Panel on the Terms of Reference update on Panel members attending meetings with a minimum requirement of four (4) Panel members in addition to the Chair and a maximum of fifteen (15) Panel members including the Chair.

## **2. Minutes of Previous Panel Meeting (23 August 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 AG or the

OPCC so the minutes for the Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 23 August 2022 were therefore approved.

### **3. Action Updates from Previous 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 25 October 2022 in addition to any relevant outstanding actions.

3.2 Action 22/08/23/5.2 from 23/08/22 regarding the restrictions around having people under the age of 16 attend was discussed. JH explained the difficulties of having under-16's attend this Panel and suggested we instead look at options for similar scrutiny through Youth Panels.

***ACTION: 22/10/25/3.2***

### **4. Stop & Search Performance Updates**

4.1 AG enquired whether positive feedback from the Panel was shared more widely. RS confirmed that it was during strategic monthly S&S and UoF meetings with feedback provided to Chief Inspectors to pass down to teams. RS confirmed that the ACC is also apprised of positive feedback and outliers.

4.2 AG went on to enquire whether positively rated BWV could be shared to demonstrate good practice to other officers.

***ACTION:22/10/25/4.2***

### **5. Training Support Dates**

5.1 AG spoke to the presentation regarding forthcoming training dates for new recruits and suggested that he create a Community Scrutiny Panel presentation to be used at training held at Monk's Wood, if this is something seen as beneficial.

***ACTION:22/10/25/5.1***

## **6. Constabulary Data**

- 6.1 RS updated the Panel on previous issue of potential bias experienced by a Panel member during their participation as a volunteer in a police training role play. This incident was, in itself, used for officer training. RS confirmed Constabulary now endeavours to ensure volunteers from a pool of serving officers from ethnic minority backgrounds are involved in all such training.
- 6.2 AG shared data prepared by Constabulary as a proposed regular data pack. AG informed the Panel that he is in continuing discussion on the content of this data pack and the regularity in which it would be requested. This is an ongoing action.
- 6.3 AG shared content of a document that he is drafting as an update to the Discussion Document from 2021. Stop and Search total numbers, ethnicities, legislation as well as efficacy were included. Panel noted an improvement in efficacy and also a continued disproportionality of people from ethnic minority backgrounds undergoing Stop and Search. MM suggested that the overall data shows no obvious geographic disparity having plotted all S&S incidents on a map and found the coverage showed a very broad spread and no obvious ethnicity hotspots. The Panel agreed that racism had never been seen in any of the BWVs scrutinised, but AG asked whether there is something else causing an imbalance in the statistics.
- 6.4 Information on officers who exercised their powers the most and what the breakdown is of each incident was presented in the slide deck. The Constabulary provided an overview of anonymised data relating to officers who had exercised their powers in September 2022. RS confirmed that he reviews high users and all S&S where handcuffs are used.
- 6.5 AG asked for the Panel's thoughts on receiving this data and the consensus was that the Panel do still want to receive it. AG suggested that the following documents are attached to all calling notices moving forward:

- Minutes of previous meeting
- Action and decisions log
- Constabulary data
- Summary of monthly statistics
- Frequent searcher report

### ***DECISION:22/10/25/6.5***

## **7. Body Worn Video Reviews**

7.1 Regarding availability of Body Worn Video, JM identified that out of 8 incidents selected by AG for the purposes of this meeting, 7 had BWV available and 1 had partial due to fault with camera. The Panel recognised the increased availability of BWV.

7.2 Additional to the selection of BWV were 2 strip searches – no additional grounds as linked to an ongoing operation. RS explained that following a recent change to strip search policy, these will now be done in a police station suitably equipped with sound recording equipment. This was not known to the officers conducting the two searches mentioned and has already been fed back to their supervisors.

### **7.3 Stop & Search Review 1 - SS/1966200011/45**

Brief circumstances: Male was seen coming from an area known for drug use. He was using an electric scooter but immediately said that it wasn't his. There was a strong isolated smell of Cannabis coming from the male, even when moving around the smell was emanating directly from the male. He was wearing a man-bag which he was very evasive about.

For the Panel and Chair's comments see Annex 1. The panel rated it as Amber with guidance to be fed back to the officer.

### ***ACTION: 22/10/25/7.3***

A discussion took place regarding insufficient detail in the grounds, which on their own were rated Red – below expected standard; the officer's use of GOWISELY and not starting the video early enough. All in agreement that the officer acted professionally, was very courteous and ethical.

#### **7.4 Stop & Search Review 2 - SS/0128078458/10**

Brief circumstances: It is alleged that two males matching a given description had stolen bottles of alcohol from a nearby supermarket, around 20 minutes prior to being stop searched under Section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act.

For the Panel and Chair's comments see Annex 2. The panel rated it as Amber with guidance to be fed back to the officer.

#### ***ACTION: 22/10/25/7.4***

A discussion took place regarding the use of handcuffs and how these are typically deployed in S&S situations. The Panel felt the grounds sparse, detail of the description and other supporting detail needed. All in agreement that the officer acted professionally and kept the situation calm.

#### **7.5 Stop & Search Review 3 - SS/0770871850/1**

There was no BWV available for Stop & Search Review 3 to be scrutinised by the Panel.

#### **7.6 Stop & Search Review 4 - SS/3702843619/1**

Brief circumstances: A female was strip searched under Section 23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act in connection with an ongoing operation at the address. She was discovered hiding with drug paraphernalia around her and also admitted to smoking crack on a daily basis. The location of the property was such that the officer believed there was opportunity to hide items after officers entered the building. Female appeared nervous and kept pulling at herself and clothing.

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.

