



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

ACTIONS

Name of meeting: Stop & Search and UoF Scrutiny Panel

Date: 4th November 2024 **Time:** 13:30 to 16:00

Venue: Powys County Command, HQ, Llandrindod Wells Police Station.

Meeting Chaired by: Derek Turner

Attendees:	Paul Saunders - Independent Advisor Derek Turner - Independent Advisor Selima Bahadur - Independent Advisor Dave Hawksworth - Sergeant (Temp) - Strategic Support - Specialist Operations Miranda Bryant - Equality Diversity and Welsh Language Support Officer, DPP Gwen James - Equality Diversity and Welsh Language Manager, DPP Patricia Rafique - BSL Interpreter Paul Lewis - BSL Interpreter Donna Cronin - Head of Assurance – OPCC
Apologies: -	Monique Craine - Independent Advisor Rob Blowes - Independent Advisor Amol Pandit - Independent Advisor Tom Walters - Quality of Service Caseworker – OPCC Gruff Ifan - Head of Communications and Engagement OPCC
	Green = Actions Complete Amber = Actions progressing Noted = Decisions Noted

	Action Number	Action/Key Decisions	Owner	Action Status	Update
04	S&SUoFSP/04/06032024/A	Use of Force Record 2. A Use of Force video clip was shown to the panel. Scenario Information received that a subject suffering from mental health issues have made comments that they wanted to harm themselves and may be in possession of implements to self-harm with. Officers attended but the person would not accept help from officers and were walking away from them and may harm themselves. The person was detained to carry out a Stop & Search to ensure they did not have any objects that they could use to harm themselves or others. Officers discussed with the person whether they wished to speak to a member of the crisis team. PS Hawksworth provided background context to the panel. Powers/Policy Common law, section 117 PACE Panel views: The panel agreed that the completed forms seemed complicated. PS	PS Hawksworth	Complete	18.10.2024 - Update - Simplified summary template of Use of Force Forms has been produced and for assessment by the Stop & Search, Use of Force Scrutiny Panel at the 4th November 2024 meeting. 26.5.2024 update – From PS Hawksworth. In relation to the simplification of the Use of Force forms it is not currently possible to simplify the forms automatically within NICHE and this may have to be accepted as a limitation of the system. However, PS Hawksworth will continue to do review this and will simplify the forms if it is possible to do so in the future. Update - In respect of the outcome, I have been unable to ascertain the exact outcome in relation to this incident. The likely outcome in such incidents would be for the individual to be taken to see the local MH Crisis Team. This is generally on a voluntary basis. update - In respect of the specific incident reviewed and the outcome sufficient

		Hawksworth will check if there is an option to only print what is required for the panel to view. The panel agreed that the officers tried to deal with the situation as best they could. The panel thought the outcome of this incident was not recorded clearly on the form and queried what was the outcome of this incident. A query was raised as to whether the police have access to their medical records. PS Hawksworth explained that an officer would not have access to their medical records. Action: In respect of the Use of Force forms some information is a duplication and therefore PS Hawksworth will check if the force is able to print only what the Scrutiny Panel needs to view. Action: The panel request feedback as to what was the outcome of the situation in respect of use of force record 2 was.			reasoning was provided to this group at the meeting on 5 th June 2024.
04	S&SUoFSP/05062024/04/A	Stop & Search record 4. Body Worn Video Clip shown to the Panel.	PS Hawksworth	Complete	18.10.2024 Update - Feedback provided. Officers have a duty to prevent harm to persons and also have the right to take the necessary

