

Committee(s): Professional Standards and Integrity Committee	Dated: 4 June 2024
Subject: Q4 Stop and Search and Use of Force 2023-24	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	CoLP impact the following Corp Plan outcomes: Vibrant Thriving Destination- (Community Safety/ CT) Dynamic Economic Growth- (National Lead Force)
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Commissioner of Police Pol 71-24	For Information
Report author: Supt Bill Duffy & Chief Inspector Paul Doyle, Local Policing.	

Summary

City of London Police (CoLP) continue to support Op Benbow¹ and deploy to Palestine Solidarity Campaign / Pro Israel protests within the City and across London. These protests have been incredibly sensitive in their nature and a measured intelligence-based approach has been used. As both the nature of the protests and signage and potential crimes have evolved, so has the need to adjust the approach to policing – these protests are less likely to result in stop search than other large-scale events as most items are already on show and not as likely to be concealed.

Stop/searches have seen a continued decline with Section 60 and juvenile searches.

Of the 597 stop/searches in the Q4 period, 74 were dip sampled at a rate of 12.4%, experiential learning and feedback is given to officers where appropriate. This is within the target range of 10-15% dip sampling. There are 4 live ongoing formal complaints under investigation (3 for Stop and Search and 1 for Use of Force) and any learning from these will be shared as necessary.

The drop in overall stop/search coupled with the discovery of the same number of items from Q3 to Q4 has increased the success of positive outcomes from 34% to 43%. This also accounted for a period that saw disproportionality increase in both Black and Asian categories from 2 to 2.3 and 0.7 to 1.4 respectively. There is no immediate or obvious reason that can account for these increases but they are within the expected range. (National rates 2023 - Black ethnicity – 4.85, meaning a person of Black ethnicity is nearly five times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white person, Asian ethnicity – 1.58 times more likely to stop searched).

¹ Op Benbow- Cross Border mutual aid Operations with MPS

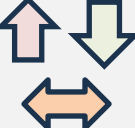







The University of East London project has been authorised and will provide academic and meaningful analysis of CoLP actions, Project parameters are still being established but initial reports will be expected late 2024.

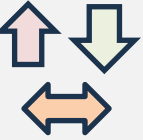








Recommendation

It is recommended that Members note the report.

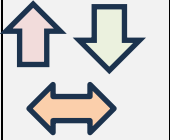

Stop and Search and Use of Force Data

- **Key changes** – see comments below
- **Disproportionality** – see comments below
- **Outcomes** – See below

Indicator	Value (number)	Change on previous quarter (number and % if appropriate)	Trend 	Comment (if appropriate)
Stop search	597	-16 1.03%		Minor reduction in stop/search but policing was centred around public order as well as acquisitive crime with a number of proactive operations
Arrest from stop search	188	12 6.8%		Minor increase, not a significant effect on this data set
Searches under s.60	0	-2 N/A%		This reflects the lack of Section 60s within the City area
Juveniles searched	41	-19 31.7%		Another significant reduction in youth search, reflective of more term time
Black disproportionality	2.3	0.3 15%		
Asian disproportionality	1.4	+0.7 100%		
Total items found	280	+36 18%		An increase in the number of items found as a result of stop search

Indicator	Value (number)	Change on previous quarter (number and % if appropriate)	Trend 	Comment (if appropriate)
Strip searches ² total	7	5 250%		
Strip search-More thorough	0	-8 N/A%		Although this shows a 50% reduction, these are relatively small numbers. No clear reason for this reduction.
Juvenile strip searches total	0	0		N/A
Juvenile Strip search-More thorough	0	0		None – see above
Juvenile Strip Search -Intimate parts exposed	0	0		None – See above
Use of force	668	196 29%		Increase in the Use of force in this period. No single determining factor, more proactive crime operations though
Juvenile use of force	40	+24 250%		As above, this increase is not however reflected in the figures for stop search
Uses of force arrests	336	106 46%		Closer supervision has potentially caught up with the data lag, this may also be true for other use of force stats.
Uses of taser	22	+17		There is currently no clear reason for this increase though it is a return to Q2 figures.

² See Appendix A for description of types of strip search

Indicator	Value (number)	Change on previous quarter (number and % if appropriate)	Trend 	Comment (if appropriate)
Taser discharges	0	0		
Live complaints relating to stop/search	3	+3		
Live complaints relating to use of force	1	-2		

Key wider issues, risks, and mitigations

- The MPS Stop/Search Charter is being explored and may lead to a change in terminology and process with “strip” searches having a new process. The MPS call this a ‘more thorough search where intimate parts’ are exposed (MTIP) search, an extract from the guidance is: *This is where you take the person who you are stopping and searching to a private place, usually but not always a police station and remove their underwear because you suspect an illegal item is being hidden there. Do not confuse MTIP searches with ‘strip searches’ which are different and take place in the custody suite after arrest and in custody. The ‘intimate parts’ are genitals, buttocks & female breasts.*
- This comes with guidance and checklists to ensure all officers know their responsibilities and CoLP will look to integrate with our systems and to ensure we have scrutiny and correct governance.

Appendix A

Information on Strip Search policy and SOP

Members are reminded that stop/search legislation affords power to require the removal of different levels of clothing. For searches conducted on the street, only ‘JOG’ items (jacket, outer-garment, gloves) maybe removed. If more than ‘JOG’ items are removed, then the search constitutes a ‘strip search’ and must be recorded as such. There are two levels of strip search. A ‘more thorough search’ which can involve the removal of more than JOG items but not require the removal of underwear. A more thorough search must be conducted out of public view (this can include inside a police vehicle). If underwear is removed, this constitutes an ‘intimate parts exposed’ search. Such a search may only be conducted in a police station.

Force policy is that a supervisor must be consulted and agree with the search (under legislation they are only required to be informed). Juveniles may be strip searched, but although there are no additional legislative bars which must be cleared to conduct such a search, in practise for it to be proportionate the grounds for such a search must be significant and robust, and recorded as such. When a juvenile is subject to any degree of strip search an appropriate adult should be present unless there is an overwhelming reason to conduct the search in their absence (for example, suspecting that the subject is concealing a weapon with the intention to hurt themselves or another person).