



## **Derbyshire Constabulary Independent Advisory Group**

### **Stop Search Scrutiny Meeting**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

#### **Attendance Police**

*Superintendent Jim Thompson (JT)*

*Sergeant Lee Stacey – Police Presenter (LS)*

*Helen Ham – Head of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (HH)*

*Heather Cunningham – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Compliance Officer (HC)*

#### **Independent members**

*AG – Independent member*

*MD – Independent member*

*JM – Independent member*

*GR – Independent member*

*DD – Independent member*

*SP – Independent member*

*SPe – Independent member*

*LK – Independent member*

*RT – Independent member*

*EE – Independent member*

#### **1) Welcome and Introductions**

This meeting of the panel was held in person at Derbyshire Force Headquarters (FHQ). JT attended the start of the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

HH welcomed all independent members to the meeting and introduced Superintendent JT who provided an overview of Stop Search, including the statistics for the force in the last 12 months. HH explained the process for the in person Stop Search meeting. Sergeant LS, HH and HC presented the cases and Sergeant LS presented the Body Worn Video (BWV).

Persons present in the IAG were asked to introduce themselves and Independent Member SP was appointed Chair for the meeting.

These minutes contain numerous abbreviations. A description of them is explained below.

## **GOWISELY**

Police officers use the mnemonic 'GOWISELY' to ensure the required information is given to members of the public when detained for the purpose of a search.

**G**rounds for search

**O**bject of search

**W**arrant card (if not in uniform or requested)

**I**dentify of officer

**S**tation to which the officer is attached.

**E**ntitlement to a copy of the search record

**L**egal power used.

**Y**ou are detained for the purpose of the search.

**FHQ** – Force Headquarters

**PACE 1984 (s1)** – Police and Criminal Evidence Act (1984) Section 1

**PWITS** - Possession with intent to supply (a controlled drug)

**DP** - Detained person

**BWV** – Body Worn Video

## **2) Feedback from previous meeting**

Opportunity to discuss the previous meetings feedback. This can include actions taken by the Police to address any areas of concern or praise that have previously raised.

## **3) Use of Police Powers Scrutiny**

### **Case 1:**

<b>Date</b>	18/12/2023
<b>Time</b>	18:56
<b>Location</b>	DERBY CITY
<b>Subject</b>	Male 34 W1. White British
<b>PE Search Power:</b>	PACE 1984 (s1)
<b>PE Search Reason:</b>	Bladed article
<b>PE Outcome:</b>	No - no object(s) found

<b>PE Search Clothing Removed</b>	No - no clothes removed
<b>Stop Search type</b>	Stop Search-Person Only
<b>Incident Summary</b>	<p>It was informed to officers that the male had left the home address with a knife on his person. He matched the description given, and also stated that he was the person via name.</p> <p>Observations: due to the information given to officers, and due to the male struggling with mental health and stating that he was going to "SHANK". Information/intelligence: the information given to officers was that the male was struggling with his mental health, left irate and took a knife with him.</p> <p>Suspicion prior to search: I was suspicious that this male was carrying a knife. Due to the information given to us, and when approaching the male, he was showing signs of struggling with his mental health.</p>
<b>Outcome (i.e., arrested)</b>	No further action
<b>Body Worn Video</b>	Yes, viewed by panel.
<b>Panel Observations</b>	<p>Good explanation for grounds for the search.</p> <p>Members of the panel raised concern for officer safety when DP put hands in their pockets prior to search.</p> <p>Members of the panel felt the officer was very calm and collected during the stop search.</p>
<b>Panel Decision</b>	<p>Good grounds for stop search.</p> <p>BWV gave evidence for compliance.</p>
<b>Actions taken by Police</b>	Feedback on the stop search to be shared with officers involved.

