

Hertfordshire Community Stop and Search Panel

31st March 2025, 10am – 12.30pm

Joint Emergency Services Academy, Stevenage

Minutes

Attendance:

Demitrius Nurse (Chair)	DN	Valerie Shrimplin	VS
Andy Taylor	AT	Dennis Elam	DE
Jerry Rudd	JR	Robert Lloyd	RL
Jacqueline Gaffin	JGa	PS Adrian Pikett	AP
Ben Platt	BP	James Coady, OPCC	JC
Godfrey Minsky	GM	Phoebe Allsopp, OPCC	PA
John Gillett	JGi	Catherine Boon, OPCC	CB
Phil Millard	PM	Sue McNeill, OPCC (minutes)	SMc
Paulette Reed	PR		

Also present: Hitha Kariappa & Chelsea Howard (both students from University of Hertfordshire), Kim Manton (Constabulary), PC Hart, PC Franklin, PC Black, PC Walker and PC Barton.

1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies
1.1	The Chair (DN) welcomed panel members, officers from the Constabulary and observers, particularly Hitha Kariappa, Chelsea Howard and Kim Manton.
1.2	Apologies were noted from: Ch Supt Dean Patient, Supt Owen Pyle, Ch Insp Ricky Bartlett, Insp Clare Cray, Jeffrey Burke, Eddie McCarroll, Bukola Efunshile, Tara Bullworthy, Linda Blake, Mohammad Islam Ruman, David Reynolds and Megan Holland.
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Actions and Matters Arising.
2.1	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed (see pack item 1) and the action tracker was updated (item 2.)
2.2	DN highlighted that the scheduling of agenda items had been altered. The scrutiny would be conducted at the start of the meeting and all other business discussed

	post-feedback. This would allow operational officers to be released back to duty considerably earlier than previously.																																																																																								
2.3	Prior to the meeting, Constabulary feedback was provided by presentation on the individual concerns raised, which the panel accepted without further questions. (Item 3).																																																																																								
3	Panel Feedback – Broxbourne																																																																																								
3.1	PA explained that Q3 data suggested that a high number of stops per arrest and poor positive outcome rates prompted this deep dive.																																																																																								
3.2	The scrutiny took place between 10.15am and 12.05pm. The below grid represents the gradings as recorded by the panel. A registration sheet is cross-referenced with the individual records for accuracy. The figures in brackets relate to scores given for the BWV footage as this is also fed back to the Constabulary but separated so not to distort record review figures. Where the panel was split in its decision, the poorest grade has been recorded.																																																																																								
3.3	As there were insufficient panel members for five subgroups, group five records were not scrutinised, except those subject to the deep dive (Broxbourne)																																																																																								
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3.5	** For two records, the panel felt that the full report was not available and therefore could not be graded. These will be brought back to the next Panel meeting to ensure they are reviewed and graded.				
3.6	The following grid highlights the Broxbourne records subject to the deep dive.				
	No. checked	Green 1 Excellent	Green 2 Satisfactory	Amber 3 Not Confident	Red 4 Serious Concerns
	31 (2 ungraded)	14	12	2	1
3.7	General feedback: The panel noted several reports lacked detail relating to engagement with detainees. For one record, whilst graded Green 2 for the quality of the reporting, the panel asked for feedback on the outcome as it was a serious allegation (knife carrying / threat to blow up hospital). No weapon was found during the search, but the panel asked for further detail as no incident outcome was recorded. The panel agreed that the Data Team had been correct to identify Broxbourne for the deep dive.				
3.8	Post-scrutiny, DN suggested and the panel agreed that the revised agenda order was successful and should continue.				
4	Chair and Panel Updates				
4.1	Chair: - DN attended the recent Police Powers Board, noting that it was data-led and informative. As it had been Ch Supt Dean Patient's last meeting, DN asked that the panel's thanks be formally recorded for his support in recent years.				
4.2	Data Subgroup: - Q1 data to be reviewed ahead of May meeting. - In terms of 'composite ethnicity,' it was recently identified that officers have fewer options on the TuServ system than the public's self-defined categories. 'Other' is possibly available but the issue needs further investigation. - In Oct - Dec 2024 data, St Albans revealed a poor disposal rate for black individuals. As St Albans has previously been subject to deep dive, it would be interesting to compare both data sets. BP asked that, when data is circulated, feedback is provided to the OPCC prior to the meeting. This will allow the opportunity to answer queries, and update/explain the data presentation.				

5	OPCC Updates
5.1	- Mock Panels: During Feb/March 2025, three mock panels were delivered at West Herts College, University of Hertfordshire and Hitchin Girls' School. Between 70-80 students attended. A further mock panel will be held at West Herts College on 8th May ** and will become a regular feature in the University's Police and Public Service course. - Race Inclusion Board's Young Persons Forum: Written stop & search records have been shared with forum members for review and fed back to both the panel and Constabulary. DN has been invited to attend a forum meeting to observe this practice. - Annual Report: a draft of the report will be made available to panel members in due course. - The Police and Crime Plan: now published and can be accessed on the OPCC website via Police & Crime Plan: Fighting Crime, Making Hertfordshire Safer - Communications: New Digital Communications Adviser starts in post on 1st April 2025 <i>** Post-meeting note: invitation to panel members to participate in mock panel emailed on 8th April 2025</i>
5.2	PA advised the panel that this was her last meeting as she was changing roles within the office. DN formally thanked her for the high level of support she had provided to him personally as Chair. JC echoed these thanks for the support to the wider panel and colleagues within the Policy Team.
6	Any Other Business
6.1	DN reminded the panel of the request by OST for suggestions regarding officer training content, adding that the panel was well placed to make valuable recommendations. <i>Post-meeting note: the email was recirculated prior to the meeting on 27th March 2025.</i>
6.2	No other items were raised and DN closed the meeting.
7	Next meeting: Thursday 29 May 2025, 10:00 - 13:00, Hertsmere Borough Council