		Grounds for Stop & Search Detail. Force received an emergency telephone call from subject who informed the police that they were in possession of a knife for their own safety because they thought people were following them. Panel view The officer had a long conversation with the person to assess the person. The person was searched under Section 1 of PACE. The panel agreed that the person should have been cautioned before officer looked in their bag although removing the knife was the right thing to do. PS Hawksworth explained that reviewing the knife was the right thing to do but it is the context as to how the officer went about this. The officer needs to think about why they were there first, to help a person in a mental health crisis and as the knife was in a locked bag, it was secondary to the situation. A discussion ensued about mental health and social workers. When right care right person project goes live this situation would be directed to mental health service. Tom Walters raised a query, given the risk factors and the disclosure of mental health they noticed when watching the			steps to ensure their personal safety when dealing with any incident. Officers should ensure they have the most up to date available information prior to attending to ensure they can make an effective Dynamic Operational Risk Assessment. Officers should ensure as far as possible while ensuring the safety of the subject, themselves, and others that they show compassion and protect the dignity of the subject as far as possible. Effective communication with the subject is vital in ensuring this.
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		body worn video clip that the officer was walking in front of the person, but the other officer did not seem to be behind the person. Would this be considered as a risk factor with their training in Stop & Search etc. PS D. Hawksworth advised that this is a judgement call from the officer based on their training. The panel thought that the officer handled the person very well in a difficult situation. Officer looked for the knife and whilst doing so moved the person's personal paperwork out of the way. The Officer was not intrusive in respect of persons personal items. A query was raised as to the outcome of the situation. PS Hawksworth advised that the individual was taken home, and the officer submitted a vulnerable person notification, the support services would pick this up and contact the person. Action PS Hawksworth to feedback to the officer to think about the situation, why they were there first to deal with a mental health situation and the knife was secondary to this situation as it was locked away securely.			
6	S&SUoFSP/05062024/06/A	Stop & Search Record 6. The body worn video clip was shown to the group.	PS Hawksworth	Completed	18.10.2024 Update -PS Hawksworth requested information on the meaning of the term "Red Zone" from the officer, supervisor and the local Inspector. In summary it has

		Stop & Search Grounds Detail. A PCSO noticed multiple people in a lane. They did not provide a reason why they were loitering around the back lane of this road therefore they informed the officer who was on patrol locally. The area concerned is marked as a red zone. The officer spoke to all persons present and one person stated they had a needle on them and having dealt with this person on numerous occasions where class A drug heroin has been found, and due to the mention of needles, the person was detained for a Section.23 search under the Drugs Misuse Act, initially a clean packaged portable spoon was found, however they did not have any drugs within their property. Officer completed GOWSLEY and explained that they could have a copy of the Stop & Search if they wished to do so. Panel View. The group thought that the officer was polite. The panel requested feedback in respect of what is a red zone. Action:- PS Hawksworth to feedback to panel the meaning of red zone.			been confirmed that this related to a local term where there had been an increase in criminal activity in a specific area. This resulted in the use of the term “red zone” to define an area where increased patrols were required. The officer fully accepted that this did not mean there was any blanket authority to stop and search persons in this area without specific grounds. The officer fully accepted that they should not have referenced the term “red zone” as it gives rise to the view that a blanket authority was in place. The officers apologised for any confusion this has caused and the term should not be utilised in the future to avoid any further confusion.
7	S&SUoFSP/05062024/07/A	Use of Force Records.	Miranda Bryant	Completed	18.10.2024 Update. PS Hawksworth has created a new format for the display of the S & S and UoF

		An issue was raised in respect of the use of force retracted records, on this occasion they did not contain details about the scenario of the situation. The panel agreed they need to view the information noted on the use of force justification section of the form in order to provide feedback on the situation. Action: Miranda Bryant to ensure that this is included on the records provided at the next Stop & Search Use of Force panel meeting.			records to the panel. This includes scenario and supervisor comments.
1	S&SUoFSP/04112024/01/N	The Chair informed the panel that for all the Stop & Search records being reviewed today, the grounds for the selection of the records is that they are people who have been Stop & Searched at least twice or more times.	Noted		
2	S&SUoFSP/04112024/02/N	The panel agreed that the new presentation layout of the Stop & Search and Use of Force records was clearer and easier to read. Better supervisor comments were also included in this format. The panel agreed to continue with this new format and that they would dip sample the original records to ensure that transparency is continued for both Stop & Search and Use of Force records.	Noted		
03	S&SUoFSP/04112024/03/A	Stop & Search Record 1	PS Hawksworth	New Action	

