

Attendees:

Voting Attendees	Voting Attendees
RH - Chair	PH
AB	LP
NG	RG
NBR	BB
PH	KG
HC	HL
NC	CC
TC	JB
NB	

Non-Voting Members
Inspector BH – Wiltshire Police
PC KG – Wiltshire Police
AE – Wiltshire Police
KE – OPCC – Secretary

Panel members were welcomed and thanked for their attendance. Three new members were in attendance. Introductions were received from each panel member, the OPCC and Wiltshire Police. KE from the OPCC ran through a short presentation and reminded the panel of the new voting system using the RAG system.

- Vote 1** – Did the Officer establish clear grounds for a search
- Vote 2** – The overall conduct of the lead officer

Voting – Cards are used to vote with the follow colours and conditions:

Green - In the lay view of the individual, the grounds provided were reasonable for a stop and search to be carried out.

Amber - In the lay view of the individual, the grounds given are not clear enough to make a decision either way OR were maybe not sufficient, but we understand why the decision was made.

Red - In the lay view of the individual, the grounds given were not sufficient to warrant the use of stop and search powers and further investigation is required.

The selection of videos is completed at random by the Chair ahead of the Panel. Only incidents with video footage that were not still under investigation, or subject to the 'live' process, are available for selection. The clips are chosen from the whole Wiltshire geographic area.

Stop Search Scrutiny results		
<p>Clip 1: Stop and Search</p> <p><i>Male suspect was spoken to by police on foot patrol and detected cannabis smell. Male was questioned and admitted to having some drugs on his person.</i></p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 3</p> <p>Green 14</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>After lots of discussion the panel felt strongly that it felt like a 'tick box' exercise and it appeared that the officers were justifying why they stopped the suspect. It was noted that it 'felt' that they stopped him due to his appearance. One panel member mentioned that the officers did not ask if there was anything sharp that could cause harm before searching.</p> <p>Insp Huggins explained to the panel that the smell of Cannabis alone is not grounds for a search.</p>
<p>Clip 1: Conduct</p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 1</p> <p>Green 16</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>The panel remarked on both officers treating the suspect with respect, however it is to be noted that one panel member felt that the female officer was not alert enough should the situation turn and become volatile.</p>
<p>Clip 2: Stop and Search</p> <p><i>Violence against the person, Reporting Person reports that a known suspect to him, has thrown a metal pole at him narrowly missing him, states he has something shiny on him though doesn't know what it is. Suspect has previously assaulted the reporting person. Suspect has previous intel for weapons.</i></p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 1</p> <p>Green 16</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Once more a detailed discussion took place. The views ranged from the narrative seemed weak, the officer's delivery seemed VERY rushed. It was noted by a panel member that the lead officer did not seem to listen to what the suspect was saying, and he talked over him.</p> <p>Another panel member applauded the officers because the suspect was getting agitated, he could understand that the officer needed to say what he had to say to ensure he was following processes.</p> <p>Insp Huggins explained to the panel that Wiltshire Police are mandated to attend a 2-day scenario-based training exercise on stop and search – Handcuffs are used in this training.</p>
<p>Clip 2: Conduct</p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 3</p> <p>Green 14</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Most of the panel agreed that the conduct of the officers was excellent, for example as handcuffs were used the suspect complained that they hurt, the officers listened, and adjusted them accordingly. To consider for the future is perhaps the officers could explain why handcuffs are being used.</p>

