Derbyshire Constabulary Independent Advisory Group

Traffic Stops Scrutiny Meeting

Date: 20th October 2026

Attendance Police

Sergeant Andrew McDonald – Police Presenter, Roads Policing Sergeant (AM)
Heather Cunningham – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Compliance Officer (HC)
Katie Gallacher – police staff observer

Independent members

TC – independent member
FK – independent member
KH – independent member
DD – independent member
PD – independent member

Welcome and Introductions

This meeting of the panel was held in person at Force Headquarters, Ripley. The vice chair reminded panel members about the confidentiality agreement they had signed and to be respectful of members' opinions.

Cases were then presented to the panel by Sergeant AM, followed by Body Worn Video (BVW) of the Traffic Stop. Sergeant AM provided comments and context around the Traffic Stop training and legislation. A theme for the meeting had been requested at the previous Policing Powers Governance meeting, and all 10 cases selected involved drivers whose self-defined ethnicity was recorded as Asian during the Traffic Stop. The Traffic Stops took place in August and September 2026.

Traffic Stops

Section 163 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 gives powers to the police to stop vehicles.
(1) A person driving a motor vehicle on a road must stop the vehicle on being required to do so by a constable in uniform.

(2) A person riding a cycle on a road must stop the cycle on being required to do so by a constable in uniform.
(3) If a person fails to comply with this section he is guilty of an offence.
Police officers can stop any vehicle on the road with this power without requiring any specific grounds. Officers cannot search the vehicle or anyone in it under this power but may be able to do so under one of the stop and search powers. For example, the officers observations during the stop may provide reasonable grounds for suspicion to conduct a search (College of Policing, 2024).

Independent Members (IMs) were asked to consider the following questions when reviewing the Traffic Stops:

1. From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?
2. From viewing the Body Worn Video, could you identify that the officer was in uniform?
3. Do you have any comments on the interaction between the detained person and officer?

These minutes contain numerous abbreviations. A description of them is explained below:
ANPR – Automatic Number Plate Recognition
BWV - Body Worn Video
DVLA - Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
DVSA - Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency
IAG – Independent Advisory Group
IM – Independent Member
MDA – Misuse of Drugs Act (1971)
MOT – Ministry of Transport [certificate]
PNC – Police National Computer
RPU – Roads Policing Unit
TOR – Traffic Offence Report
VRM – Vehicle Registration Mark

Case 1:

Location	A38, Derby
Date/time	09/08/2026
Subject	Male A1 Asian including British Asian 32 years
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Shows as expired MOT
Incident summary	Traffic stop by officer due to now MOT [Ministry of Transport certificate] showing on police systems on Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). Stop check conducted and matter dealt with my way of a Traffic Offence Report (TOR) and a likely fine for the offending driver.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	TOR issued for expired MOT.
Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained that the traffic officer would have issued the driver a TOR. This is then referred to another team in force to make a decision on the outcome of the TOR. An IM asked a hypothetical question about driving a vehicle that has an MOT that expired the day before, could the driver take the vehicle for an MOT or would they be committing an offence? Sergeant AM explained that as long as the

	driver has a pre-booked test for a vehicle (and can evidence this) to have its MOT, the driver can legally drive the vehicle for an MOT, but cannot drive the vehicle anywhere else in between (e.g., stop to buy a coffee on route to the MOT test Centre). Sergeant AM explained that via the GOV.UK website, drivers can now set reminders for MOT due dates. An IM asked if the ANPR camera picked up that the driver had insurance. Sergeant AM explained that the ANPR camera feeds into various systems to carry out searches on vehicles (insurance, MOT etc). As the vehicle did not have a valid MOT, any insurance the driver may have previously had, would have been invalidated. An IM questioned that the driver was allowed by the officer to drive the vehicle home, for the vehicle to be parked on the drive until the driver had booked it in for an MOT. The IM highlighted that the vehicle may have had a fault, and could have caused an accident on route due to the roadworthiness, and questioned if the officer should have recovered the vehicle instead. Sergeant AM explained that an officer carries out a roadworthy test, and that the officer would have assess the risk in allowing the driver to take the vehicle home. An IM commented that from viewing the BWV of the traffic stop that the officer was courteous and professional. An IM commented that it was a relaxed traffic stop that was carried out well. An IM commented that the officer had explained the reason for the traffic stop.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer provided a clear explanation for the traffic stop. Feedback to the officer about their

	professional and relaxed approach and that overall the consensus was the traffic stop was carried out well. BWV gave evidence of compliance.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 2:

Location	Uttoxeter New Road, Derby
Date/time	14/08/2026
Subject	Male A1 Asian including British Asian 23 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Observed behavior around potential drug dealing from vehicle.
Incident summary	Officers observed suspicious behavior around subject in his vehicle with other vehicles during a time period. Subject was stopped and searched under s23 MDA [misuse of drugs act] at the roadside.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	Yes
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	No further action, verbal advice, checks conducted roadside.

Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained that this traffic stop also included a stop relating to misuse of drugs and a search of the person and vehicle. An IM asked what is classed as suspicious behaviour. Sergeant AM explained for road traffic stops an officer can stop any driver under the legislation. Sergeant AM explained that in this instance, there was a vehicle pulled up that had numerous vehicles briefly pulling up to the vehicle and then driving off. Sergeant AM noted that for him, if something stands out from the norm, he will observe and investigate further. An IM asked if there was a marker on the vehicle for drugs. Sergeant AM noted he couldn't recall for this case, but the BWV may capture this information. Sergeant AM played the footage. Sergeant AM moved the BWV clip forward, as the panel were not reviewing the stop search in this meeting. An IM commented that from viewing the BWV that they felt it was a good traffic stop. An IM asked if there are any instances where an officer may apologise for stopping someone, searching their vehicle and person and the officer does not find anything. Sergeant AM explained an officer is unlikely to apologise because the stop was legal and the officer was carrying out their job. However, Sergeant AM noted that officers may thank the driver for their time and for the drivers calm and compliant response. An IM noted that in their opinion if an officers offers an apology there in inference that the officer may have done something they should not have, and in this case the IM felt that the officer did everything within the policing powers they have. An IM commented that from viewing the

	BWV it was their opinion that the driver was very compliant and polite. An IM commented that the demeanor of the officer was good, and the interaction between the officer and the driver was good. An IM commented that it was their opinion from reviewing the BWV that the officer was very respectful. Sergeant AM explained that there was intelligence around drug use linked to the other vehicles the vehicle stopped had been seen engaging with.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the IM that the officer explained the reason for the traffic stop. Positive feedback about the interaction between the driver and the officers. BWV gave evidence of compliance.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 3:

Location	A61 Alfreton Road, Derby
Date/time	22/08/2026
Subject	Male A2 Asian Pakistani including British Asian 32 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Broken down live lane
Incident summary	Officers came across broken down van in live lane left abandoned with no driver to be seen. After closing lane down for protection driver arrives with fuel having ran out on major route causing traffic mayhem.

Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	Advised and reported roadside for offence
Panel Observations	An IM commented that from viewing the BWV that they had no issues with the traffic stop. An IM commented that it was their opinion that the officer was very decent with the driver. Sergeant AM noted that the officer was very lenient with the outcome, the driver had some education and received a fine. Sergeant AM noted that the officer was also very reasonable by cancelling the recovery and explained that usually when a recovery vehicle is called out that this can be difficult to cancel. An IM noted from viewing the BWV that the driver accepted the offence, and was very compliant. An IM noted the driver could have left a note on the vehicle rather than abandoning it.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer clearly explained the reason for the traffic stop. Positive feedback about the interaction between the officer and driver. BWV gave evidence of compliance.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 4: Due to time constraints this case was not reviewed.

Case 5:

Location	A38 Pinxton
Date/time	26/08/2026
Subject	Male A1 Asian including British Asian 27 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Contravene Red Light
Incident summary	Stop check for contravene red light whilst in traffic, observed by Roads Policing Unit (RPU) officer in traffic.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	Verbal Advice and TOR issued for red light
Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained that built into the policing vehicle there are multiple cameras and the officer has a screen in the vehicle which can be used to review and playback footage. Sergeant AM explained that the officer played the footage back to the driver of him going through a red light. An IM commented from reviewing the BWV that the officer was very chatty with the

	driver. An IM commented they had concern with the officer making the decision to speak to the driver through the driver door which was adjacent to a busy main road with large lorries driving past. Sergeant AM acknowledged the feedback, and noted this to raise with the officer as a safety risk. An IM asked if the police vehicles lights were on, because this could not be seen clearly on the BWV. Sergeant AM confirmed that the police vehicles lights are on and are on the rear for oncoming traffic. An IM noted that they felt the officer put themselves at unnecessary risk by approaching the driver's door and that they should have approached with caution and initially spoken to the driver via the passenger door. An IM noted that on the BWV the officer speaking to the driver through the driver's door, this was the door near the road, and had the driver not been cooperative, they could have used their vehicle to push the officer into oncoming fast traffic. An IM noted from reviewing the BWV that the officer spent a long time explaining the reason for the traffic stop, and noted that the location of the stop was problematic and in their opinion increased a risk to potential collision. An IM noted it was their opinion that by the officer repeating the advice, the officer is diluting the message.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer clearly explained the reason for the stop. BWV gave evidence of compliance.

Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Sergeant AM to feedback on the safety risk. Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 6:

Location	M1, Woodhall
Date, time	29/08/2026
Subject	Male A2. Asian Pakistani inc Asian British 48 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Disqualified Driver
Incident summary	Stop check on vehicle due to information marker being driven by disqualified driver. Checks conducted at roadside and all in order, not the driver as believed.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	Checks conducted, All in order

Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained that the vehicle has a marker, it is being driven by a driver who has been disqualified. Sergeant AM explained that a male traffic officer notified the female traffic stop officer that the drivers may have swapped as the vehicle was pulling up in the layby. Sergeant AM explained that the male traffic officer then explained to the female traffic stop officer that he had seen a child moving in the back of the vehicle, not the driver and passenger swapping seats. An IM noted from viewing the BWV that the male traffic officer had their door open, and they felt this was a safety risk on a busy road. Sergeant AM noted that the officers were pulled off the main road but acknowledged the feedback. An IM asked if the officer had explained the reason for the stop, and noted it was difficult to hear over the noise of the traffic captured on the BWV. Sergeant AM noted that the officer did explain the reason at the start of the traffic stop and again at the end of the BWV clip. Sergeant AM noted that it is linked to a third party intelligence report, and if the information is not accurate the marker would be removed. IMs noted that they were happy with the traffic stop and interaction between the officer and driver.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer had explained the reason for the traffic stop. BWV gave evidence of compliance.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 7:

Location	Derby City
Date/time	06/09/2026
Subject	Male A2. Asian Pakistani inc Asian British 41 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	Yes, Yes
Reason for Stop	Seen clipping a kerb and contravene a red light
Incident summary	Officer observed driver clipping a kerb and running a red light in his rear view mirror. Stop check completed and tests completed. Verbal advice given and checks all in order.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	Verbal warning and checks conducted, all in order
Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained he would skip the 8 minutes part of the traffic stop footage where the officer is waiting for the outcome of the drugs wipe. IMs agreed with this. Sergeant AM noted that it was a good traffic stop. However, the officer should have taken time to let the driver out of the vehicle, rather than the driver having to struggle with the rear door himself. An IM commented that from viewing the

	BWV it was their opinion that the driver appeared to be the least likely person to be drink driving or on drugs. Sergeant AM highlighted the nature of the driver, and that often drug driving can be very challenging to spot. An IM commented from viewing the BWV that they felt the officer appeared to be quite hard on the driver. An IM asked if the police vehicles have child locks. Sergeant AM explained that the vehicles do. An IM noted from viewing the BWV that it appeared to be a convenience stop as all the equipment was in the front seat of the vehicle. Sergeant AM noted that if an officer is having to brake suddenly, or carry out a specifically trained tactical traffic maneuver there is a benefit in having equipment in the back of the vehicle as this can prevent it being flung throughout the vehicle. An IM asked if it is difficult to blow into the breathalyser device. Sergeant AM noted that it usually isn't but acknowledged that the driver in this case did have some difficulties. The IM noted that from viewing the BWV the way the breathalyse test was carried out in the vehicle was at the convenience of the officer, and noted that the officer did not initially explain to the driver how this should be carried out.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer explained the reason for the traffic stop. Mixed consensus on the interaction between the officer and driver, with some members feeling the officer was quite hard on the driver and should have explained how the test should have been carried out before doing the test.

Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 8:

Location	Heanor
Date/time	14/09/2026
Subject	Male A2. Asian Pakistani inc Asian British 30 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	S163 stop check for documents
Incident summary	Vehicle has markers around driver not responding to previous traffic offences and NOIP [notice of intent to prosecute] and also having a revoked licence.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Detained for a traffic stop.
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	Vehicle seized and reported for offences at roadside.
Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained that the officer initially noted a defect with the vehicle, which is the reason for the initial stop and then following further checks the officer has information that driver's licence has been revoked.

	An IM asked why in the BWV the driver could be seen to be showing the officer receipts. Sergeant AM explained that the receipts were presented as evidence that the driver had updated their vehicle logbook. Sergeant AM explained that the vehicle is seized and the driver is reported for a number of offences and for the driver to get his licence back he has to retake his driving test. Sergeant AM explained that the driver is driving with no licence, and would not hold valid insurance. Sergeant AM explained that the driver retakes his driving test and passes, when he is issued a licence it will be with points. An IM noted that from viewing the BWV that the officer was very patient in handling the traffic stop. An IM noted that it was their opinion from watching the BWV that the officer should have moved the driver to the pavement because for most of the traffic stop he was stood in the road. Sergeant AM noted that the officer was a newly trained traffic officer and that this was a challenging case for any officer to handle, so would provide good experience for this officer. An IM noted that they felt it was brilliant in how the officer navigated the traffic stop, as this appeared to be a complex case. An IM asked if the driver was delivering food. Sergeant AM noted he couldn't confirm but the driver had explained that he had a delivery driver bag to keep his own food warm. An IM noted that from reviewing the BWV they felt the officer did a good job. An IM asked if there are pockets where the

	standard of driving is different. Sergeant AM explained that there are areas where there are more traffic offences committed.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer explained the reason for the traffic stop. Overall, the officer did a very good job, BWV gave evidence of compliance. IMs wanted to ensure positive feedback is shared with the officer about how well he navigated this traffic stop as a newly trained traffic officer.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting. Positive feedback to the officer about how well he navigated this traffic stop as a newly trained traffic officer.