		Body worn video clip in relation to this record was presented to the panel. Legal Power of Search S.23 Misuse of Drugs Act Grounds for search Intelligence received that the vehicle is being used to distribute drugs. Information suggest that the vehicle has been out of force area for a number of hours and is now on route back to its home address. Driver and passenger believed to be involved in the supply of class A drugs. Panel view The panel queried if the intelligence received had been quality assured because the person stopped explained to the officer that they had been stopped many times before and that they thought it was their ex-partner providing the intelligence of the vehicle being involved in the distribution of drugs. PS Hawksworth explained that intelligence received is quality assured prior to use. The panel agreed that the person was co-operative taking into account they had been stopped so many times prior to this occasion.			
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		The panel agreed that the officers who carried out the Stop & Search were polite and professional. Action: PS Hawksworth to provide panel feedback to the relevant department to ensure a high standard of Quality Assurance of intelligence is verified and confirmed before use.			
04	S&SUoFSP/04112024/04/A	Stop & Search Record 2 The body worn video clip was presented to the panel. PS Hawksworth explained to the panel that the Body worn video clip had not been switched on straight away and therefore the first few minutes were not recoded. Legal Power of Search Section 1 of Pace. Grounds for Search Officers received a report that a theft from a store in Aberystwyth had taken place. There is information to suggest that the person is stealing alcohol and clothes from other stores as well. The person is a known offender. Adult community resolution given for cannabis. Panel view The panel queried why there was no formal receipt available at the time of	PS Hawksworth	New Action	

		the search and asked if this was standard practice. PS Hawksworth informed the panel that a person can request a copy of the record on-line or by phoning 101. The panel queried the ethnicity of the person, officer defined ethnicity is noted as White- North European and the self-defined ethnicity noted as White British on the form, but the panel having watched the body worn video clip did not in their opinion view the person as being either of these ethnicities. PS Hawksworth explained that the officer has to note what the person states under the self-defined section. The panel agreed that they wished for this information to be checked. Action:- PS Hawksworth to check if the ethnicity information on the Stop & Search record 2 is correct.			
05	S&SUoFSP/04112024/05/A	Stop & Search Record 3 Body worn video clip presented to the panel. Legal Power for Search Section 23 Misuse of Drugs Act Grounds for Search A school has reported female student coming into school under the influence			

of drugs. The female has admitted to smoking cannabis on the way to school.

Panel view

The panel raised a query in respect of that it was a male officer carrying out the search on a female. PS Hawksworth explained that there was a female PCSO present, but they did not have the powers to carry out a search for drugs. The parent of the student was also present.

The panel also raised a query in respect of when the call came in should it have been noted that the student was female and that a female officer should have been sent. The panel thought that consideration for a female officer to be sent even if this caused a bit of a delay. The panel also thought that there could have been a religious or cultural reason as to why it would not have been acceptable for a male to carry out the search for example the female student could have been a Muslim and therefore only a female officer could carry out the search.

The panel thought that the officer handled the situation well.

The panel also raised a concern on how many people were in the room at the time, it seemed very intrusive, consideration should have been given to confidentiality and some privacy for

		the student during the search. The panel thought that there was no need to have so many people in the room during the Stop & Search. The panel queried if this situation could have been dealt with without calling the police. The panel requested information in respect of the school policy in respect of searching for cannabis. Action: PS Hawksworth will make enquiries with the school liaison officers as to what is the school's policy on searching students for drugs such as cannabis. Feedback to be provided to the school as to their threshold, as the panel queried if they could have dealt with this situation without involving the police.			
06	S&SUoFSP/04112024/06A	Stop & Search Record 4 Body worn video clip shown to panel. Legal Power for Search Section 23 misuse of drugs act. Grounds for Search Whilst on mobile patrol, officers sighted two males standing in a dark alley where drugs are known to be dealt. On approach the males immediately walked away from the officers. The males appeared to have reacted to the police van and upon stopping one of the males	PS Hawksworth	New Action	

