

## Stop and Search Annual Report April 2017- April 18

Report of	<b>Ch Supt Streets</b>
Subject	<b>STOP SEARCH</b>
Date	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b>
Author	<b>Sgt Glen Iceton</b>

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the use of and scrutiny of Stop and Search powers in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland throughout the recording year 2017/18.

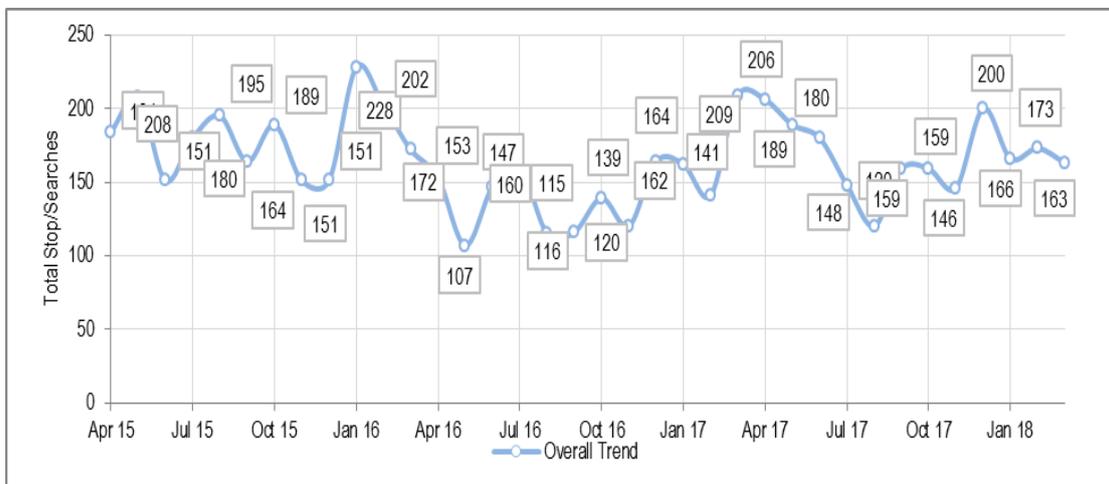
### Introduction

The Police powers of stop and search have been with us, in their current form, since the introduction of PACE in 1984. The Government, College of Policing and HMICFRS have taken a more intrusive approach to the use of such powers by Forces, mainly via the Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSSS).

Leicestershire Police has welcomed the extra scrutiny and increased public participation of the scheme. Stop and search remains an important and effective tool in safeguarding our communities and bringing offenders to justice and we fully support its proportionate and appropriate use by officers.

The chart below provides an overview of the volume of Stop and Search powers used dating back to 2015.

### Stop Search Volume

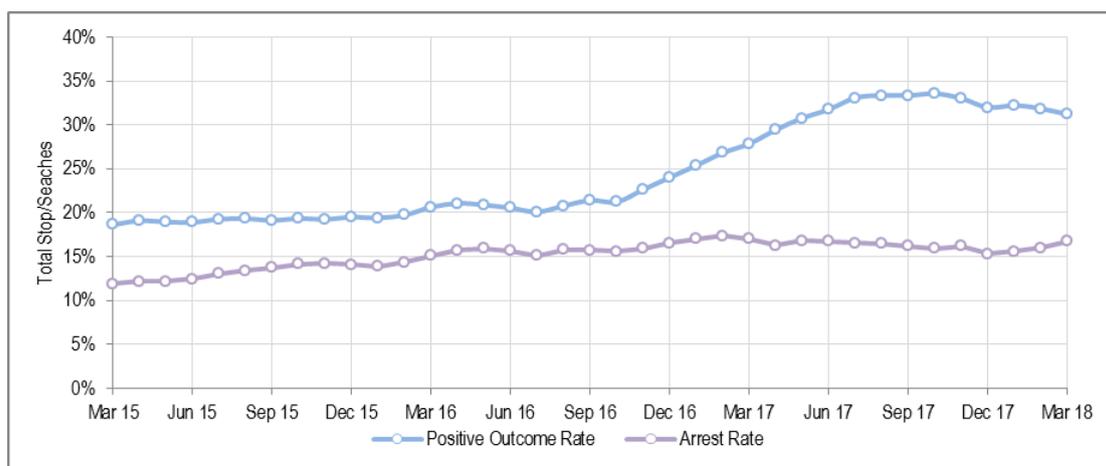


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The chart below provides an overview of positive outcome and arrest rates dating back to 2015. Positive outcomes include arrest, local resolution, drugs possession warning, caution, penalty notice and summons. The chart demonstrates that throughout 2015 and the first half of 2016 the positive outcome rate remained fairly static at around 20% but since then there has been monthly increases with the latest figure at 32%.

