

NOTES

Stop and Search Independent Scrutiny Panel

21 November 2018 17.30 – 19.30

1. [a] In Attendance

Members: Carolyn Mercer [Chair] plus three members

Also in attendance: Police and OPCC

1. [b] Apologies for absence

Members: Five members offered formal apologies

2. Any other urgent items notified to the Chair to be considered for inclusion

None

3. Notes/Actions from last meeting (1 October 2018)

The Notes which had been circulated were **accepted as accurate** and all Actions were **reviewed and noted as completed**.

The action to ascertain whether members would be content with personal details [names etc.] being made available publicly had produced differing views through the SurveyMonkey which Carolyn had circulated. A discussion took place and it was generally agreed that it was probably sufficient to publicise the criteria/categories for inclusion on the Panel without any names. This would be supplemented by putting anonymized Notes/Minutes on the website. The Chair was invited to attend the next meeting of the OPCC to consider Stop and Search in February 2019 **ACTION:** OPCC to arrange the website entries and Carolyn to attend the OPCC meeting.

4. Brief Summary from National Conference and 'Learning the Lessons'

Carolyn and Chief Inspector gave a report from the Constabulary's Stop and Search Strategic Meeting earlier in the month. This had included a report from the recent National Conference. This had had a wide-ranging input and discussion but it was noted that many Scrutiny Panels had ceased to function. It was accepted that there was benefit for the Independent Scrutiny Panel to be demonstrably independent. One view from that Conference was that this included meeting away from Police premises. This was felt by the Scrutiny Panel not to be necessary, or even workable, given the need to access online Police databases

5. Current situation re-Stop and Search developments

Chief Inspector and Carolyn indicated some of the possible changes being considered by the Home Secretary and Government and also invited all Scrutiny Panel members to a North of England Police and Public Consultation Forum to be held 14 December 12.00-17.00 at County Hall, Preston. **ACTION:** All members will be circulated with a formal invite.

6. Proposed New Format of Stop and Search in Lancashire - most recent Report

Members had been circulated with the suggested new format which allowed more focused analysis. Chief Inspector outlined the rationale and benefits for the Constabulary's own work as well as the ability for the Independent Scrutiny Panel to do more detailed investigation. The Panel members felt that this did, indeed, provide a better tool with which to work and thanked him and other colleagues for their work on this.

7. Dip Sampling of Stop and Search records

[A Panel member had suggested trying to improve on the erstwhile random sampling with a more structured stratified sampling. Her matrix had been circulated and the Panel decided to use it albeit with a very small sample.]

The Panel were invited to view two bodycam videos and a brief discussion followed on the voluntary nature of activating the camera by the Officers and whether, therefore, the footage would show 'typical' interactions. However, it was felt the viewing was of value.

Using the categories on the matrix, five individual incidents were scrutinized satisfactorily. It was agreed that this process did not utilize the matrix fully nor fulfil a satisfactory Quarterly Scrutiny. It was agreed as an **ACTION** that:

[a] The next Quarterly Meeting would be held in February and Carolyn would circulate a Doodle Poll to ascertain the most convenient date; and

[b] The Police would arrange a spreadsheet to allow a more thorough scrutiny of the current Quarter in the interim

8. Any other urgent business

None

9. Date of next meeting

TBA by Doodle Poll

ACTIONS

- A. To communicate the Notes of the meeting to all members of the Panel and to the OPCC and Police: POLICE/CAROLYN [ASAP]
- B. To provide a spreadsheet of Quarterly Stop and Searches for scrutiny by the Panel: POLICE [ASAP]
- C. To arrange a Doodle Poll to ascertain the best time/date for a meeting for February 2019: CAROLYN [ASAP]
- D. To circulate all members with an invite to the North of England Police and Public Consultation Forum to be held 14 December 12.00-17.00 at County Hall, Preston: POLICE [ASAP]
- E. The Chair to attend the next meeting of the OPCC discussing Stop and Search 13 February 12.30: CAROLYN [FEB 2019]
- F. Website to include Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel membership criteria: OPCC [when possible]