		they produced a bag containing cocaine. The male appeared to be under the influence of something, however officer could not smell alcohol. The male appeared anxious, and their hands and feet were unsteady. There were no premises open in the area at the time and the males had no obvious reason to be around at the time of night. The officer suspected that the person had more drugs on them, and they were further searched under section 23 of the misuse of drugs act. The officer informed the male that they can have a copy of the search record at the police station. PS Hawksworth informed the panel a person can request a copy of their Stop & Search record on-line or by phoning 101, a person does not need to attend a police station. PS Hawksworth informed the panel that they would feedback this information to officers in general to ensure that every officer is aware of this. Panel view The panel agreed with the grounds for search. Action: PS Hawksworth to ensure that all officers are aware that a person can request a copy of the Stop & Search record either by			
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		requesting it online or by phoning 101.			
07	S&SUoFSP/04112024/07/N	Stop & Search Record 5 Body worn video clip shown to panel. Legal Power for Search Section 1 of PACE. Grounds for Search. A person had telephoned the police and stated they were near water and having bad thoughts. Concern for the safety of the person, therefore the person was located and after a conversation they were persuaded to go with the officers to attend hospital and see the mental health crisis team. A search was carried out to ensure that the person was not carrying any bladed articles that could harm themselves or others prior to taking them to hospital. Panel View The panel queried as this was a female, should a female officer have attended this incident. The panel agreed that the officer dealt with the situation well and that the person seemed comfortable with the officers. The panel queried if there was a need to search someone who is self-harming.	Noted		

		PS Hawksworth explained that it is an NHS policy that persons should be searched before entering the hospital to ensure safety of NHS staff.			
08	S&SUoFSP/04112024/08/N	The chair informed the panel that criteria used for selecting the use of force records was that no ethnicity had been recorded on the form.	Noted		
09	S&SUoFSP/04112024/09/A	Use of Force Record 1 Body worn video clip presented to the panel. Incident Summary An Officer was on patrol when they recognised subject as having bail conditions which subject was in breach of. Officer arrested subject for breach of bail. Subject became aggressively resistant during arrest. PS Hawksworth explained to the panel that when someone is breaching court bail conditions , this is an instant arrestable offence. Panel view The panel noted that the presumed gender had been recorded on the form as Other . PS Hawksworth explained that it could be that the officer has not completed this section, or it is an error. All agreed that it should be a mandatory form field so that officers cannot	PS Hawksworth	New Action	

		proceed to next section without completing this section. The panel agreed that officers need to be prepared at all times as situations can change in an instant. Panel agreed that it was good that the officer recognised the person straight away. Action: PS Hawksworth will make enquiries to find out if the perceived gender section on the form is a mandatory section. Action: For Use of Force record 2 PS Hawksworth to find out if the perceived gender – ‘other’ was noted correctly by the officer			
10	S&SUoFSP/04112024/10/N	Use of Force Record 2 Body worn video clip shown to panel. Incident Summary Officers were called to a report that a person had taken a number of tablets with the intention of taking more tablets. When officers were attempting to speak to the person, they have produced a pot with a number of tablets and attempted to swallow them prompting officers to use reasonable force to prevent the person harming themselves. Panel View The panel thought that the officer was very patient with the person. Members	Noted		

		of the panel thought that it is very sad the situations that some young people find themselves in.			
11	S&SUoFSP/04112024/11/N	Use of Force Record 3 No body worn video clip as the stop & search was carried out in the custody suite. Body worn video clips not recorded here because there are security cameras in the custody suite. Incident Summary Person reported missing whilst on bail conditions and had also breached a community protection notice. On arrest for breach of community protection notice they had assaulted police officers. Panel view The panel raised a query as to why the supervisor comments were not available for this record. PS Hawksworth explained that the supervisor comments has had been recorded under the custody records form.	Noted		
12	S&SUoFSP/04112024/12/A	Use of Force Record 4 No body worn video clip available for this record. It seems that the footage was not tagged and therefore not available to link with the record. Incident Summary	PS Hawksworth	New Action	

		Subject has attended the address of their parents with an imitation firearm and has made threats to kill towards them, resulting in a physical confrontation occurring at the address. Panel view. No view received. Action: PS Hawksworth will feedback to the officer a reminder that body worn video clips need to be tagged.			
13	S&SUoFSP/04112024/13/N	Use of Force Record 5 Body worn video clip presented to the panel. Incident Summary The subject was intoxicated and abusive throwing items at the officers from an upstairs window. Subject has assaulted police officers by kicking and throwing wood and debris at them striking the officers on the legs and chest. Panel View Panel thought the officers dealing with the situation were very patient in a risky environment. The building was not safe and therefore the officers did not use taser because of a fall risk to the person.	Noted		

14	S&SUoFP/04112024/14/N	Use of Force Record 6 To be presented to the panel at the next meeting. Action: PS Hawksworth to present record 6 at the next Stop & Search Use of Force Panel meeting.	Noted		
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Date of next meeting:- to be confirmed.