

SCRUTINY OF POLICE POWERS PANEL

Case Reviews: 20 September 2017, 10am–4pm

FIRST PANEL MEETING

12 members attended the *Scrutiny of Police Powers* Panel meeting on 20 September 2017, held at Portishead Police and Fire Headquarters.



The Police and Crime Commissioner's Chief Executive Officer (John Smith) chaired the meeting before the election of Panel Chair and Vice Chairs. Also attending were the Police Communications Department's Chief Inspector Paul Wigginton; the PCC's Staff Liaison Officer Detective Sergeant Ash Jones; Unison Branch Officer Emma Wright; the PCC's Standards Officer who facilitated the meeting.

A reminder about confidentiality and declarations of interest was highlighted at the beginning of the panel meeting and the last Panel meeting report was approved for [PCC website](#) publication in the [Reports section](#).

POLICE OFFICER TRAINING: Police Scrutiny Powers – Mental Health input

From the action request at the last meeting, C.I. Paul Wigginton provided a Police training update to the Panel that Student Police Officers receive 1½ days of sessions dedicated to Mental Health awareness, including recognising signs and symptoms and communication skills. The relevant Police powers highlighted to the Panel include: The Mental Health Act 1983 (particularly section 135 and 136 – taking a mentally ill person to a 'place of safety' to protect this person and the public, avoiding custody cells which are inappropriate); the Mental Capacity Act 2005; as well as Police use of force. There is also a ½ day Student Officer session for raising awareness about people with learning difficulties, including identifying different issues, Officer communication skills and tools, equality within the Criminal Justice System, and suicide intervention.

Police Officer dialogue and communication – with the importance of listening skills – in dealing in the best way with a person in crisis is emphasised in the awareness sessions, going through the steps from initial contact, building a rapport, getting trust, through to Officer influence, persuasion and problem-solving to achieve positive outcomes.

In addition to day-to-day incidents and discussion when required with the Mental Health Mental Health Practitioners located in the Police Communications Department and Street Triage Nurses working alongside Response Officers, existing Police Officers will receive a 1 day training session this Autumn 2017 with the Crisis Team, including external organisation input. The last 1 day training was 3 years ago in 2014. This Panel's feedback will be included regarding observations from BWV camera footage. A challenge identified by Constabulary Leadership is teaching interpersonal skills.

There is also 1 day's joint training session with a Mental Health Charity, Department-specific training, such as Custody, and Officer training every 10 weeks on a number of topics.

C.I. Wigginton confirmed that Panel concerns regarding 2 cases reviewed at the last meeting were communicated to relevant people in the Constabulary, to note for action.

Panel member questions and discussion included unconscious bias and the narrative from Police call handlers when passing on information to Response Officers, demographic concerns, the requirement for a representative workforce, and relevant College/NVQ courses.

STATISTICS

Stop and Search:

Between 1 June and 31 August 2017 (3 months) there were 1416 stop and searches and of these regarding ethnicity, 933 were White, BME is around 10%, with a high percentage where ethnicity is not stated or not recorded.

The Police webpage for Stop and Search is:

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/advice/neighbourhood-and-community/stop-and-search/> .

and there is a microsite at: <http://stopandsearchthetruth.com> .

The 'Know your rights' Stop and Search card and information is also on the PCC's website at:

<http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Feedback/Stop-and-Search.aspx> .

The Police provided the PCC's office with a report of all Stop and Search incidents (including the grounds for the Stop and Search) for the following three categories (with some duplicates across categories):

- **Where the subject is less than 16 years of age – category <16 (78);**
- **Where more than the jacket, outer coat or gloves are removed – category >JOG (85);**
- **Where the ethnicity is either not stated or it is BME – category BME(157).**

Around 50% of these Stop and Search cases had associated Body Worn Video (BWV) camera footage, an increase from around 10% at the last Panel meeting 3 months ago. This situation has been helped by the Panel feedback from June 2017 to the Constabulary, requesting increased leadership communication to Police Officers to switch on their BWV camera. This issue is continuing to be reviewed by the PCC.

Taser: Taser use (including all levels of: drawn, arced, aimed, the red dot aimed, fired, drive-stun and angled-drive stun) from 1 June to 31 August 2017 (3 months) is 161.