**Case 2:**

<b>Date</b>	20/12/2023
<b>Time</b>	18:50
<b>Location</b>	NORMANTON
<b>Subject</b>	Male Not completed NS. Not Stated
<b>PE Search Power:</b>	PACE 1984 (s1)
<b>PE Search Reason:</b>	Bladed article
<b>PE Outcome:</b>	No - no object(s) found
<b>PE Search Clothing Removed</b>	No - outer clothes only (JOG)

<b>Stop Search type</b>	Stop Search-Person Only
<b>Incident Summary</b>	<p>Incident reported by shop security where he had challenged a shoplifter who responded saying he was going to stab the security guard. Informant provided a description of the suspect and direction of travel.</p> <p>Male sighted matching reported description along with another male. Time and distance suggested this could have been suspect.</p> <p>Observations: males sighted walking away from the direction of the reported incident.</p> <p>Information/intelligence: description of suspect provided by informant.</p> <p>Suspicion prior to search: subject matched description of suspect provided by informant.</p>
<b>Outcome (i.e., arrested)</b>	No further action
<b>Body Worn Video</b>	Yes, viewed by panel.
<b>Panel Observations</b>	<p>Good written explanation for grounds for the search.</p> <p>Members of the panel raised that GOWISELY was not conducted prior to the start of the search.</p> <p>The panel noted the calm, respectable demeanour of the officer conducting the search. They felt the second officer involved with the stop search had an antagonistic attitude.</p>
<b>Panel Decision</b>	<p>Good grounds for stop search.</p> <p>BWV gave evidence for compliance.</p>
<b>Actions taken by Police</b>	Feedback on the stop search to be shared with officers involved. Feedback about use of GOSWISELY to be shared with relevant departments.

### Case 3:

<b>Date</b>	21/12/2023
<b>Time</b>	18:00
<b>Location</b>	DERBY CITY
<b>Subject</b>	Male 18 B1. Black Caribbean
<b>PE Search Power:</b>	Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (s23 (PWITS))
<b>PE Search Reason:</b>	Drugs - other controlled drugs

<b>PE Outcome:</b>	No - no object(s) found
<b>PE Search Clothing Removed</b>	No - no clothes removed
<b>Stop Search type</b>	Stop Search-Person Only
<b>Incident Summary</b>	<p>While on Mobile foot patrol in Derby City Centre approached by a member of the public who has said she has just witnessed a Male outside Greggs with 2 x Dogs approach and hand small items to homeless people and that they looked like drugs.</p> <p>Upon attending the area male located still outside Greg's with the 2 dogs and a homeless male nearby. upon sighting Police male turned his back on Police and began to walk off in an attempt to evade police.</p> <p>Observations: initially evasive upon sighting Police.</p> <p>Information/intelligence: MOP has provided initial intelligence.</p> <p>Suspicion prior to search: male seen matches description.</p> <p>Possession of Drugs</p>
<b>Outcome (i.e., arrested)</b>	No further action
<b>Body Worn Video</b>	Yes, viewed by panel.
<b>Panel Observations</b>	<p>Members of the panel observed GOWISELY was happening during the search, and it is best practice for GOWISELY to take place prior to a search.</p> <p>An Independent member of the panel observed that an officer asked the DP to remove their outer coat as part of the search, which was not accurately recorded in the case report.</p> <p>Members of the panel felts the officers involved had good communication with the DP which may have contributed to a compliant stop search.</p>
<b>Panel Decision</b>	<p>Good grounds for stop search.</p> <p>BWV gave evidence for compliance.</p>
<b>Actions taken by Police</b>	Feedback on the stop search to be shared with officers involved. Feedback about use of GOSWISELY to be shared with relevant departments.

#### 4) Further Actions

Request from members of the panel for an updated acronym glossary and links to the minutes to be shared with members of the IAG.

A request from an independent member for an annual meeting to review the annual performance data on stop searches.

**5) Date of next meeting**

As listed on the Scrutiny panel webpage (Derbyshire Police) – this is however subject to change, please check with Heather Cunningham by calling 101.