

Action List: Sussex Police & Crime Panel Meeting – 24 September 2021

Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Status
<p>Item 6. The role of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner in ensuring Sussex Police use stop and search powers effectively</p>	<p>1) What is considered reasonable grounds – is there a policy on this that can be provided to the Panel?</p>	<p>PCC</p>	<p>A police officer has powers to stop and search you if they have 'reasonable grounds' to suspect you are carrying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • illegal drugs. • a weapon. • stolen property. • something which could be used to commit a crime [i.e. a crowbar]. <p>You can only be stopped and searched without reasonable grounds if it has been approved by a senior police officer. This can happen if it is suspected that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • serious violence could take place. • you are carrying a weapon or have used one. • you are in a specific location or area. <p>Further information about the police powers to stop and search can be viewed through the following link: https://www.gov.uk/police-powers-to-stop-and-search-your-rights</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED.</p>
	<p>2) To provide policy on use of body worn video (BWV). This was in response to panel members raising queries as to whether it is an officer's choice to use them.</p>	<p>PCC</p>	<p>The Body Worn Video Policy for Sussex Police [and Surrey Police] can be viewed through the following link: https://www.sussex.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/sussex/policies/body-worn-video-policy-surrey-and-sussex-11332019.pdf</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED.</p>

	3) figure for the % of officers wearing BWV	PCC	<p>It is not possible to provide an accurate percentage of the number of police officers who wear Body Worn Video (BWV) in Sussex. However, I can confirm that all frontline police officers and staff in Sussex are equipped with personal-issue cameras to capture and secure real-time evidence in an easy to use and accessible digital format.</p> <p>There is also a pool of shared BWV cameras that can be accessed by officers and staff with a reduced requirement to use his technology as part of their day-to-day duties (i.e. those individuals working within the Criminal Investigation Department). There are several other users who need to review the footage captured by the cameras as part of their roles (i.e. those individuals in the Public Confidence Team within the Professional Standards Department).</p> <p>Sussex and Surrey Police implemented a Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) during 2020/21 that enables both forces to ingest and share video captured through BWV more efficiently, effectively and securely – removing the need for portable digital media.</p> <p>It is also worth emphasising that the current BWV policy [referred to in the answer provided to action 2] is under review and will include improvements to existing policing processes to reflect better the implementation of the DEMS platform and enhancements to existing procedures including the requirement to use BWV in all appropriate circumstances. The revised policy is still in its final stages of validation and will be published shortly. A copy of the policy will be shared with the Sussex Police & Crime Panel secretariat in due course.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED.</p>
--	---	-----	--

	4) Further breakdown of figures from section 2.4 of the report, if possible.	PCC	<p>A more detailed summary of the stop and search encounters referred to in the report has been retrospectively provided to the Sussex Police & Crime Panel.</p> <p>This included further information about the different outcomes achieved during the searches and comparable performance information for the same period in 2019/20.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED.</p>																					
	5) Specifically, a breakdown of ethnicity for the 28% 'no further action taken' (section 2.4 in the report)	PCC	<p>The breakdown of the 7,509 stop and searches in Sussex was reported inaccurately in the Panel report, with only 2,130 searches [28%] having a police outcome and no further action (NFA) taken in respect of the other 5,379 searches [72%].</p> <p>As such, the breakdown of the ethnicity for the 72% individuals subject to a stop and search but NFA can be viewed in the table below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1301 858 1966 1141"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ethnicity</th> <th>1 August 2020 – 31 July 2021</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Asian</td> <td>225</td> <td>4.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black</td> <td>505</td> <td>9.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed</td> <td>109</td> <td>2.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>124</td> <td>2.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White</td> <td>4,416</td> <td>82.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>5,379</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED.</p>	Ethnicity	1 August 2020 – 31 July 2021	Percentage	Asian	225	4.2%	Black	505	9.4%	Mixed	109	2.0%	Other	124	2.3%	White	4,416	82.1%	Total	5,379	100.0%
Ethnicity	1 August 2020 – 31 July 2021	Percentage																						
Asian	225	4.2%																						
Black	505	9.4%																						
Mixed	109	2.0%																						
Other	124	2.3%																						
White	4,416	82.1%																						
Total	5,379	100.0%																						

	<p>6) Comparable figures from another Police force? Can the PCC point the Panel to where these could be found – HMICFRS?</p>	<p>PCC</p>	<p>Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service (HMICFRS) recognise the most similar group of police forces to Sussex to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avon & Somerset• Essex• Hampshire• Hertfordshire• Leicestershire• Staffordshire• Thames Valley <p>Further information about the stop and search figures recorded for each of these areas can be viewed through the following link: https://www.police.uk/</p> <p>COMPLETED.</p>
--	--	------------	---