Year-to-date figures (1 April to mid Sept 2017):

Taser Use Type:	1 Apr to 10 Sep 2017 - Year to date	Subject Ethnicity					
Drawn	233	Ethnicity	Bristol	North East	Somerset	Out of Force	Total
Arced	2	White	76	44	99	1	220
Aimed	162	Black (or Black British)	22	2	3	0	27
Red Dotted	176	Asian (or Asian British)	1	0	1	0	2
Fired	27	Chinese	0	0	0	0	0
Drive-Stun	6	Mixed	5	2	0	0	7
Angled Drive-Stun *	2	Other	1	0	0	0	1
		Don't know	0	1	1	0	2
		Not Recorded	0	0	1	0	1

* A panel member requested clarification about

‘angled-drive stun: This is where one or both

Taser probes may attach. The Police Officer

then holds the Taser against the person’s body in a different area to the probe(s) in order to

complete the electrical circuit and deliver an incapacitating effect.

The Police webpages for Taser and Use of Force data are:

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/about-us/publication-scheme/what-our-priorities-are-and-how-we-are-doing/taser-statistics/> .

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/about-us/publication-scheme/what-our-priorities-are-and-how-we-are-doing/use-of-force/>

CASE SELECTION AND REVIEWS

The cases for Panel members to review were randomly selected during the meeting from August and September BWV footage of all Taser use incidents and from the printout of all June to August 2017 Stop and Search encounters within the three requested categories: under 16s; more than the removal of jacket, outer coat or gloves; and BME.

Panel members divided into two sub-groups and watched and gave individual comments on the body worn video camera footage for 21 cases of Stop and Search and Taser use, one case reviewed by both sub-groups. Each Panel member also completed case feedback forms, scanned and forwarded to Chief Inspector Paul Wigginton, Avon and Somerset Constabulary Duty Officer.

PANEL GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR CONSTABULARY RESPONSE

1. A considerable improvement in BWV cameras being turned on by Officers for Stop and Searches since the last Panel meeting.

2. When the BWV camera is angled too high up, can the Officer adjust it downwards? Do Officers play back BWV footage, for learning regarding the positioning of their BWV camera?
3. Compliments to Officers for exemplary interpersonal skills in handling Taser use and Stop and Search incidents: **PC 4790 HUDSON, Trinity Road.**
4. If Police Officers have other jobs to attend, could the Stop and Search time taken be reduced? Some encounters are noted as taking a long time.
5. Very few people stopped carried any personal ID. A comment regarding our National Laws.
6. BWV footage after dark is black unless there is some artificial light.
7. The public call to the Police in some cases referred to 'groups' of people. It lacked any specific numbers and none of the Stop and Searches appeared to be the right people.
8. What items of clothing can Officers remove in a public place – a jacket?
9. When an Officer is unsure how to remove Taser barbs, is this a training issue to address? Case 9 refers.

General Feedback from start and end of the meeting

1. The special needs/autism element of the training is quite inadequate and should be expanded. There was a general feeling that 3 years was too long a period for any mental health refresh training, it was also suggested by the Panel that use could be made of online facilities.
2. At the end of the meeting there was a general feeling that the Panel was settling into its work in reviewing videos and had got more out of the second session than the first. The general feeling was that the level of professionalism and the way interactions were managed by police officers in the video showed a high degree of professionalism.
3. There was some concern that the dynamic of interactions could be quite significantly changed by other officers arriving and undermining patient relationship building by other officers. There were some examples of outstanding officers and it was agreed by all that these would be fed back via Paul Wigginton so that the officers themselves were praised and that this could be recognised in their performance reviews.
4. Some members of the Panel did worry that there was some evidence of different treatment for certain groups and that even in different geographical areas – there seemed to be a different style, tone and approach in the Somerset videos than from some of the Bristol videos and some of the Panel's experience of policing in Bristol. Clearly more evidence and work would be needed to explore this theme but it was worth exploring.
5. There was one particular case which troubled the one Sub Panel (case 15) involving a stop search strip search and arrest in a public toilets of a young black male. It was felt the officer's actions in this case were disproportionate and the impact on the member of the public detained

could be quite significant - especially as the person detained had revealed during the interaction that they themselves had been the victim of previous crimes.

Police response:

Thank you again to the panel for another productive and interesting Police powers panel meeting on 20th September 2017. We welcome the questions and feedback raised and I will look to address these below.