		Insp Huggins informed the panel that these officers were Special Constables – and it was to be recognised that they had done a good job.
<p>Clip 3: Stop and Search</p> <p><i>Known suspect has been seen to conduct drug deal. <u>Plain clothed officers</u></i></p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 2</p> <p>Green 15</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Two panel members felt this search was vague and were struggling to understand the grounds for this search. It felt muddled and confused and the suspect appeared to not know what was going on. No warrant card was shown as the officers were in plain clothes. The suspect was visibly shaking and seemed to not understand.</p> <p>Handcuffs were used. One panel member felt that this was particularly excessive in this situation.</p> <p>Insp Huggins explained that Wiltshire Police are carrying out a review of plain clothed officers and the rules around identification. Insp Huggins also went onto explain about a verification check and how this works for members of the public.</p> <p>KE from the OPCC will feed in the comment made about the lack of identification.</p>
<p>Clip 3: Conduct</p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 7</p> <p>Green 10</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>The members that voted Amber expressed that the officers seemed as they were disconnected, no one officer took the lead, seemed muddled and did not have a professional feel to this search. The lack of identification will be fed back into Force.</p>
<p>Clip 4: Stop and Search</p> <p><i>Whilst on patrol of the multistorey in Swindon Town two males sat in the corner on level 3. Whilst engaging officers noticed drug paraphernalia on floor, both males checked on PNC not showing as wanted or missing. Both males had warning markers on Niche for drugs, both searched under Section 23 Misuse drugs act. One male stated they had just finished injecting and advise officers that there were needles in his bag.</i></p>	<p>Red 0</p> <p>Amber 1</p> <p>Green 16</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>At first it seemed unclear grounds, however all agreed that it was acceptable grounds for a search.</p> <p>One panel member felt that the scene setting did not happen – no explanation was given nor was the grounds voiced to the suspects.</p> <p>Post meeting note – Officers safety was identified by one panel member – it is to note that officer safety is not voted on, however the points raised have been taken into consideration.</p>
<p>Clip 4: Conduct</p>	<p>Red 3</p> <p>Amber 2</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Some Panel Members felt that the officers seemed relaxed and unprofessional, and the</p>

	Green 12	language used was too relaxed. However, one panel member felt that the language was correct for this situation and diffused a potential tricky situation. The rest of the panel felt that the officers treated the suspects with respect and the suspects were compliant and no force was required.
Clip 5: Stop and Search <i>Unknown suspect has punched Injured Person to the back of the head and threatened him with an extendable baton weapon and a bladed article to steal his e-scooter. Injured Person was uninjured, and scooter later recovered.</i>	Red 0 Amber 1 Green 16	Discussion: Another good debate was had. There appeared to be a lack of control and it was identified that in their opinion they would have liked to see the suspects parted – they felt that they were too close. The panel overall felt that there were grounds for a search. Language Barriers – This was discussed, and Insp Huggins explained that at the scene an officer needs to do their best in the circumstance that they find themselves in. A language service is available, and officers have an App on their phones. If an arrest is made more language help is available at the station.
Clip 5: Conduct	Red 1 Amber 8 Green 8	Discussion: Overall officers were polite, respectful, and calm. However, the panel felt that there was a lack of control and no one officer took the lead. Insp Huggins answered a question on back up – He explained that when an officer calls for back up, usually this officer will take the lead as they are normally first on scene. In an ideal world a Sgt would take the lead, but due to logistics and the geographical nature this is not always possible.
Clip 6: Stop and Search <i>Vehicle stop check - No Insurance and Driver not the Registered Keeper, with several keys and a large amount of cash.</i>	Red 0 Amber 2 Green 15	Discussion: To note the BWV was poor quality, this was a night-time stop so made slightly more difficult to view. It was felt that the officers took a long time to try and work out what direction this would be tackled. Again, it was felt that it was vague, and no clear decision was made and then communicated to the suspects. One panel member felt very strongly that it would have been much more suitable to arrest and sort out at the station rather than on the side of the road late at night.
Clip 6: Conduct	Red 0 Amber 5 Green 12	Discussion: Although the officers were calm, respectful and had a good tone to their voices the rest of the

		<p>panel felt it was let down by the 'vagueness' and lack of control</p> <p>Insp Huggins explained that GOWISELY is best practice for all officers.</p>
--	--	---

Closing comments:

Both the Chair and the OPCC thanked the panel and the officers from Wiltshire Police for their participation at the panel and the future development going forward.

Meeting concluded at 21.40hrs.

