



Dudley Stop and Search Scrutiny panel

Location: Brierley Hill Police Station

Date and Time: 21/03/24

In Attendance:

Apologies : Lewis Wastell (LW)

Beth Cooke (BC)

Inspector Sarah Long

Dean Stephens (DS)

Inspector Sarah Smyth

Leon Fletcher (LF)

Sheze Malik – OPCC(SM)

Danny Evans (Deputy Chair)

Julie Wilkinson (Chair)

Mariann Bayliss (MB)

S	Item Discussed	Actions
1.	<p>Welcome and introduction done by JW and asked the panel if there were any matters they would like to raise in regards to the previous meeting/ minutes or anything else.</p> <p>Table introduced themselves to the new inspector, DE officially identified as Deputy Chair.</p> <p>Insp SL shared with us the Interpersonal circle strategy with us for reference for the meeting to follow along and assess with.</p>	<p>No comments or details to follow up.</p>



	<p>The panel were happy to use this new structure as a way of providing positive and constructive feedback in a way that was easier to read and clearer to understand by all.</p> <p>This meeting was set to be face to face – all members attended the station apart from LW, BC, DS, LF.</p>	
2.	<p>Update of use of force data, from: 15/01/24 to 17/03/24</p>	<p>The panel discussed the change of numbers, specifically highlighting that the number of incidents recorded was significantly lower than the whole of WMP, The numbers were also lower than the previous panel meeting.</p> <p>However, following on from this, the panel as a whole were dissatisfied with the more than 10% drop in videos recorded (BWV)</p> <p>The explanation was that they were not being charged before being handed out, as well as the changes as a whole, moving over to the new cameras. We are expecting a significant increase for the number of records present for the next meeting.</p> <p>The panel however, were satisfied by the drop in the numbers for disproportionality for both the whole of the WM and Dudley as a whole.</p>
3.	<p>Random selection of UOF videos from the list provided.</p>	<p>UOF 1: As a whole, the panel were generally satisfied by this video. The panel as a whole found the officers changed tone where necessary, was reasonable and calm with the member of the public they were dealing with, and they also adapted to the situation where necessary. Both JW, and DE felt the female officer on the video would have scored in the yellow area of the positive pie, and DE, JW, and MB felt the male officer would have fitted in with the green section of the positive pie with DE adding the idea of the turquoise area for some elements. The suspect was further arrested for D&D and was transported to custody.</p>



UOF 2:

Officers appropriately spoke to the victim and also the neighbour who had interjected. The officers established that what had happened on the day had become quite a frequently recurring incident. The officers engaged positively with the victim, moving her to another room in the house to continue enquiries about the incident, however it became plainly obvious that it was a domestic related incident. Due to the circumstances around the fact it was a mother (Victim) and daughter (suspect), the officer sought advice from the duty sergeant and the decision was made to arrest the daughter for Domestic related ABH due to the injuries caused, as well as obstruct police for resisting arrest.

The panel had mixed feedback in regards to this incident with the male officer being scored purple, green, peach, and yellow on the positive pie and the female officer's feedback varied from orange, green, and yellow. Again, all on positive pie.

The panel raised questions as to the necessity of the arrest and whether that was the appropriate course of action as it had been suggested by SS and DE that the suspect may have lacked decision making capacity due to either mental ill health or disability.

UOF3:

Officers had attended an address to execute a warrant in regards to the breach of a molestation order as well as stalking. the suspect was aggressive and combative towards the officers. They made the decision to deploy their spray which was somewhat helpful, however the officers still struggled to cuff the male.

DE felt the light blue and the green on the good side applied for all visible officers, however felt the yellow on the negative pie was also applicable.



