

Use of Force Minutes

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| Panel date: | 5 June 2025 |
| Number of panel members in attendance: | 8 |
| Constabulary attendees: | <i>Caitlin Bones, Inclusion & Legitimacy Co-ordinator (CB), Superintendent Steve Kerridge (SK), Inspector Colin Norden (CN), Sergeant Sean Feline (SF), Chief Inspector Paul Ormerod (PO), Sergeant Ian Brown (IB)</i> |
| OPCC attendees: | <i>Heather Sheldon, Head of Governance & Compliance (HS), Charmaine Christie, Review, Compliance & Governance Officer (CC)</i> |
| | <p>Previous Minutes and Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The panel agreed the minutes for the previous 2 use of force scrutiny meetings. |
| | <p>MBR Acres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For this meeting, the panel were invited to scrutinise the policing response to a protest that occurred at MBR Acres on 26 April 2025. At the start of the meeting, the Constabulary provided background information about MBR Acres, Camp Beagle and the police expectation and preparation ahead of 26 April 2025. |
| | <p>Use of force data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Constabulary explained that there were 978 use of force forms completed for April 2025, of which 41 were related to the protest at MBR Acres on 26 April 2025. |
| Date of next meeting | 26 June 2025 – Stop and search |

| Incident 1 | | | |
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| Review Date: | 5 June 2025 | BWV reference: | #4995419 |

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| Background Information: |
| BWV showing officers' management of protesters whilst MBR Acres staff leaving the building. |

Comments, concerns and/or compliments from panel members:

- At the beginning of the incident, when officers are moving protesters out of the road to let the vans out, an officer in orange is seen to push a female protester out of the way aggressively. Understanding the volatile situation, the officer could have used smaller pushes and achieved the same result, rather than pushing the person over. Concerns raised that the protester could have been injured.

Constabulary explained that officers wanted to get the vans containing staff out as quickly as possible to avoid protesters gathering and surrounding the vehicles, hence pushing protesters out of the way as quickly as possible.

- Members felt officers used good communication and a proportionate use of force overall, during a difficult situation. However, raised concerns about the amount of force used by the officer in orange, due to the push being viewed as slightly excessive with suggestion made that a smaller push or pushes could have been as effective.

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| RAG rating: | Use of force by the officer in orange – Amber (all). |
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Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:

| Actions arising: | Feedback: |
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| Name: | Date: |
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| Incident 2 | | | |
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| Review Date: | 5 June 2025 | BWV reference: | 3029/11 & 12 |

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| Background Information: |
| Two incidents were viewed. Firstly, an arrest of male who entered MBR Acres site. Secondly, an arrest of female for assault police where PAVA was used. |

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| Comments, concerns and/or compliments from panel members: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall officers have handled both situations superbly and gave numerous warnings to protesters to tell them to get back. • An officer can be seen wearing a hooped nose ring and members questioned whether this is allowed as has the potential of risk of harm to the officer. The Constabulary stated this isn't allowed as per uniform standards and will be fed back to the officer. | |
| RAG rating: | Male's arrest – Green (all). Female's arrest – Green (7 - 1 member did not vote). |

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| Chair's comments and OPCC Summary: | |
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| Actions arising: | Feedback: |
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| Name: | Date: |

Incident 3

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| Review Date: | 5 June 2025 | BWV reference: | 719/2 |
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Background Information:

BWV showed officers' management of protesters whilst escorting arrested persons into police vans.

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

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Comments, concerns and/or compliments from panel members:

- Officers handled the situation well and used minimal force considering it was a volatile situation where officers were outnumbered by protesters.

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| RAG rating: | Green (all). |
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Chair's comments and OPCC Summary:

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| Actions arising: | Feedback: |
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Incident 4

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| Review Date: | 5 June 2025 | BWV reference: | 317/69 |
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Background Information:

BWV showed a female being pulled away from someone being arrested and the arrest of a male.

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

Comments, concerns and/or compliments from panel members:

- Some members felt the push of the female seemed forceful, but reasonable in the circumstances, whereas others felt the push was excessive as it caused the female to fall over.
- Members had no issues with the arrest of the male.

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| RAG rating: | Push of female – Amber (7). Green (1). Arrest of male - Green (all). |
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Chair’s comments and OPCC Summary:

Chair Comment: I would like to add that the Panel pre brief was excellent and highlighted how much advanced planning goes into such an incident. Given the intelligence of 50 to 60 demonstrators which transpired to be between 250 and 300 on the day we saw impeccable policing with minimal use of force deployed given the circumstances. Yes, there was a Panel comment regarding a push back on a young lady which was unfortunate but this is a recognised public order use of force.

| Actions arising: | Feedback: |
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| Name: Keith Parish | Date: 30/06/2025 |
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