

<b>Committee(s):</b> Professional Standards and Integrity Committee (PSIC)	<b>Dated:</b> 25 September 2024
<b>Subject:</b> Quarterly Stop and Search and Use of Force update (Q1)	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	1- People are Safe and Feel Safe
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	N/A
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b> Commissioner of Police	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> T/Supt J Wynne, Taskforce and S&S Lead	

### Summary

City of London Police (CoLP) continue to support Op Benbow<sup>1</sup> 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 an overall increase of 20.6% since the previous quarter (Q4 2023 / 2024) and a 12% rise compared to the first quarter of 2023.

Even though there has been an increase in stop search there has also been an increase of items found which has again increased the success of positive outcomes from 43% to 46%. This puts CoLP in the top two nationally. This also accounted for a period that saw a slight increase in Black disproportionality from 2.3 to 2.4 and a decrease in Asian disproportionality from 1.4 to 1.0. There is no immediate or obvious reason that can account for these changes but they are within the expected range. (National rates 2023 - Black ethnicity – 4.10, meaning a person of black ethnicity is just over four times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white person, Asian ethnicity – 1.4 times more likely to stop searched). As a force, this puts us in the top ten in terms of low disproportionality rates amongst all the Home Office police forces with the lowest force nationally at 1.2 and the highest nationally at 13.8.

The University of East London project has been authorised and will provide academic and meaningful analysis of CoLP Stop & Search figures. Initial reports will be expected late 2024.

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<sup>1</sup> Op Benbow- Cross Border mutual aid Operations with MPS

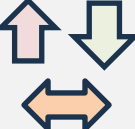







## **Recommendation**

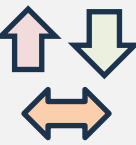









Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

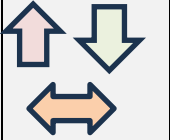



## Stop and Search and Use of Force Data

- **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	720	+123 20.6%		Increase in stop/search but policing was centred around acquisitive crime with a number of proactive operations.
Arrest from stop search	219	+31 16.4%		Increase but again due to proactive operations centring around acquisitive crime and Night time economy
Searches under s.60	0	0		
Juveniles searched	60	+19 46.3%		Increase in youth search, but there has also been 2 school breaks within this period.
Black disproportionality	2.4	+0.1 0.4%		
Asian disproportionality	1.0	-0.4 -71%		
Total items found	340	+60 21.42%		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 <sup>2</sup> total	15	+8 114.28%		
Strip search-More thorough	2	+2 200%		Although this shows a 200% increase, these are relatively small numbers. No clear reason for this increase.
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	977	+98 11.14 %		
Juvenile use of force	40	+3 8.10%		
Uses of force arrests	622	+40 6.87%		
Uses of taser	14	-9 39.13%		

<sup>2</sup> 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	1	+1 100%		
Live complaints relating to stop/search	2	-1 33.33%		
Live complaints relating to use of force	3	+2 200%		

## 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 are aware their responsibilities and CoLP will look to integrate with our systems and to ensure we have scrutiny and correct governance.

## Conclusion

This report summarises City of London Police’s stop and search and use of force data for Q1 2024/25.

## Appendices

- Appendix A – Information on Strip Search Policy and SOP

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## **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).