- 1) There has been a real focus on continuing to improve our use of BWV cameras and it was great for the panel to recognise an improvement in this area, particularly for stop searches. We will continue to work to improve this further and I believe that feedback from the panel will help to reinforce this.
- 2) The lens angle is adjustable on the BWV cameras, however, the cameras are fitted to the officers vest and they need to estimate the required angle depending on the situation. For example whilst sitting in a car, they will require a different angle than when on foot, also depending on distance from the subject. As such due to the dynamic nature of their work, you will always have occasions where the camera angle will not capture the best view depending on the circumstances.
- 3) I would like to thank the panel for taking the time to identify the good work of PC HUDSON. As mentioned I believe this kind of feedback is crucial to ongoing improvements in use of BWV cameras, but also to raise the profile of and confidence in the work of the panel. I will ensure this is fed back to PC HUDSON.
- 4) I have noted your comments about the length of time taken by officers when completing stop searches. Whilst officers do have other commitments, it is important that the stop searches are completed thoroughly and legally in line with requirements, including the appropriate recording of the encounter. Some of the stop searches viewed involved multiple persons which increases the time needed.
- 5) I have noted your observations regarding the lack of ID carried by members of the public.
- 6) I agree that the BWV footage is often too dark to see clearly during low light. The cameras do not have any form of flash, however, officers do carry torches and will generally look to carry out encounters where possible in lit areas.
- 7) In order to complete a stop search, a Police Officer needs to have **reasonable grounds** for suspecting they will find the item(s) sought. As such they are not able to stop a random group of people to complete a search. You have rightly pointed out that on occasions the Police receive calls with limited information and this can make it more difficult, however, it is accepted that the number recorded with positive outcomes was relatively low.
- 8) If officers are completing a stop search in a public place they are able to require the removal of Jacket, Outer Clothing and Gloves. If additional items are needed to be removed consideration should be given to taking them somewhere private.

9) The removal of TASER barbs is a training matter and is covered during the officers' training course.

Chief Inspector Paul Wigginton, Avon and Somerset Constabulary – Force Duty Officer

DETAIL OF THE REVIEWED CASES

Group 1 (Lecture Theatre), Case 1: Taser fired after report of a domestic incident and violence to property at hotel and home address. Suspect drinking and not taking medication for anxiety and depression. Likely to be aggressive.

5217-xxxxxx (reference redacted at publication stage, for Data Protection) 27/8/17 at 2 a.m.

Overall appropriate Officer use of Taser?: Yes.

2 small and short female Officers are confronted by a verbally and physically aggressive large and tall male, which makes the Taser firing more appropriate. Calm, methodical questioning by the Officer. The male removes his T shirt which removes the barbs after the first Taser fire and then aggressively approaches one Police Officer. PAVA spray is then used by the other Officer as well as a cartridge re-load and second Taser firing by the main Officer. This brings the person under control. This is well handled considering the escalation and intimidation by the suspect.

Group 1, Case 2: Stop and Search BME - Grounds: section 23 Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE), Misuse of Drugs Act.

5217-xxxxxx 1/6/17 at 6 p.m. Somerset East

Overall appropriate Officer grounds given to Stop and Search?: Yes. The male was arrested.

The suspect has the car keys and drugs are found in the car.

Group 1, Case 3: Stop and Search >JOG & BME. Grounds s23 PACE misuse of drugs.

5217-xxxxxx 3/7/17 at 5 p.m. Bridgwater, Somerset West.

Overall appropriate Officer grounds given to Stop and Search?: Yes (from half the members).

Concerns regarding the grounds only stating that a male is seen in the company of person with links to drug activity. Males are also located in an area known for drug activity. The known drugs dealers (London addresses recorded by Officers) are also searched.

The Officers are polite. There is multiple footage for this incident. £570 of cash is found on the person not currently working (not seized). There is reasonable suspicion. The search reasons are good but one member thought that the grounds could be clearer and more concise. The Panel didn't see any BWV footage where more that the Jacket, outer garment or gloves are removed. The record is marked as 'all clothing removed' so this would have taken place elsewhere.

Group 1, Case 4: Stop and Search <16. Grounds: Section 1 of PACE Damage to property & cars. 3 young males match the description of suspects with weapons and causing damage, coming from the same direction.

5217-xxxxxx 8/6/17 at 8 p.m. Bristol South

Overall appropriate Officer grounds given to Stop and Search?: Yes.

The Police database narrative states there is a large group of kids smashing up cars.

This is well handled, the Officers gives his details and has a good tone of voice and talk at the young people's level of language (a 13 year old is searched). **The Officers' communication skills are very good** and the GOWISELY* acronym items are well explained.

