

Stop & Search Reference Group (SSRG) Minutes

Date: 31st May 2023, 16:00 – 18:00 (via Teams)

Chair: Franstine Jones / Phaniel Mutumburi

Minute Taker: Travis Dickerson

Number in attendance: 11

Franstine Jones (FJ), Sharon Lee (SL), Travis Dickerson (TD), Claire Connick (CC), Stella Frangleton (SF), Brett Haris (HB), Phillip Welham (PW), Savi Tyndale-Biscoe (STB), David Brown (DB) Rocky Hussain (RH), Naomi Lofthouse (NL)

Apologise: Simon Mills, Phaniel Mutumburi, ACC Bridger

Welcome: Introductions & Actions			
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Item	Discussion/Response	Response	Action by whom & when
Action from Previous Meeting:	<p>Attendees of the group introduce themselves.</p> <p>SL: We have one following action from the previous meeting regarding the form ending in 5908. The group requested the body worn video (BWV) to get some further context as to why such a young boy was handcuffed and stop and searched. Simon has made me aware that this is not available.</p> <p>FJ: How long ago was this stop and search? And how long do you keep body worn video (BWV) evidence for?</p> <p>PW: Are members of the public able to mark BWV as being evidential?</p>	<p>CC: Yes, we do not currently have the BWV available for this meeting, but I can add some further information. The BWV was not saved as evidential due to the officer at the time was having a conversation with the boy's mother outside their house making the BWV not evidential.</p> <p>CC: From memory of trying to find the BWV for this form, it was end of January. BWV footage is saved depending on whether it is evidential or not. If its evidential we keep the footage if it's not evidential we keep it for thirty days.</p> <p>CC: This is not something the public can do. If a Stop and search took place on yourself it would be classed as evidential, in this case we wanted to show a conversation between the officer and the boy's mother making it not evidential.</p>	

<p>Form ID: 371902/220323/185601</p> <p>Male was detained by staff and security in the shop. They had witnessed this male take items from the shelves and put them in his bag and attempted to walk out of the shop without paying for them. He has then kicked off with staff which forced them to remove him from the shop floor into a private area at the back of the store.</p> <p>SL: There is limited information detailed in the grounds of the officers' actions leading up to and conducting the search. Elements or GOWISELY are missing. I note the supervisor has made a comment that the search was unlawful as A S.1 PACE search needs to take place in a public place or where the public have access to. Can you advise what actions are taken when an unlawful search takes place for the officer and the suspect? Is this BWV available to be viewed?</p>	<p>FJ: What is the reasoning for the time gap between the initial stop and then the search?</p> <p>SL: From the comments on the form, we can see that this search was flagged as unlawful due to the search taking place in a private area. Searches are to take place in a public place.</p> <p>S</p> <p>TB: How old was this person?</p> <p>FJ: Was this search taken place in a public place?</p> <p>STB: Could the suspect have refused to enter the private space of the shop?</p> <p>FJ: I must question why the security guard had suspicion when nothing was found.</p>	<p>NL: The officer would be given feedback. But I am not sure what action would be taken if the stop and search is deemed unlawful. There will be a policy and process regarding this.</p> <p>CC: I believe that comment on the form is incorrect Sharon. Regarding this form the search was taken place in an office towards the back of the shop. Due to the suspect being invited in and then the police being invited in making it now a public area, so this search was not unlawful.</p> <p>BH: The suspect was 47 years old.</p> <p>CC: Simon response: This was not an illegal search. Because the security has opened the area up and invited people in making it accessible and therefore, we have the power, and it is not a dwelling.</p> <p>CC: Normally when suspected shoplifters are detained by security, they are taken to a private place as to not cause any disturbance to the public.</p>	<p>SL: As we go through the forms, we can note any queries we cannot get a response from and take them to Simon after the meeting for further discussion.</p>
<p>Form ID: 370715/220323/233540</p> <p>Intelligence states she has used razor blades to self-harm and conceals them from police.</p>	<p>SL: The BWV was reviewed. Young person has a history of concealing items to harm herself. BWV saw her become very anxious due to the amount of people dealing with the situation being five officers and two careers.</p>	<p>CC: I can confirm that when the initial officers that started their BVV she was feeling anxious and was upset regarding multiple things and she calmed down after speaking to the officer. This then</p>	

