

Stop and Search Community Monitoring Network
Wednesday 10th March 2021

Attendance List

Barnet	Ifran Hussain
Brent	Roy Croasdaile (CMN Vice Chair)
Bromley	Ian Smith
Croydon	Marzia Nicodemi
Hackney	Nicola Baboneau
Hammersmith and Fulham	Jane Davis, Sarah Chambers
Haringey	Ken Hinds, Herval Almenoar
Harrow	Steven Lewis
Havering	Ian Weatherley
Hillingdon	Michelle Dibble
Kensington and Chelsea	Lucy Smith-Ryland
Islington	Sheri Lawal
Lewisham	Tayo Disu
Newham	Chris Roffey
Redbridge	Julie Fallon Bradley
Richmond - Upon - Thames	Carole Atkinson
Southwark	Avril Jones
Wandsworth	Barbara Madelof, Andy Healey
Westminster	Nathalie Stewart (CMN Chair)
MPS	T/DAC Jane Connors Insp John Evans Sgt Chris Williams PC Ian Johnston

1. Housekeeping

NP welcomed the group and went over housekeeping.

2. Chair's welcome

The Chair welcomed the group and confirmed apologies.

3. Chief Superintendent Roy Smith, Action Plan

Roy Smith (RS) Introduced himself to the group and referenced the key Action Plan themes relevant to the Stop and Search Community Monitoring Network (CMN);

- Roads and transport pilot which will involve officers recording the ethnicity of those stopped in a vehicle.
- Handcuffing review– the review is now complete and the recommendations are being implemented.
- New Met officers will benefit from an additional three days of training which will focus on de-escalation, community voice and handcuffing.
- Policing Encounter Scrutiny Panel which will scrutinise the use of force at a Basic Command Unit (BCU) level. The model is based on the central pilot which has been running for 12 months. The purpose is to provide fast time scrutiny, accountability and feedback to officers.

Question & Answer

How will the Policing Encounter Scrutiny Panels (PESP) coordinate with Community Monitoring Groups (CMG) when scrutinising Body Worn Video (BWV)	Work is underway to identify how the two groups can compliment each others work through shared learning
What is the timeline for the formation of the PESP	Pilot groups in three BCUs will go live in April with the rest of London formed by July
How will recruitment for PESP attract diverse representation and include communities who can provide appropriate challenge to the police	The met will advertise across social media, voluntary networks and community groups to ensure they are representative. The Met are happy for MOPAC to be involved in the recruitment process to provide independence and will implement the model based on community recommendations
Will the PESP be limited to a specific number of representatives	There is currently no limit however after the pilot is assessed the MPS will have a better understanding of the optimum numbers
What will happen if the model for PESP working across a BCU doesn't work	Reviews will be conducted every 6 – 12 months which will identify any need for groups to become borough based
How will the MPS ensure there is representation from all BCU boroughs when the PESP are formed	There will be equal representation from all boroughs that make up the panels.
Will individuals involved in PESP receive training so they can provide scrutiny	The MPS are designing an induction presentation for those who join. Training will be adapted to suite any identified skills gap.

4. Inspector John Evans & Sgt Chris Williams

Sgt Chris Williams (CW) referenced the updated figures from the stop and search dashboard which can be viewed through the following link <https://www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data/met/stop-and-search-dashboard/>

Section 60 Authorisations

November	31
December	15
January	27
February	32

CW went on to confirm that Officer Safety Training (OST) has been updated to include a section which focuses on stop and search. The training is broken into two parts, all officers attending are required to complete the first part of remote training prior to attending the in person sessions. The first session focuses on the search and officer safety, there is also an element of procedural justice and use of force. All new front-line officers will be required to take part.

The second section will consist of a video which highlights a good example of a stop and search. There is an external group, which includes members of the CMN, who feed into the training material. There has been a delay in the roll out of the video due to restrictions on filming during lockdown.

CW went on to say that stop and search mentors are now being trained across the BCUs to support new officers. The Police Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) which incorporates stop and search is now up and running for new recruits. He confirmed that "A different View" exercise which was known as the "Judgement Training" has recently been delivered to press representatives.

NP referenced Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) February 2021: Disproportionate use of police powers – A spotlight on stop and search" report which can be found through the following link. <https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmicfrs/our-work/article/stop-and-search/>

JC confirmed that the report highlighted eight recommendations for all UK police forces that the MPS are beginning to address as fit into changes already underway in the context of the Mayors Action Plan and Independent Office for Police Conduct recommendations. The key areas include;

- Cannabis stops
- De-escalation
- Body Worn Video
- Scrutiny groups

Some of the chairs in attendance raised a concern with the statement made by Deputy Commissioner Steve House which can be found here <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/met-police-london-stop-and-search-racism-b918169.html> . Haringey CMG have written to the Commissioner highlighting the issues.

JC confirmed that the Commissioners office is aware of the issues raised by communities in response to the article and has responded.

The group raised an issue with clips not always being made available during BWV scrutiny sessions.

JE confirmed that all clips should be randomly selected however further training may need to be ensure facilitators understand how the operate the system. Should chairs encounter this then the MPS ask that they flag the issues to the Central Stop and Search team.

Action MPS: Follow up with BWV facilitators to ensure that if issues are identified then further technical training is provide. MOPAC, Natasha Plummer

NP updated the group with;

- Mayors Action Plan public event which took place at the end of February to engage with those involved in the plans creation or with an interest in the work.
- Overhaling of scrutiny structures, still in the process of commissioning an organistion to look at this. The first part to work with those in current structures and recommendations for how they can be improved.
- From 22nd March MOPAC go into a pre-election period so there will be no public events.