



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

Stop Search Report

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Author: PS 294 Ching Yip

(Data supplied by Michael Lythgoe)



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1. Introduction – Chief Inspector Chris Neve

Heddlu Dyfed Powys Police (HDPP) strive to put the needs of our communities at the heart of everything we do.

The force is committed to delivering against the Chief Constables Priorities, which are:

Priority 1 - The elimination of domestic abuse, stalking and harassment.

Priority 2 - Making the Heddlu Dyfed-Powys Police area hostile to those that deal drugs.

Priority 3 – Providing a compassionate response to victims of rape and serious sexual assault and the relentless pursuit of offenders.

Stop and search is a vital tool in fighting crime, protecting our communities, and of course delivering against priority 2. We fully appreciate that being stopped and searched can be unwanted. It can cause annoyance, anxiety, and stress.

It is also a highly intrusive power and if used inappropriately or incorrectly it has the potential to undermine the very trust we are seeking to develop with our communities across Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, and Powys.

We are fully cognisant of the impacts that recent incidents involving the misuse of Stop and Search both nationally and internationally have had on public confidence in Policing. As such, we have worked hard to ensure that we have built a robust internal and external scrutiny process of our use of stop and search, including the publishing of this report.

As seen within this report, there is some disproportionality in how we use our powers, and we are determined to overcome this. It is therefore crucial that we continuously monitor the use of the Stop and Search powers to ensure it is fair and non-discriminatory.

To ensure we are effectively using stop and search powers, we undertake the following activities across our force:

- Every single time a member of our staff conducts a stop and search on any individual, they are required to complete and submit a stop search form.
- Each form will be reviewed by a supervising officer who will assess the quality of that encounter, whether officers have applied their powers legally and professionally, employed effective communication skills, have demonstrated empathy and a good knowledge of the law.
- Supervisors will further quality assure Stop and Search forms by viewing body worn video recordings of encounters, to identify any learning that may need to be adopted.

It is important that we accurately record our Stop & Search activity so that we fully understand our data and can respond accordingly. Dyfed Powys Police remain committed to understanding and tackling the root causes of any disproportionate practices.

To achieve this, we have invested heavily in additional analytical capability through the development of highly intuitive stop and search dashboards.

Stop and Search in Dyfed-Powys Police is also independently scrutinised by two different groups. One of which is the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) and the other is the Quality Assurance Panel (QAP).

The IAG is made up of individuals external to the Force, who are prepared to listen, observe, and provide constructive feedback on the equality, diversity and inclusivity of activities and policies within Dyfed-Powys Police.

The QAP is the Quality Assurance Panel and has been established to scrutinise the quality of Police contact with the public, in a transparent and independent manner, on behalf of the communities within the Heddlu Dyfed-Powys area.

The Panel will scrutinise areas of Police contact with the public, for example, complaint cases, Stop and Search cases and police handling of calls in to the Force's Communication Centre i.e., 101 and 999 calls.

Both the IAG and the QAP view the forms submitted by officers as well as footage from police body worn cameras to review and advise how they believe our officers and staff conducted a stop and search – providing feedback and recommending areas for improvement.

2. Methodology

- The data used for this report has been taken from Heddlu Dyfed Powys Police's force systems.
- The graphs and tables in this report come from detailed analysis of Stop and Search data that has been exported into Excel.
- HDPP use the Pronto application for the recording of Stop and Searches by officers whilst mobile.
- The data is then ingested by Power Bi and displayed in the form of visualisations that are used internally and by a scrutiny panel that monitors the use of stop and search.

3. Executive Summary

- Data in this report is based on the financial year 2022/23 (April 2022 – March 2023).
(All data and narrative are correct as of 02/05/23)
- Heddlu Dyfed Powys Police (HDPP) conducted 9,129 Stop Searches, inclusive of vehicles during the financial year 2022/23, compared to 2,686 for the FY of 2021/22, which is an increase 71%
- HDPP is made up of four Local Policing Areas (LPAs) - Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, and Powys.
- The below graph reflects the Stop and Search Volumes ^{*(includes vehicles)} for this period across each LPA. (Where collaboration and secondment are listed, these are HDPP officers who have roles outside of the Force)



4. Stop and Search powers

- The below table reflects the volume of Stop Search Powers used during the financial year of 2022/23. ^{*(Includes vehicle searches)}

<u>Search Power</u>	<u>Volume</u>
Other	122
Sec 1 PACE 1984	28
Sec 11 Badgers Act 1992	1
Sec 1-3 PACE Act 1984	2447
Sec 19 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	3
Sec 2 Poaching Prevention Act 1862	5
Sec 23 Misuse of Drugs Act 1971	6464
Sec 32 Escape or to injure themselves or others PACE 1984	6
Sec 43 Terrorism Act 2000	14
Sec 44 Terrorism Act 2000	9
Sec 47 Firearms Act 1968	29
Sec 60 CJ & PO Act 1994	1
Grand Total	9129

- The most utilised power, during the fiscal year of 2022/23 was Sec.23 Misuse of Drugs Act. This accounted for 71% of the 9,129 searches carried out within the HDPP Force area.
- Where “Other” is listed, this could include search powers such as Sec 36 Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, as an example.