Case 9:

Location	Riverside Road, Derby
Date	17/09/2026
Subject	Male A2. Asian Pakistani inc Asian British 48 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Window Tints
Incident summary	Vehicle observed by Police Motorcyclist as having dark window tints. Upon checks made fails the minimum standard. Reported roadside and TOR issued.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	TOR issued.
Panel Observations	Sergeant AM explained that the officer was a traffic officer out on patrol on one of the police motorbikes. Sergeant AM highlighted that tints on a registration plate are illegal. An IM asked how officers test the front windscreen if they have tints. Sergeant AM explained that the general rule is that there cannot be any tints the front screen, but at the moment there isn't a device to officially

	test this in an evidential capacity. IMs noted from reviewing the BWV that they felt that the officer handled the traffic stop well, and the officer explained the traffic stop well. An IM commented that the traffic stop was handled well. Sergeant AM explained that the officer has to test both windows, and capture evidence of the readings for each. An IM noted that the officer stood engaging with the driver at the driver's door which meant the officer was standing in the road. The IM highlighted that the driver was captured on the BWV suggesting to the officer that he would be safer stood on the pavement at the passengers side of his vehicle. Sergeant AM highlighted that the officer was facing the oncoming traffic, and could monitor his safety, but acknowledged the feedback from the IMs.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the officer clearly explained the reason for the traffic stop. BWV gave evidence of compliance.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Case 10:

Location	Meadow Lane, Shirebrook
Date/time	09/09/2026
Subject	Male A2. Asian Pakistani inc Asian British 31 years old
Breathalysed? Drug Wiped?	No
Reason for Stop	Vehicle check point, upon inspection has bald tyre
Incident summary	Check site in operation by Roads Policing Officers, vehicle pulled in and upon inspection has bald tyres despite very recent MOT [Ministry of Transport Certificate]. Reported roadside.
Outcome (i.e. arrested/ Detained)	Detained for a traffic stop.
Body Worn Video (BWV)	Yes
Use of force used	No
Is the officer in Uniform?	Yes
From viewing the BWV did the officer explain the reason for the Traffic Stop?	Yes
What was the outcome of the Stop? (e.g., learning, fine, points, no further action)	Reported for offences
Panel Observations	Sergeant AM highlighted that the driver had stated that the vehicle had been in for an MOT two weeks ago. An IM asked why the officer let the driver leave with a tyre in such poor condition. Sergeant AM noted he may have handled this stop a little differently and asked the driver to change the tyre to put on a spare, or found out how far the driver needed to go because of the risk to the tyre blowing. Sergeant AM noted that he could not provide any confirmation of the conversation

	the officer had with the driver about where he was driving on to. An IM asked if a vehicle had been for an MOT, would officers chase this? Sergeant AM explained he would contact Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) and inform them of the traffic stop and that the vehicle has recently been in for an MOT as well as evidence on the poor condition of the tyres from the record of the traffic stop. It would be down to DVSA to investigate the MOT test centre but also noted that it could also be possible that driver may have swapped tyres to pass an MOT and then changed these after the MOT. An IM asked if the officer checked the tyres on both sides of the vehicle. Sergeant AM explained that the officer did and the BWV captured this. Sergeant AM noted the officer asked the driver to turn their wheel to lock, and did this to check the inside edge of the tyre. This is often where there can be issues with the condition of the tyre. The IM asked what the initial reason for the stop was. Sergeant AM commented he couldn't confirm this. An IM commented that they felt the officer handled the traffic stop well.
Panel Decision	Consensus from the panel that the initial reason for the stop was not captured, but the explanation for the lack of roadworthiness of the vehicle was explained to the driver. BWV gave evidence of compliance. Mixed opinions from the panel about the driver being able to drive off with a bold tyre.
Actions taken by Police/ feedback	Feedback to be shared with officer involved and their supervisor. Feedback to be presented at next Policing Powers Tactical Board meeting.

Further actions

Feedback to take back to the Policing Powers Governance meeting that there has been a theme where officers have been complacent in their positioning and the positioning of the drivers when considering proximity to the road.

Date of next meeting: TBC