***ACTION: 22/10/25/7.6.1***

A discussion took place regarding care needed in placement of BWV during strip searches. All in agreement that the officers acted professionally and undertook the search with empathy.

A further discussion took place regarding the use of BWV for this strip search and why it had not been turned on prior to entry into the address. CC explained that there is no universal rule on BWV in these situations. RS to make further enquiries.

***ACTION: 22/10/25/7.6.2***

**7.7 Stop & Search Review 5 - SS/0317108045/1**

Time did not allow for Stop & Search Review 5 to be scrutinised by the Panel.

**7.8 Stop & Search Review 6 - SS/2390772241/1**

Time did not allow for Stop & Search Review 6 to be scrutinised by the Panel.

**8. Any Other Business**

8.1 AG invited all attendees of the Panel to contact him if they wish to provide a testimonial for the OPCC website.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

9.1 The date of the next Community Scrutiny Panel on the Use of Force is scheduled to take place on 22 November 2022 at Parkside Police Station, Cambridge.

### Action and Decision Log: Stop & Search Community Scrutiny Panel

Action/Decision	Date	Information	Owner	Update
ACTION:22/10/25/7.6.2	25/10/22	Explore why BWV is not started when entering premises during Section 8 warrant to pre-empt any possible S&S incidents.	RS	RS has reviewed force protocol and it is best practice to use BWV when executing warrants. The Constabulary will make best efforts to capture this footage for the panel going forwards.
ACTION:22/10/25/7.6.1	25/10/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel for SS/3702843619/1 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.	JR	
ACTION:22/10/25/7.4	25/10/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel for SS/0128078458/10 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.	JR	
ACTION:22/10/25/7.3	25/10/22	The Constabulary to review the findings of the Panel for SS/1966200011/45 and update the panel on any subsequent action taken.	JR	
DECISION:22/10/25/6.5	25/10/22	AG suggested that calling notices include;	OPCC	



		Minutes of previous meeting (including Action & Decisions Log); Constabulary data; Summary of monthly statistics; Frequent Searcher report.		
ACTION:22/10/25/5.1	25/10/22	Explore benefits of having a CSP presentation to be used during training of new recruits.	RS	RS has approached the training team and they are more than happy for this to be incorporated into their training. They suggest that a video would be good as it provides more flexibility on when they show it and will have less impact on the panel / gives consistency in delivery and is a contingency for times the panel can't make it.
ACTION:22/10/25/4.1	25/10/22	Explore ways of wider sharing 'Good Practice' using positively rated BWV.	RS	RS confirmed this is being adopted by the Constabulary and they are already looking at comparing a good interaction with a poor one as a learning tool for trauma impact on youths.

ACTION:22/10/25/3.2	25/10/22	Look at alternative for under-16's to get involved with scrutiny – possibly through Youth Panels.	JH	
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 closed – 25/10/22
ACTION:22/08/23/10.1	23/08/22	Grounds Assessment Criteria to be printed and made available at all panel meetings.	AG OPCC	Action ongoing – 25/10/22
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. Officers emailed.	RS	Action closed – 25/10/22
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. Officers emailed.	RS	Action closed – 25/10/22
ACTION: 22/08/23/9.0	23/08/22	Explore the potential of the slide deck for the meeting being shared in advance so	AG & RS	Action closed – 25/10/22

		that panel members have the opportunity to review content in advance of the panel. Slide deck not always complete until day of meeting so option not practical.		
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. Looking to share data quarterly?	AG	Action ongoing – 25/10/22
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 closed – 25/10/22
ACTION: 22/08/23/5.1	23/08/22	Explore whether vetting is needed of panel members in order to access force data. Panel members do not have unfettered access to force data, so this is not needed.	RS	Action closed – 25/10/22
ACTION: 22/08/23/5.0	23/08/22	ToR to be updated to reflect recent changes: No vetting needed for panel members 16-year-olds with consent able to attend	OPCC	Action closed – 25/10/22

DECISION: 22/08/23/3.2	23/08/22	Actions and feedback from constabulary side should be distributed within SP papers.	JR	Decision closed – 25/10/22
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 closed – 25/10/22
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	Action ongoing - 25/10/22

		A conversation took place around whether members would be willing to have names and faces appear on the website. General consensus was yes. JH will send consent form around to all panel members, via AG.		Consent form has been signed by all members who have attended meetings since 23/08/22.
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	Action ongoing - 25/10/22
	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	<p>The Stop &amp; 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 prior to BWV review. This will be assessed on its own merits and then the whole S&amp;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&amp;S Scrutiny meeting. Action complete.</p>		Action Complete 23/08/22.

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 receive. This followed the training incident experienced during a role play sessions.</p>		Action Complete.
	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&amp;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</p>		Action Complete.



		<p>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 why can't TuServ data show officer reference, i.e. Collar Number not just ID Reference. CC advised that this data had been taken out of TuServe 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 &amp; 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. UPDATE as of 24/05/22: Feedback from the Scrutiny Group was considered by</p>		No update given at 23/08/22

		the Constabulary and fed back to the Officers.		
ACTION 8.3 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	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. UPDATE as of 24/05/22: Feedback from the Scrutiny Group was considered by the Constabulary and fed back to the Officers.		No update given at 23/08/22
ACTION 8.4 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	Stop & Search Review 3. SS/3141959646/72. RAG Assessment – 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.		No update given at 23/08/22

		<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>		
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ACTION 8.5 (21/02/22):	21/02/22	<p>Stop &amp; Search Review 4.  SS/3141959646/73. 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
	24/05/22	Constabulary to provide further clarity on the data provided, for example why one officer had eleven stops.		Update given at 23/08/22 SP. Action closed.