***Note:** The GOWISELY acronym is a reminder to a Police Officer of the information that must be provided (in any order) to a subject when the Officer performs a stop and search. GOWISELY stands for:

G: Grounds for the search;

O: Object the officer is searching for;

W: Warrant, particularly if the Officer is in plain clothes;

I: Identification, proof that the Officer is indeed a Police Officer;

S: Station to which the Officer is attached;

E: Entitlement, any citizen being searched by a police officer is entitled to copies of all paperwork;

L: Legislation, the legal power which gives the officer the right to stop and search;

Y: YOU are being detained for the search or for the purpose of... i.e. informing the person in clear terms the purpose and nature of the search.

Group 1, Case 5: Taser fired at a female with mental ill-health, threatening to kill herself or someone else. Holding a knife to her chest.

5217-xxxxxx 27/6/17 at 6 p.m.

Overall appropriate Officer use of the Taser?: Yes. Appropriate under the circumstances at the time.

The main Firearms Officer has a sympathetic tone until the suspect holds the knife to her chest.

One member felt that the Officer takes a great risk firing the Taser. The subject has a knife, is on her knees and could have fallen forward onto the knife when the Taser is fired with no real warning. Another member said that fair warning was given by the Firearms Officer, who first used the red dot and couldn't approach due to the danger of the knife and the subject wasn't calming down. The Firearms Officer's risk, threat and harm assessment, firing the Taser, enabled control of the vulnerable person who was in more danger from a knife self-stabbing than the Taser fire.

Group 1, Case 6: Taser fired at male after call by wife that husband hit her – domestic incident

5217-xxxxxx 11/7/17 at 5.30 a.m. Somerset East.

Overall appropriate Officer use of the Taser?: Yes but the firing is ineffective and it may have been possible to contain the situation better.

There is mention of a Polish translator at the start but not used. There appears to be an over-generous amount of time – 25 minutes – of BWV footage showing verbal discussion and engagement in the Kitchen with the male who said he'd been drinking. He is stalling after being told he is under arrest and the situation seems to be allowed to emotionally escalate. Could it have been contained better? The suspect grabs a knife and then the Officer fires the Taser. The suspect doesn't react to the Taser at all – perhaps due to excited delirium or alcohol consumption - and goes into the Lounge where his 2 young children are sat on the settee – this is 5.30 a.m. and after the domestic violence - and the children have to witness this incident.

Group 1, Case 7: Stop and Search BME – Grounds: call from a resident that several black males are fighting outside the home address, one with a knife

5217-xxxxxx 6/6/17 at 3.30 p.m. Bristol.

Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

Officers did very well considering the numbers of subjects, civilly talking to the males, with dignity and respect, being non-confrontational and fully explaining the search reasons. One male chose to undress in the street. Only one Officers uses GOWISELY until one subject challenges this. Handcuffs are applied to one person only.

Group 1, Case 8: Stop and Search >JOG - Grounds: s23 misuse of drugs. A male known to be involved in drugs was seen in a vehicle and at a drug activity location.

5217-xxxxxx 3/7/17 at 1 p.m. Bridgwater.

Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

The Officers treat all the subjects with respect and keep the situation calm, explaining why the people are being searched. There is good use of GOWISELY, the grounds are explained well and it's a thorough search. One member was uncomfortable with the way that the stop and search was carried out, not the appropriateness, because the Officer asks for the subject's name, home address, birth date and ID which is not mandatory. Another member felt that the female Officer works well to gain the trust of two black males. However, the third male Officer does not help the situation.

Group 1, Case 9 & Group 2, Case 13: Taser fired twice at a male after a report of him falsely imprisoning a female in the house.

5217-xxxxxx 7/9/17 8 p.m.

Overall appropriate Officer use of the Taser?: Yes, except one member considered a belt is not a lethal weapon and the Taser should not have been fired.

The agitated male suspect has a belt and a stick in the back garden and refuses to drop the belt. He says he was dismissed from the Army. There is 38 minutes of conversation on the BWV footage – a

long lead-time where the Officer is trying to calm the subject, taking considerable police time/cost - before a warning is given and then the Taser is fired. The subject continues to threaten the Police and is saying earlier "Go on, Taser me". The Taser is fired a second time. One member asked what would the alternative be to firing a Taser in order to arrest the male – physical force or PAVA spray? The Officer appears to be unsure how to remove the barbs.

Group 1, Case 10: Stop and Search <16 - Grounds: section 1 PACE – one male with another male who is in possession of a knife and admitted this. A Firearms Officer was deployed.

