

## Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Scrutiny Panel

### Use of Force

Panel date:	23 May 2023
Number of panel members in attendance:	Panel Chair and 6 members
Constabulary attendees:	<i>Superintendent Robin Sissons, PS Ciaran Constable, Caitlin Bones (Ethics and Legitimacy Coordinator)</i>
OPCC attendees:	<i>Matilda Henry (Senior Policy Officer), Charmaine Christie (Review, Compliance and Governance Officer)</i>
Agenda item 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Body Worn Video retention – Constabulary explained that CCTV currently has a thirty-day retention period. A request has been made to extend this to ninety days, however there is a financial impact to consider for this. This is currently being reviewed.</li> </ul>
Minutes & AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes from the previous use of force meeting were agreed by the Panel.</li> <li>Reminder to Panel members that there are upcoming stop and search officer training days at Monkswood.</li> </ul>
Date of next meeting	27 June 2023 – Stop and Search

<b>Panel date:</b>	<b>23/05/23</b>	<b>BWV reference:</b>	<b>UF/0986214963/32</b>
<b>Incident date:</b>	<b>01/04/2023</b>	<b>Incident time:</b>	<b>02:20:00</b>

#### Background information:

Dangerous Driving- Vehicle has driven wrong way down the A421 (BEDS) into CAMBS where he has driven wrong way down the A1 Northbound on the southbound. Whilst failing to stop for Police.

Type(s) of force seen (please tick):

Handcuffs	X	Firearms		Shield	
Taser – Fired	X	Unarmed Defence Tactics (UDT)		Spit guard	
Taser – Red-dotted		Pava spray		Dogs	X
Baton		Leg restraint		Other (state in comments)	

<b>PLANTER Assessment (please select):</b>	
If a member of your family experienced this use of force, would you be content with what you have seen?	
Did the officer seek to de-escalate prior to using force?	
If required, was medical attention sought?	
<b>P</b> – was the use of force <b>proportionate</b> for the risk faced by the officer?	
<b>L</b> – was the <b>length of time</b> the force used acceptable?	
<b>A</b> – do the <b>actions</b> of the member of the public warrant force to be used?	
<b>N</b> – was it <b>necessary</b> to use force to protect the officer(s) or members of the public?	
<b>T</b> – was the <b>type</b> of the force used appropriate?	
<b>E</b> – was it <b>ethical</b> to use force in the situation?	
<b>R</b> – Was it <b>reasonable</b> for the officer to use force?	

<b>Code of Ethics:</b>
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<b>Without prejudice</b> – I will act and make decisions without prejudice

Do you think the officer adhered to the code of ethics (as detailed above)?	
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<b>Additional Body Worn Video - from other attending officers at incident (please complete if applicable):</b>
Comments:

<b>Comments, concerns and/or compliments:</b>
<p><b>Comments discussed and noted at panel:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Force response – CC advised the Panel that some officers have additional training on pursuit driving, stingers and tactical contact. Tactical contact may be considered when it's been considered that there is a high risk to others.</li> <li>• No issues with what was seen.</li> <li>• Panel member asked about the use of dogs. Force response – RS advised that the dog unit would be at the back of the officers, the dog will be released, the dog will detain the offender and then officers will follow. CC advised that using a dog is also considered as use of force.</li> <li>• Used of force seen was appropriate.</li> <li>• Difficult situation handled very well to prevent escalation.</li> <li>• Appears the force used was necessary.</li> </ul>
<b>RAG rating:</b> Green 1

<b>Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:</b>	
<b>Actions arising:</b>	<b>Feedback:</b>

<b>Panel date:</b>	<b>23/05/23</b>	<b>BWV reference:</b>	<b>UF/1728985034/3</b>
<b>Incident date:</b>	<b>01/04/2023</b>	<b>Incident time:</b>	<b>06:30:00</b>

<b>Background information:</b>					
Informant calls to say he has been hit over the head with a bottle and a male his smashing up his property. Police attend, arrest the male, and he is then transported to Addenbrookes for medical attention. The BWV shows use of force while at Addenbrookes. Male is very difficult and violent.					
Type(s) of force seen (please tick):					
Handcuffs	X	Firearms		Shield	
Taser – Fired		Unarmed Defence Tactics (UDT)		Spit guard	
Taser – Red-dotted		Pava spray		Dogs	
Baton		Leg restraint	X	Other (state in comments)	X

<b>PLANTER Assessment (please select):</b>	
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Do you think the officer adhered to the code of ethics (as detailed above)?	

**Additional Body Worn Video - from other attending officers at incident  
(please complete if applicable):**

Comments:

<b>Comments, concerns and/or compliments:</b>
<p><b>Comments discussed and noted at panel:</b></p> <p>Panel viewed BWV from three of the attending officers and provided feedback to the overall handling of the incident.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None of the footage viewed shows the incident leading to force being used so it is difficult to see whether it was justified.</li> <li>• Force response - RS advised that the male was initially handcuffed to the front which shows compliance suggesting he has then become non-compliant.</li> <li>• Offender repeatedly asked for an officer's name and collar number, but the officer refused to provide their details. Why was this? Force response - RS advised that this was probably because the offender would forget due to their alcohol consumption. It would be better for the details to be provided to him later.</li> <li>• The lack of information being provided to the male by the officers may have escalated the situation. An officer also tells him to shut up. The officer [believed to</li> </ul>

be a Sergeant] who opens the van door provides the male with information and talks to him in a calm way.