In addition, the arrest rate has increased steadily since April 2015 and for the past year has remained between 15 and 17%, with 16.8% recorded in March 2018.

## Positive Outcome and Arrest Rates



## Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme 1.0 and 2.0

We are current members of the voluntary Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSSS 1.0) and are committed to delivering the requirements of the revised BUSSS 2.0 scheme when it is published later this year.

We are currently driving activity to achieve compliance through the PILOT group (Police Intervention, Legitimacy and Organisational Transparency) chaired by a Chief Supt. The group was formed in January 2017 and meets monthly consisting of a cross section of senior police managers, training, equality and diversity officers and are charged with providing oversight and scrutiny on the use of coercive powers to include stop search, strip search, use of Taser and use of force (UOF).

## Disproportionality

The PILOT group review stop search data from the previous three years and carry out careful analysis to determine any trends or patterns in the conduct of stop and searches to include a wide range of factors such as the location, the officer involved, the ethnicity of the person searched and the outcome of the search. The PILOT group also review data in relation to the use of force, Taser and strip search in custody.

The PILOT group actively seeks to identify any information which could suggest any abuse in the use of powers or discriminatory behaviour. Disproportionality rates for both stop search and use of force are scrutinised and comparisons made at a force and local level.

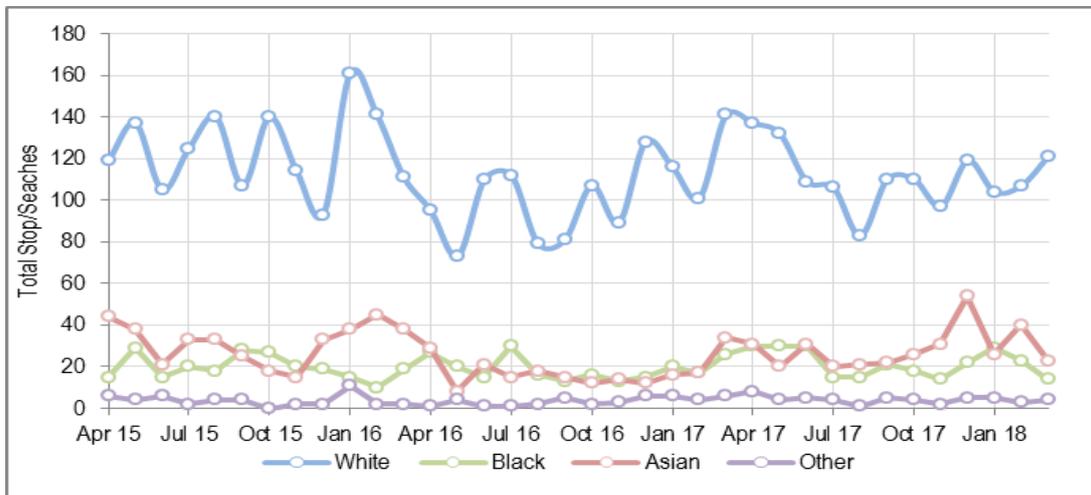
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We recognise that there is still a disproportionality rate with a black person around 4.0 times more likely to be stopped than a white person. However, these rates have reduced substantially in recent years and a person of Asian origin is now less likely to be stopped than a white person.

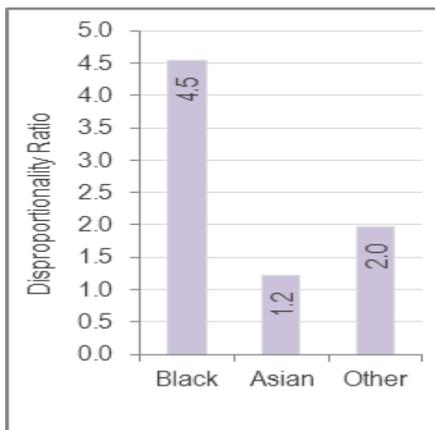
According to the 2017 race disparity audit our disproportionality rates are well below the national average but we continue to work hard to understand why there remains a disparity. There is an expectation that these figures will change when the next census data is collected as we are still basing current figures on the 2011 census findings.

