

Committees	Dated:
Police Committee – For information Safeguarding Sub-Committee – For information	25 th January 2018 6 th February 2018
Subject: Handcuffing of Juvenile Statistics	Public
Report of: The Commissioner of Police	For Information
Report author: Detective Superintendent Woodall	

Summary

This paper aims to address concerns raised following submission of a paper to Police Committee and Safeguarding Sub-Committee that the City of London Police were using excessive force on juveniles when compared to other forces (specifically the MPS and Cambridgeshire).

The figures previously presented actually showed different things and should not have been directly compared. Further comparable data has been acquired and presented in this report that demonstrates CoLP is performing in line with these other forces. In addition, dip-sampling of City Use of Force forms has shown no issues of concern and no complaints have been received in relation to the use of force on juveniles in the City.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Annual update on the Custody of Vulnerable Persons (Young Persons, Children and Mental Health) was given to Police Committee on 21st September 2017 and Safeguarding Sub-Committee on 27th September 2017.
2. Within that report at paragraph 33 the following information was detailed: “So far for the months of April to June of 19 individuals under 18 brought into custody, 12 have been handcuffed, this equates to 63%. As a comparison during the same period, 8% of all juveniles’ arrests made by Cambridgeshire Police and 13% of all juvenile arrests made by the Metropolitan Police service (MPS) show use of Force applied”

Current Position

3. The data from Cambridgeshire and the MPS used in paragraph 2 above was extracted from their external website and should not have been used as it was a wrong comparison. The City of London Police (CoLP) statistics quoted refer to the percentage of those arrested under 18 who were handcuffed and the MPS and Cambridge is a percentage of the total use of Force applied to under 17 year olds as compared with the use of Force on all persons detained.
4. Use of Force statistics will include handcuffing but is wider, including baton use.
5. Handcuffing statistics should detail compliant and non compliant handcuffing which is not shown within the original statistics at paragraph 2.
6. The MPS report the Use of Force on 12,605 people and 1,593 in the 11 to 17 year age bracket (13%).
7. CoLP's external website reports handcuffing on 405 people and 29 in the 16yrs and under age bracket (7%); 33 in the 17yrs to 20yrs age bracket (8%).
8. The figures for handcuffing young people in the City of London police as shown at paragraph 7 above (and Table 1 below) are not out of line with the figures presented by Cambridgeshire and the MPS for their use of force.
9. Table 1 below attempts to demonstrate the comparison between the three forces. However, this is hampered by the different type of data and the fact that CoLP figures are broken down by different age brackets than MPS. In addition, MPS and Cambs are reporting Use of Force (which includes use of Handcuffs - and also baton use and physical restraint) and CoLP figures report just the use of handcuffs specifically. Figures for each force, with their own age brackets, can be found in Appendix A.

Table 1: Use of force/handcuffs broken down proportionally by age for MPS, Cambs and CoLP.

Age*	MPS	CAMBS	COLP
0-16/17	12.8%	7.8%	7.2%
17/18-34/35	57.2%	61.6%	62.7%
35/36-50/51	22.7%	23.3%	18.8%
50/51 - 64/65	6.6%	6.4%	4.0%
65/66 +	0.7%	0.6%	7.4%
Not known / recorded		0.4%	
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

* CoLP uses different age brackets than MPS and Cambs so a precise comparison is not possible. Hence, slightly overlapping age ranges in this table.

10. It should be noted that Superintendent Bill Duffy has undertaken some dip-sampling on the Use of Force Forms for juveniles in the City and has found no instances of improper use of force. Further to this, no complaints have been received by CoLP for use of force on juveniles.

Conclusion

11. While it was regrettable that figures previously presented were wrong to compare, it is hoped the figures presented above allay any concerns that CoLP may be using excessive force on juveniles (in comparison to MPS and Cambs).

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Individual force figures for MPS, Cambridgeshire and City of London.

Background Papers

Annual update on the Custody of Vulnerable Persons (Young Persons, Children and Mental Health), presented to Police Committee (21st September) and Safeguarding Sub-Committee (27th September 2017).

Detective Superintendent Maria Woodall

Head of Professional Standards Directorate

T: 020 7601 6945

E: Maria.Woodall@city-of-london.pnn.police.uk

Appendix A

Use of Force / Handcuffs broken down by age for Metropolitan Police Service, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and City of London Police.

MPS - Q1 2017-18		
Age	Total individuals	% of total
0-10	17	0.1%
11-17	1593	12.6%
18-34	7213	57.2%
35-49	2864	22.7%
50-64	830	6.6%
65 +	88	0.7%
Total	12605	100.0%
CAMBS - Jul 2017 to Sept 2017		
Age	Total individuals	% of total
0-10	5	0.4%
11-17	85	7.3%
18-34	714	61.6%
35-49	270	23.3%
50-64	74	6.4%
65 +	7	0.6%
Not known / Recorded	5	0.4%
total	1160	100.0%
COLP - April-Sept 2017 (Q1 and Q2 combined)		
Age	Total individuals	% of total
0-16	29	7.2%
17-20	33	8.1%
21-25	106	26.2%
26-30	58	14.3%
31-35	57	14.1%
36-40	35	8.6%
41-45	28	6.9%
46-50	13	3.2%
51-55	7	1.7%
56-60	6	1.5%
61-65	3	0.7%
66 +	30	7.4%
Total	405	100.0%