- Officers could have continued to speak to the offender throughout. The lack of communication may have escalated the situation. If they continued to speak to him this may have helped to diffuse the situation.
- There were six officers around the offender with no communication being given to him.
- Considering of the code of ethics, was it right that he was left in the van in urine and was also left on the floor for a while?
- Officers had good communication between themselves, but not with the offender. Force response - RS stated that the officers were being calm and focused on communicating with each other.
- Officer should not have told him to shut up – not very respectful or professional. However, the male officer spoke to him with respect throughout, even though he was shouting and swearing at the officers.
- The officers appeared respectful and treated the male with dignity when he asked for his shoes.
- Officers appeared calm but could have de-escalated situation better.
- Warranted restraints in this particular situation.
- Unable to fully comments on whether the use of force was justified as footage does not show the incident that led to force being used.

<b>RAG rating:</b>	Amber 4/5
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**Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:**

<b>Actions arising:</b>	<b>Feedback:</b>

<b>Panel date:</b>	<b>23/05/23</b>	<b>BWV reference:</b>	<b>UF/1984232108/3</b>
<b>Incident date:</b>	<b>02/04/2023</b>	<b>Incident time:</b>	<b>19:30:00</b>

<b>Background information:</b>					
Police called by teenage male stating two males had attempted to rob him and states they may have had knives. Descriptions given by informant - Two black males, American. One wearing all black, one wearing all white and both wearing crocs named, Jonah and Joso - spelling unknown.					
Type(s) of force seen (please tick):					
Handcuffs	X	Firearms		Shield	
Taser – Fired		Unarmed Defence Tactics (UDT)		Spit guard	
Taser – Red-dotted	X	Pava spray		Dogs	
Baton		Leg restraint		Other (state in comments)	

<b>PLANTER Assessment (please select):</b>	
If a member of your family experienced this use of force, would you be content with what you have seen?	
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Do you think the officer adhered to the code of ethics (as detailed above)?	

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(please complete if applicable):**

Comments:

<b>Comments, concerns and/or compliments:</b>
<p><b>Comments discussed and noted at panel:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wasn't sure whether handcuffs were necessary as the suspects appeared compliant.</li> <li>• There was an allegation of them being in possession of a weapon so can understand why handcuffs were used.</li> <li>• There was a lack of communication from officers with the suspects and feel it would have been better for officers to explain what was happening or going to happen.</li> <li>• Officers did not tell them that they were going to search them before they started nor provide them with their details.</li> <li>• Should there have been a warning before the officer red-dotted a taser? Did not hear this happen.</li> <li>• Not sure if handcuffs were required.</li> <li>• Would have liked to see the handcuffs removed sooner.</li> </ul>



- Communication to the children needed to have been better. More communication would have eased the situation and also explained each action which was going to be taken. The children were compliant so it would have been good to have had that interaction with them.
- Firm and clear response by officers. Softened approach after initial compliance at the scene.
- If they were compliant, why were they handcuffed to the back?

**RAG rating:** Green 3

**Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:**

Actions arising:	Feedback:

<b>Panel date:</b>	<b>23/05/23</b>	<b>BWV reference:</b>	<b>UF/1813505277/7</b>
<b>Incident date:</b>	<b>04/04/2023</b>	<b>Incident time:</b>	<b>01:15:00</b>

**Background information:**

Officer initiated incident due to manner of driving of vehicle. 'Crash crash' heard in the background. No injuries, crashed into a curb, airbags not deployed.

Type(s) of force seen (please tick):

Handcuffs	X	Firearms		Shield	
Taser – Fired		Unarmed Defence Tactics (UDT)		Spit guard	
Taser – Red-dotted	X	Pava spray		Dogs	
Baton		Leg restraint		Other (state in comments)	

**PLANTER Assessment (please select):**

If a member of your family experienced this use of force, would you be content with what you have seen?	
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Do you think the officer adhered to the code of ethics (as detailed above)?	

<b>Additional Body Worn Video - from other attending officers at incident (please complete if applicable):</b>
Comments:

<b>Comments, concerns and/or compliments:</b>	
<b>Comments discussed and noted at panel:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officer was respectful and provided good communication to the offender. He explained what he was doing to the offender as he was doing it and helped the offender stand up when asked.</li> <li>• Officers took the time to explain to the offender's family members what was happening when they turned up.</li> <li>• Officers managed the situation very well.</li> <li>• Officer was assertive and clear about what was going to happen. The situation gradually de-escalated and became calm.</li> </ul>	
<b>RAG rating:</b>	Green 1

<b>Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:</b>	
<b>Actions arising:</b>	<b>Feedback:</b>

<b>Panel date:</b>	23/05/23	<b>BWV reference:</b>	UF/2369630193/3
<b>Incident date:</b>	15/04/2023	<b>Incident time:</b>	20:37:00

<b>Background information:</b>					
Informant on a train reports 4 men and female fighting on the train. Thinks male assaulting female. Fight spills onto the platform.					
Type(s) of force seen (please tick):					
Handcuffs		Firearms		Shield	
Taser – Fired		Unarmed Defence Tactics (UDT)		Spit guard	
Taser – Red-dotted		Pava spray		Dogs	X
Baton		Leg restraint		Other (state in	

				comments)	
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Do you think the officer adhered to the code of ethics (as detailed above)?	

<p><b>Additional Body Worn Video - from other attending officers at incident (please complete if applicable):</b></p>
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Comments:

**Comments, concerns and/or compliments:**

**Comments discussed and noted at panel:**

- Good communication from the officer.
- Very good communication. Officer was calm and explained what was happening very well.
- Very clear instructions from first contact.
- Liked the explanation that was given to the member of the public as to why the dog was deployed and waiting for other officers.

**RAG rating:** Green 1

**Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:**

**Actions arising:**

**Feedback:**