5217-xxxxxx 28/6/17 at 1.30 p.m. Somerset East

Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes, including the second youth, being in company with the other male with a knife.

2 Officers both have their BWV cameras on. Well handled. Good information is obtained about where the knife has been purchased so that the Police can possibly follow up the illegal selling of a knife to a child.

Group 1, Case 11: Stop and Search BME - Grounds: s1 PACE. Items sought that could cause harm to others or to property. Call to Police from a Holiday Inn that 2 days before a male matching the description of the suspect used the computer and the use was of concern. The male went into the toilets. Items sought category is Terrorism; Other.

5217-xxxxxx 8/6/17 at 10:30 a.m. Bristol East Central.

Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

The main Officer handling the situation is very professional with excellent communication skills, giving a clear reason why he is searching the subject (GOWISELY) and states that the Search record is available within 3 months if requested at a Police Station. The suspect is arrested. See compliments point highlighted above. PC 4790.

Group 1, Case 12: Stop and Search BME – s1 PACE. Grounds: Report to Police that 2 Somali people are in Castle Park with a blade.

5217-xxxxxx 9/6/17 at 10:17 p.m. Bristol Centre

Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

Nighttime BWV footage is either dark or non-visible. No GOWISELY narrative is used by the Officer during the video footage. However, the Officer approaches the situation very well. The subject is very compliant.

Group 2, Case 13: Taser fired at male after call by wife that husband hit her – domestic incident

5217-xxxxxx – officers were called to a domestic assault. There were reports of the husband being violent. The officers engaged and discussed with the man for approximately half an hour before ultimately deploying Taser twice and PAVA. Generally the Panel felt the use of Taser was appropriate in this case. The officers showed patience in trying to calmly engage with the man. One Panel member thought that the officers could have deployed Taser earlier in an attempt to end the incident which was probably distressing for the man's partner inside the house (though they may have been otherwise being dealt with by the police). One member of the Panel thought that the police could have used other tactics rather than deploy the Taser such as fetching a glass of water and continuing to reason with the person.

Group 2, Case 14: Stop and Search BME - reports of a GBH with knife in the area

5217-xxxxxx 29/7/2017 Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

The officers searched a group of Somalian males. All members of the Panel felt that the search was conducted courteously and appropriately and that good explanations were given. However the officer did commence the search whilst still completing the explanation of rights and it would have been better if the explanations had been finished before the search started. However, overall an acceptable use of police powers and good positive interaction

Group 2, Case 15: Stop and Search BME - reports of an assault with a knife in the area

5217-xxxxxx 3/8/2017

Officers responded and encountered an individual who ran away from them and hid in a public toilet in a park. The officers carried out a stop search, arrested the man and ultimately carried out a strip search in the toilets. Whilst the Panel generally felt that the initial search was carried out politely and respectfully, this case raised concern from more members of the Panel. The officers seemed very concerned to continue to question and escalate the use of police powers with this individual despite the seeming absence of any grounds other than the initial running from the officers. The initial call to the police was for an assault which almost immediately the officers translated this into questioning of the man in relation to drugs. To carry out a strip search in the circumstances seemed disproportionate and to do this in the public toilets seemed inappropriate and could potentially have had a harmful effect on the individual. He disclosed that he had been a victim of crime himself and found the process distressing. It was suggested that recommendations for learning should be passed to the officers in this case. One of the Panel members questioned whether or not this case raised issues of conscious or unconscious bias given that the detainee was BME.

Group 2, Case 16: Use of Taser

5217-xxxxxx 15/9/2017 Overall appropriate use of Taser?: Yes.

When the video commenced a number of male officers were waiting at the door to the property while a female officer had a discussion with a female resident inside the house. This seemed an unusual arrangement and presumably had been requested by the resident. The female officer showed good engagement and empathy and tried to calm the individual who was distressed. Ambulance were also present at the scene. The situation deteriorated and the female resident rushed to the kitchen and tried to grab a knife. On this occurring one of the male officers acted extremely swiftly and deployed the Taser in order to prevent the individual harming herself. All of the Panel felt that the individual officer had acted with extremely professional swiftness and almost certainly would have prevented quite serious injury to the individual. It was observed that the set up with the male officers outside the door was unusual. It was also felt that one of the male officers' input to discussion was not helpful and may have directly led to the escalation of issues. Overall this was felt to be an appropriate use of Taser however.