5. Stop and Search Reason Group and Outcome

- The below table shows data according to HDPP systems the number of searches by reason group and the outcome of the stop. 16% of drug related stops resulted in an arrest vs. 73% resulted in NFA

Outcome	Criminal Damage	Drugs	Firearms	Going Equipped	Offensive Weapons	Other	Stolen Property	Grand Total
Arrest	24	1052	7	40	279	15	157	1574
Article found - Detailed outcome unavailable	1	9	0	0	1	2	1	14
Caution	0	36	0	1	0		10	47
Community Resolution	5	478		9	8	3	50	553
Khat/Cannabis Warning	0	36	0	2	0	0	0	38
Local resolution	0	8	0	0	0	0	1	9
Nothing found – No further action	2	13	1	3	2	3	0	24
Other/NFA	135	4801	25	198	973	168	425	6725
Penalty Notice	0	7	0	1	2	1	1	12
Summons	0	88	0	1	4	2	4	99
Suspect arrested	1	22	0	1	3	4	3	34
Grand Total	168	6550	33	256	1272	198	652	9129

6. Age Group breakdown data

- The following table displays the volume of searches per age group by seizure category.

Seizure Group	Under 11	11 - 17	18 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64	65 +	Not Recorded	Grand Total
Criminal Damage	0	11	2	0	4	0	2	19
Drugs	1	200	902	294	68	6	242	1713
Firearms	0	4	3	2	2	1	4	16
Going Equipped	2	1	13	8	7	1	10	42
Nothing Found	10	1214	3104	1214	412	81	767	6802
Offensive Weapons	0	27	84	31	15	2	22	181
Other	0	62	87	36	9	2	28	224
Stolen property	0	22	49	37	10	1	13	132
Grand Total	13	1541	4244	1622	527	94	1088	9129

- The age group of 18 – 34 was the largest out of the seizure categories with 4244 records (47%) out of all the total searches for the Force

7. Gender group breakdown data

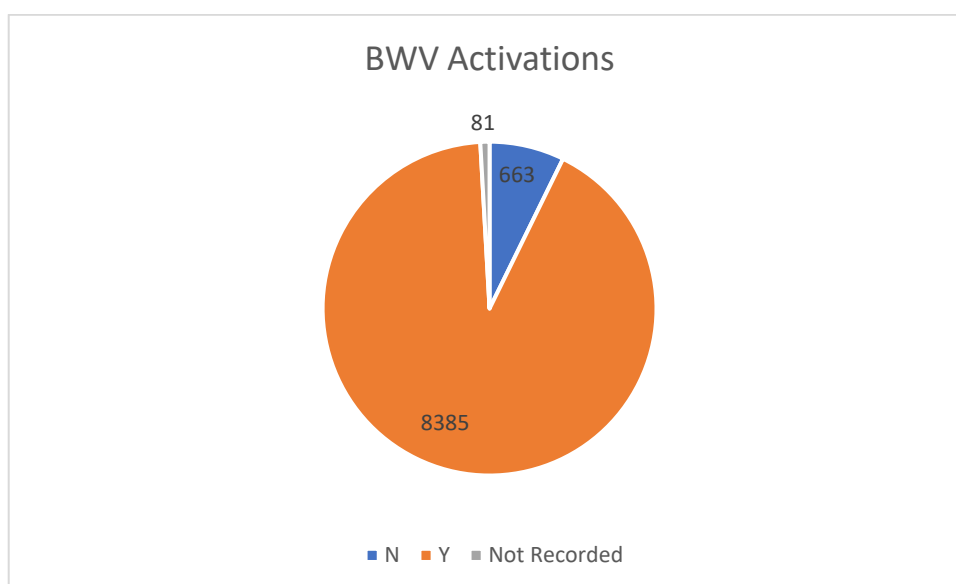
- The following table displays the volume of searches by gender and reason.

Reason Group	F	M	Not Recorded	U	Grand Total
Criminal Damage	22	142	3	1	168
Drugs	974	4875	692	9	6550
Firearms	2	25	6	0	33
Going Equipped	13	219	22	2	256
Offensive Weapons	305	932	32	3	1272
Other	34	107	57	0	198
Stolen Property	129	431	92	0	652
Grand Total	1479	6731	904	15	9129

- Males accounted for 74% of drug searches during the specified period.
- Males had the highest proportion of searches at 74% out of all the Reason Groups listed in the table.

