Stop Search Quarterly Report January – March 2025

Overview

This report is to provide information about Stop Search Scrutiny Panels undertaken by Independent Stop Search Volunteers between 1st January and 31st March 2025.

Panels

Due to several panel meetings being cancelled last year as a result of officer unavailability, a strategic decision has been made to reduce the frequency of these meetings. Going forward, scrutiny panels will now convene on a bi-monthly basis.

To ensure the annual volume of cases reviewed remains consistent, the number of cases considered at each meeting will increase. Each panel session will now review up to 15 cases within a three-hour timeframe.

In quarter 4, 1 Stop Search Scrutiny Panel was conducted and a total of 10 cases were reviewed by the panel. This is split into 5 cases for the north of the county and 5 cases for the south of the county.

Cases	February
North	5
South	5
Total	**10**

Findings

The following table outlines information on the panel's findings into whether the description of the grounds justified the Stop Search, if Body Worn Video (BWV) was available for the cases and if the search was conducted appropriately.

Cases	Did the description of the grounds justify the Stop Search?	Was BWV available?	Was the search conducted appropriately?
North	5	5	5
South	5	5	5
Total	**10**	**10**	**10**

Feedback, Causes of Concern and Good Practice

Examples of good practise

- The panel thought the officers were sensitive with subject and very professional.
- The officers worked well as a pair to find who was best explaining everything to her.

Causes of concern

- The Officer gives the subject the grounds but doesn't explain what the object of the search is. They also never formally say he is detained for the purpose of the search.
- The search didn't seem clear and came across as rushed.

Summary

In summary, the panel concluded that:

- 10 descriptions of the grounds reviewed, did justify a stop search.
- BWV was available for 10 cases reviewed.
- 10 searches were conducted appropriately.