We are also in the process of recruiting an academic intern who will, among other duties, carry out research in regards to disproportionality rates.

## Volume by ethnicity



## Disproportionality April 2017 – March 2018



## Scrutiny of Powers

We hold a monthly Crime and Operations Effectiveness Board, chaired by the ACC, where data about the use of stop and search powers is presented and considered alongside a wider set of performance information about how the force treats people. The forces monthly PILOT group supports this strategic level meeting with an additional level of scrutiny on a range of coercive powers as outlined above.

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All stop and search forms are checked by the officer's supervisor and officers also know that both their stop search forms and or their Body Worn Video may be subject to either an internal or external dip sample. All stop and search forms are checked by the officer's supervisor and again when centrally collated by the Force Intelligence Bureau, with an additional level of scrutiny provided by a 5% dip sampling regime carried out by the tactical stop search lead.

Analysis of stop search and use of force is shared with the bi-monthly external Coercive Powers Scrutiny Group (formally stop search reference group). The Coercive Powers Scrutiny Group meets every two months and is attended by members of the community with a particular interest in stop and search and the use of police powers. It is chaired by a member of the local community with invited attendees from PAGRE (Police Advisory Group for Race and Equality), representatives of young people's groups and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The purpose of the group is to understand how we are using our powers, to provide us with an independent perspective, and when necessary to challenge us about usage whilst identifying ways in which we can increase confidence in the community. At each meeting, the group are supplied with data about the use of stop and search and use of force powers across the force and the records completed by officers relating to 20 randomly selected stop and searches. In addition, the group are asked to review randomly selected Body Worn Video footage.

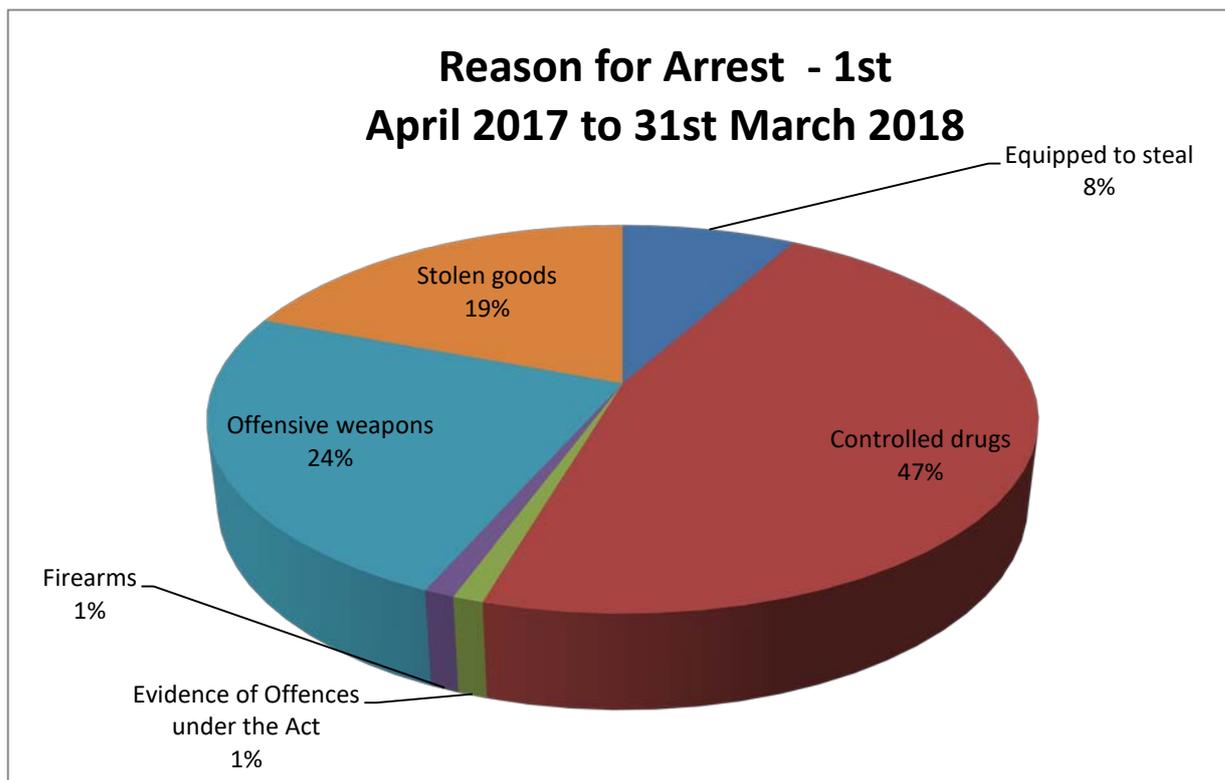
In addition we host frequent stop search external reasonable grounds panels in different locations, which are open to the public where members of the public are invited to review the grounds used in 10 stop and search encounters.