8. Body Worn Video

- Body Worn Video (BWV) is used to record interactions between officers and members of the public, including those where stop and search incidences occur. The use is to document visually the process and to provide transparency and protection both to the officers and the individual/s concerned.
- The below graph shows the the proportion when BWV was used during a stop and search.
- It was used during 93% of all interactions during Stop and Search encounters
- (The non-activation could be due to a number of reasons. E.g. Not issued, technical fault, not appropriate, sensitive issue).



9. Ethnicity data

- The graph below is of data recorded by HDPP which shows the proportion of Positive Outcomes, broken down into Ethnicity.

Outcome	Asian	Black	Mixed	Not Stated	Other	Vehicle Only	White	Grand Total
Arrest	21	11	14	108		268	1152	1574
Article found - Detailed outcome unavailable	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	14
Caution			1			8	38	47
Community Resolution	2	3	4	32	1	53	458	553
Khat/Cannabis Warning	0	0	0	2	0	3	33	38
Local resolution	1	0	1	2	0		5	9
Nothing found – No further action	0	0	0	0	0	2	22	24
Other/NFA	40	30	50	487	9	554	5555	6725
Penalty Notice	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	12
Summons	0	1	0	6	0	7	85	99
Suspect arrested	0	0	1	0	0	4	29	34
Grand Total	64	45	71	637	10	904	7398	9129

- The graph shows that Asian, Black Mixed ethnicity people have a high positive outcome rate for arrests (26%). However, the volume of searches is far lower compared to White people and so this will affect the data.
- To remain transparent, it is recognised that the graph displays a disproportionality towards Asian, Black and Mixed Ethnic people. However, when this is compared to the volumes of searches, the numbers are significantly lower than White people.

10. Ethnicity data by LPA

- The below table shows the count of individuals searched per ethnicity broken down by LPA.

LPA	Asian	Black	Mixed	Not Stated	Other	Vehicle Only	White	Grand Total
Carmarthenshire	14	12	12	132	1	121	2714	3006
Ceredigion	22	8	30	188	0	105	1230	1583
Collaboration	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Headquarters	19	9	14	101	9	507	1492	2151
Pembrokeshire	4	6	8	64	0	84	1207	1373
Powys	5	10	7	152	0	85	747	1006
Secondments	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6
Grand Total	64	45	71	637	10	904	7398	9129

- The figures are calculated from self-defined ethnicity of the person at the time of the recording of the Stop Search.
- The volumes for searches of persons who are of Asian, Black and Mixed Ethnicity people are low compared to White people.
- There is a proportion of the searches within each LPA where the self-defined ethnicity is “Not Stated”. This could be due to the person concerned not declaring or answering the question at the time of recording the search record.
- Where “Collaboration or Secondment” is listed, this is where Stop Searches have been carried out by our Roads Policing Units (RPU) and Joint Firearm Units (JFU) who have a wider remit and are able to patrol cross border areas
- Where “Other” is stated, this is where the person submitting the record has not completed the form correctly or technical / user error.

11. Conclusion

- HDPP recognise that when an individual is stopped, it can be a very traumatic time for them. Whether it is their first ever encounter with a police officer or they are from an Ethnic Minority, HDPP have put strategies and processes in place to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and respectfully.
- Some of the safeguarding measures that are in place within HDPP are listed as follows.
(Other measures are listed at the start of this report)
 - Our officers use Body Worn Video to record interactions between them and any individual/s they stop and search. Which is then reviewed by supervisors.
 - A search record is also made where practicable at the location of the stop and search, this includes vehicles.
 - Every search record is reviewed by a Sergeant to ensure that the quality of the search record is to the required standard and the grounds and search power used are correct.
 - Dip samples of search records involving Black and Minority Ethnic people are regularly conducted to ensure that there is no specific disproportionality.
- It is recognised that some of the graphs and data may show that there is a disproportionality trend towards Black people and Ethnic minority members of our communities or visitors when it comes to positive outcomes.
- However, what must be noted, is that the numbers are significantly lower in terms of the number of searches conducted with Black people and Ethnic minority persons vs White people and therefore when calculating percentages, it will appear higher. To understand the full picture, volumes should be considered.
- The geography of HDPP is unique compared to other Forces within England and Wales. HDPP borders 3 other Police Forces and as such there is a lot of cross border activity in terms of visitors and travelling criminality.
- To protect the communities within HDPP and disrupt criminality, the use of stop and search is an effective tool that is used to ensure that HDPP is one of the safest places to live.