Group 2, Case 17: Stop and search >JOG

5217-xxxxxx Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

The officers in this case had to deal with a difficult situation involving an aggressive resident and several family members and other neighbours. The officers showed extreme calm and patience and managed the situation overall well, their engagement seemed to calm the situation and avoid it becoming violent. Overall appropriate use of police powers.

Group 2, Case 18: Stop and search

5217-xxxxxx

A moped driver and passenger were stopped, they were found to have no insurance and should not have been carrying a passenger on a provisional licence. The stop and search was carried out politely and appropriately. In the end the individuals were released with a warning. Whilst the Panel generally supported use of officers' discretion and that it was appropriate in some cases not to follow a criminal justice outcome, it was felt in this case that this could be seen to be quite lenient. The Panel members were concerned about the insurance issue and how this would be managed in the future and the potential impact on other road users.

Group 2, Case 19: Use of Taser

5217-xxxxxx

There was no evidence in this case of use of Taser on the film. The individual was sat on the road in central Bristol. The officers seemed to deal appropriately with the individual though the Panel did comment that it might have been appropriate to carry out the further checks with the individual sat in a police car or somewhere out of view of the public in terms of the dignity of the individual. Generally appropriate police action.

Group 2, Case 20: Stop and Search

5217-xxxxxx

This was the stop and search of a group of young people some of whom were in the possession of drugs. The video showed the search of two people, one male and one female. There was no female officer in the area and this was explained to the female detainee. She indicated she was happy to be searched by the male officer who used the outside of his hand and did a relatively cursory search. Generally the use of language and approach was good and the guidance was followed and these were considered to be appropriate searches.

Group 2, Case 21: Stop and Search <16

5217-xxxxxx Overall appropriate Grounds for Stop and Search?: Yes.

The young males had been drinking, they were smoking and held cigarettes during the search. One of the detainees became extremely distressed during the search and concerned that he would be in trouble. Overall the officers handled the engagement and interaction with great sensitivity and maintained good communication throughout. The young males were escorted to their house by the officers at the end to have an explanation to their parents about the explanation of the smoking and drinking as they were underage. Overall this was felt to be a positive and appropriate use of police powers.

Police response:

During this meeting the panel split into two different working groups which allowed a greater number of cases to be reviewed. This also encouraged contribution from all members of the panel and resulted in some lively conversations and debates over cases.

It was encouraging to see that the panel agreed with the decisions of the officers in the vast majority of cases reviewed. Similar to the last meeting there were differing opinions which generated healthy conversation.

The panel raised some concerns regarding the stop search following the report of an assault with a knife. This resulted in a strip search and a resultant arrest, despite seemingly limited evidence. I have completed further enquiries on Police systems, however, am unable to clarify further details around this. I have therefore fed this back to the supervisor present at the scene and requested additional information – I will feedback to the group when I have received an update.

The good work of PC Hudson is also mentioned in this section and as stated, I will ensure this is fed back to the officer.

Chief Inspector Paul Wigginton, Avon and Somerset Constabulary - Force Duty Officer

ACTIONS – New and outstanding

1/Jun17 complete: PCC's Stop and Search 'know your rights' cards.

After Panel member feedback, a new revised PCC's Stop and Search 'know your rights' laminated card (credit card size) has been printed (5000) for members of the public, distributed via Avon and Somerset Police Enquiry Offices and Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

2/Jun17 complete: Nominations for Panel Chair and 2 Vice Chairs.

3/Jun17 complete: Any further biographies requested from panel members.

4/Jun17 complete: Member consideration about case selection for the Sep 2017 meeting.

5/Jun17 complete: Feedback received from members about meeting formats.

Action 1/Sep17: The PCC's staff will provide an update on Avon and Somerset Constabulary's external distribution of the Stop and Search 'know your rights' cards.

Response: In terms of the circulation of the Stop and Search cards – over 200 of the cards have been sent to the Local Policing Directorate and also to the Representative Workforce Team. PCC staff have also been handing out the cards at public events, including the HQ Open Day in October 2017. Additional cards will be distributed to the Constabulary. The translation to Somali is progressing.

The Stop and Search cards (English and Somali) will also be published on the PCC's website at: www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Feedback/Stop-and-Search.aspx.

Action 2/Sep17: The PCC's staff will provide an update on work regarding a Stop and Search information App to download to mobile phones.

Response (complete): The current understanding is that the Stop and Search App is not being progressed by the Constabulary due to the cost of producing and developing an app and also it is not supported by the current technology within Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

The next Panel meeting is on Tuesday 19 December 2017.