At both meetings we seek the opinion of those attending to help develop points of organisational learning and a better sense of how the use of coercive powers is perceived by the public.

During the HMICFRS 2017 Legitimacy inspection of the force they reviewed 200 stop and search records and found evidence of reasonable grounds being sufficiently recorded in 191 cases.

### **Reason for arrest**

The chart below provides a summary of the reason for arrest between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.



### **Body Worn Video**

Leicestershire Police have personally issued 1500 Body-worn video cameras (BWV) to all of our frontline officers and staff and we have an expectation that recording is activated whenever coercive powers are used or when attending incidents likely to involve confrontation. We dip sample and review the footage from such incidents both internally and via the showing of randomly selected footage to the Coercive Powers Scrutiny Group.

### **Lay Observers Scheme**

We operate a 'lay observers scheme' where we have recruited independent observers to accompany officers during operations and view Body Worn Video footage that specifically use stop and search powers in order that we can seek their views about how the powers were used and how the subjects were treated by officers. We are actively seeking to increase the number and diversity of our observers to ensure they reflect the community that we serve.

### **Publication of Data on Force Website and Research**

Sections from the PILOT performance document are published monthly here on the force website which is also a requirement of the forthcoming BUSSS 2 scheme.

### **Training**

We have invested in training all of our frontline officers and providing practical guidance in line with the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice (APP) for using powers to stop and search. Further training is planned and has been authorised by the Training Priorities Panel. Training is provided through the completion of online material but

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reinforced with ongoing personal briefings by Sgts and with the support of a number of stop search coaches.

Training is further supplemented with a feedback loop to officers following the random dip sampling of 5% of all monthly stop searches completed. This dip sample is completed by the Forces tactical lead for stop search. Officers have also received training in unconscious bias and the 2017 HMICFRS 'Legitimacy' inspection of Leicestershire Police found that:

*The workforce has received training to understand unconscious bias and the officers and staff we spoke with described what it is and how it can affect decision-making. We found training on communication skills and use of coercive powers was also good.*

## **Conclusion**

In the 2017 HMICFRS 'Legitimacy' inspection of Leicestershire Police HMICFRS reported that in regards to 'Stop Search':

*'Leicestershire Police treats the public fairly and with respect, having worked hard to identify and understand the issues that have the greatest effect on public perceptions of fair and respectful treatment. The force has internal and external scrutiny processes to improve how it treats people. It works well with the independent advisory group, which provides valuable, well-informed feedback, external oversight and challenge on a wide range of issues. The force takes a progressive approach to enhancing openness in the use of stop and search powers. It holds public meetings to discuss examples of stop and search, explain the legal basis and gather public opinion about what constitutes reasonable grounds for the powers to be used.'*

*The force's scrutiny of stop and search is good and it includes seeking the public's views. It has well-structured internal and external scrutiny arrangements. These include a stop and search reference group, which consists of members of the community, and a stop and search reasonable grounds panel meeting, a public meeting every two months where people can review and comment on a selection of stop and search encounters. The force has trained public observers to accompany officers during operations that use stop and search powers and then seeks their views about how the powers were used and how the subjects were treated by officers. The force recognises that black people are more likely to be stopped and searched and it is taking action to understand why.'*

## **Person to Contact**

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