		<p>MB and JW both felt unable to use the pie charts for reference and both were happy with the use of cuffs.</p> <p>JW and DE both felt the use of the spray was inappropriate, particularly with the knowledge that 2 of the officers on scene were taser officers and they felt the taser would've been more appropriate.</p> <p>The aftercare for the officers and the suspect in regards to the exposure of the spray was good. The panel were satisfied overall but there were better courses of action to be taken in our opinion.</p>
2.	UPDATE on stop and search data from 15/11/23 – 14/01/24 by Insp RL.	<p>Discussed and updated on performance data including outcome rates and also disproportionately data and total number of searches across the West Midlands and Dudley Borough .</p> <p>A great use of BWV 98.3% at an acceptable number, however they were not at an acceptable standard. Be that with the videos missing from the system or otherwise improperly logged.</p> <p>A discussion was held by the panel regarding the significance of BWV enhancing operations and increasing safety of the officers. Insp SS shared the result is slightly better than the rest of the force.</p> <p>Insp SS reiterated and gave a brief to the panel and also highlighted impact areas Dudley bus station is a high impact area.</p> <p>An increase of Dudley officers using section 1 search power.</p> <p>Serious Youth violence there are officers focused in the streets to reduce opportunities to offend. However there has not been a statistical change with the comparison of officers on the streets doing high vis patrols and not.</p> <p>The panel agreed the figures are moving in the right direction, as slow as they may be.</p>



		<p>An increase in section 1 pace to address people carrying weapons for burglary. Objects searched for in total 186. A 35.8% drugs find rate. 37 Arrested. These figures are all less than at the previous review. Black search rate 1.1%(was 0.9%)</p> <p>The panel asked...is this a theme ? 10 to 17 years total searches 78. Higher than last review.</p> <p>97.4% BW footage which is less than last review which was 97.7%</p> <p>However the panel found concerns regarding the 27% drug find rate in this age group. which has nearly halved from 40%. The panel explored this and a discussion was held regarding this point.</p> <p>The panel reviewed ethnicity disproportionately figures,based on 2011 census data and confirmed the delay in using the most recent census data. The data confirmed 0.2% Asian and 0.9% Black are likely to be searched in the borough.</p>
3.	Random selection of U.O.F and Stop and Search record.	<p>Stop and Search initially selected BWV footage by JW .</p> <p>1) SS1: Successful search, nothing found however suspect was arrested on unrelated grounds. The panel agreed with Insp SL the officers were diligent and polite and GO WISELY was observed appropriately.</p>



	<p>SM asked Insp RL to review the footage in advance to ensure the footage is there To email if the footage is not there. This was agreed as a action moving forward.</p> <p>This evening we had 1 SS no footage. DE commented this is unacceptable.</p> <p>Insp RL confirmed to the panel UOF footage is saved for 6 years.</p> <p>A discussion was held and it was agreed Thursdays are a good day and a earlier start time would be more suitable. JW agreed and would appreciate a confirmation of attendance moving forward rather than apologies sent.</p>	<p>2) Video was not downloaded/saved properly, resulting in a loss of footage. SL will investigate however upon review of the downloaded log, it stated a mental health patient reported to be carrying bladed articles outside Bushey Fields. No further information provided.</p> <p>3) Intelligence lead stop, suspicion of drug use//Dealing inside the grounds of Nova in Netherton. Numerous people searched with GO WISELY exercised appropriately. Unfortunately, The video footage was of extremely poor quality to the point we were unable to review the full video. From what was seen though, the panel was overall happy. It has been advised that either SS or SL will give feedback that all suspects should have their hands out their pockets for the entirety, as well as officers, so they have their hands free.</p>
		<p>Panel thanked Insp RL for her clarity and step by step feedback on the team's work. It was agreed that UOF Taser would be automatically scrutinised by the panel.</p>
6.	<p>Action noted from discussions for update at next panel</p>	<p>Also the importance of positive feedback to officers from these meetings slides. Insp RL to give praise to the team. The new feedback model was successful with Stop and Search footage but more complicated with UOF overall a positive influence on our meeting.</p>
7.		



	AOB /Notes	SM agreed with JW that DE would step up to Deputy Chair with immediate effect, This was announced at this meeting.
8.	Date and location of next panel	Dates for 2024 will be confirmed to the panel. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 23rd May. At an earlier start time 4.30 pm. At Brierley Hill Police Station .