<p>SL: This search lacks detail on the grounds for a search. What were the circumstances leading up to searching this 16-year-old? Was she searched on her history or were police called to an incident? How old was the intelligence? Where was she searched? Were all elements of GOWISELY covered? Is BWV available to view?</p>	<p>FJ: I think the trauma this can have on a person needs to be thought through via the police and I wonder why the large amount of police presence was brought to this one person. This is a lot of officers and resources for one vulnerable person.</p> <p>SL: It was recognised by the police that the amount of officers present was making her more anxious, some some left.</p>	<p>picked up again as she noticed the multiple officers arriving.</p>	
<p>Form ID: 370158/030323/213413</p> <p>See: Large group of teenagers seen smoking within a stairwell. Group tried to run off on Police arrival.</p> <p>Know: Location is known for ASB and drug use and is a current SNT priority.</p> <p>Suspect: strong smell of cannabis.</p> <p>SL: More detail is needed within the grounds to ascertain a fair stop & search. What were the circumstances that led for this person from the group to be stopped and searched? Were they seen smoking or disposing of cannabis? It is not clearly stated what crime the detained person was suspected of? Were all elements of GOWISELY covered in this search?</p>	<p>FJ: Are the supervisors' comments available on the form?</p> <p>SL: Just that it was approved by the supervisor, no comment.</p> <p>FJ: We will roll this one over to the next meeting.</p>	<p>CC: We have had no response back from the officers currently.</p>	<p>FJ: This form will be brought to the next meeting for further scrutiny.</p>

<p>Form ID: 370802/100323/162337</p> <p>Males were seen in a restricted area of FIRST BUSES, upon officers driving past male attempted to evade Police by hiding. When engaging with the male he gave no plausible reason for being in that area so at that time of night. The area is at risk of vehicle thefts due to lack of light and CCTV coverage. Male was also wearing gloves and a face covering.</p> <p>SL: More detail would assist for scrutiny of this search. Child aged 13... were all elements of GOWISELY covered and appropriate authorisations sought?</p>	<p>FJ: Is the supervisor's response available on the form</p> <p>SL: The response from supervisor is not available.</p> <p>FJ: I would also like to know why no BWV is available as the officer made it clear they are going to conduct and stop and search as they suspect theft has taken place?</p>	<p>CC: Yes, please bring this one to the next meeting as I currently have no response back. Apologies. I believe we have gone slightly ahead which is the reason why we have only done one month this month being March because when we attempted to download the April forms, we realised we are one month ahead.</p>	<p>FJ: This form will be brought to the next meeting for further scrutiny.</p>
<p>Form ID: 371919/030323/173106</p> <p>See: male seen to engage with group of suspected class A drug users in XXXXX Street waiting to buy drugs before heading around the corner into XXXXX Street</p> <p>Know: intel from 03/03/23 that a class a drugs line was operating in that area. As followed into XXXXX Street Subject male</p>	<p>SL: Very clear and well written. A very good example for other officers to follow.</p>	<p>SF: Very good explanation and reasoning for the use of force also.</p>	

<p>was seen to be huddled around by group of users and he was taking money from them. Suspect: it was believed he had class A drugs on his person to deal to the users SL: Good stop & search well recorded.</p>			
<p>AOB Sec 60</p>	<p>FJ: A section 60 was served over the weekend in the chantry park area. Can the group have an update regarding this?</p> <p>FJ: I am aware of the system in place that shares a summary of crimes that have taken place within the last 24 hours. Has this been shared with any officers?</p>	<p>LN: Unfortunately, I don't know any further information about this section 60.</p> <p>CC: That is correct Fran but not all officers receive every crime. Personally, I receive a list of what the people in the CCR room deem of important for everyone to know.</p> <p>SF: I can look to contact a duty inspector to see if there can give any information regarding this section 60.</p> <p>SF provides update from Rocky (RH): There was reliable intelligence that two gangs from Nacton and the Triangle estate arranging to meet, and the concern was for the pubic as a Fair was going on and that weapons could be involved.</p> <p>(Dialled into the meeting) RH: The intelligence was strong, and we were</p>	

<p>Question from a community member;</p>	<p>PW: Officers that identify themselves from the MET, if they were to do a S&S in Ipswich/Suffolk would this go back to the MET or Suffolk police? I recently was made aware of an incident where two MET police officers grabbed a suspected shoplifter from behind in a co-op in Suffolk.</p> <p>PW: I had contacted the MET and they directed me back to Suffolk Police and details of the situation had been taken down.</p> <p>PW: As I missed the two previous meetings I was wondering if the group received the statistics regarding the number of strip searches that was requested.</p>	<p>aware of this meet taking place in chantry park during the time of the Fair, so the section 60 was placed a day before we expected this meet to happen. Due to the level of police presence around the area nothing happened.</p> <p>CC: As a police officer I have the rights to use my powers anywhere in the UK. If a situation took place, where I did use my powers out of county, I would still need to fill out the relevant legislation paperwork and submit to my own force so they are aware and then this would be transferred to the relevant force in the area. That would be the normal process. You are more than welcome to contact the MET police and request who these officers are and the reasoning behind the situation.</p> <p>FJ: Just to add Phillip as Claire mention you are a police officer 24/7. Wherever you are if you suspect a crime to be happening you can use your police powers accordingly.</p>	
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<p>FJ: I feel further preparation for this meeting could have taken place. I will look to speak to Simon outside of this meeting.</p>		<p>SL: Yes, Phillip we had an in-depth update from Simon Mills via statistics and reports. I would be happy to share this information with yourself.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting: July 26th 4-6pm</p>			