POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE

ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE
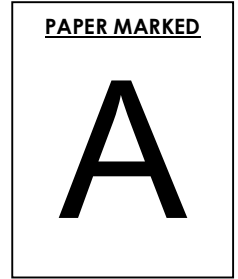
Report of	**OFFICE OF CHIEF CONSTABLE**
Subject	**STOP AND SEARCH ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20**
Date	**FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 2020 – 2:00 p.m.**
Author	**CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT ADAM STREETS**

Purpose of Report

1.   The report gives an overview of stop and search activity in LLR, along with the governance processes applied.

Recommendations

2.   The Committee is recommended to discuss the contents of the report.

Ethical Dilemmas

3.   Stop and search has been a highly scrutinised policing tactic over many years and one which continues to attract a considerable amount of public and media attention.

4.   The main question is one of proportionality in the rates that people of different ethnicities can expect to be stopped and search and this report details those issues within.

5.   Police officers rightly face rigorous examination in the use of these powers but have to balance these concerns with the need to protect the public and proactively tackle crime.

Background

6.   The stop and search report is published annually, however this is the first year that it has contained this level of detail and analysis.

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Implications

Financial: None

Legal: Stop and search falls under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, Codes of Practice, Code A.

Equality Impact Assessment: Stop and Search is a highly scrutinised area of policing and undergoes a greater level of equality impact assessment than virtually any other area of business.

Risks and Impact: Continued levels of disproportionality create community concern. A significant amount of time is devoted to gaining a better understanding of the issues that affect this.

Link to Police and Crime Plan: Stop and search has implications across many areas of policing. However, it is most associated with *visibility* as a front line policing tactic.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Stop and Search Annual Report

Person to Contact

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Stop Search Annual Report 2019/20

Period	April 2019 to March 2020
Lead	Ch Supt 1160 A Streets
Prepared by	8882 Gina Lines, Threat Assessment Unit
	Ch/Insp 429 Paul Allen, Local Policing Directorate
Weed date	March 2026

Leicestershire
Police
Protecting our communities

Introduction

The purpose of this annual public report is to provide a transparent insight into the use of Stop Search across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland throughout the recording year 2019/20 (April 1st 2019 – March 31st 2020) whilst at the same time setting out our plans for the future.

Stop and search remains a hugely important police power for protecting the public, tackling crime and keeping our streets safe.

We do not underestimate the impact stop and search has on communities and individuals. We know that to maintain public confidence in its use, the power must be used in a fair and effective manner.

The main reason we use stop and search is to allow officers to investigate their suspicions about an individual without having to arrest them. How effective stop and search is, is as much about avoiding unnecessary arrests as it is about a crime being detected.

We believe a stop and search is most likely to be fair and effective when:

1. the search is justified, lawful and stands up to public scrutiny
2. the officer has genuine and objectively reasonable suspicion they will find a prohibited article or item for use in crime
3. the person understands why they have been searched and feels they have been treated with respect
4. the search was necessary and was the most proportionate method the police officer could use to establish whether the person has such an item

Whilst stop and search is a vital tactic in combating crime, disrupting offenders, and gathering intelligence we welcome scrutiny and will continue to work with our communities and stakeholders to improve the quality of interactions and ensure that stop and search continues to protect the public.

Summary

During 2019-20, Leicestershire Police officers conducted a total of 4,631 stop searches, up 20% from 3,711 the previous year.

13.8% of all stop searches were for weapons and 65.7% for drugs. In comparison, the previous year stop searches for weapons were 17.8% and 58.1% for drugs.

The average number of searches per month in 2019/20 was 412 which is a significant uplift from the previous year's figure of 309.

In 2019-20 there were 746 arrests made as a direct result of the use of stop and search powers; this includes 400 arrests after a stop and search for drugs and 144 arrests for possessing weapons.

The combined arrest and positive outcome rate for stop search use in 2019-20 was 35.7%, which is an increase from 31.2% the previous year. **NB** The positive outcome rate is the number of stop searches that lead to an arrest or another outcome, for example a cannabis warning or a report for summons.

This positive outcome rate has steadily increased since 2015 when it was around 19%. This demonstrates that we are using the tactic in a more intelligence-led and proportionate way and it is believed that our current rate of 35.7% will compare favourably nationally.

28% of all searches resulted in finding the object searched for, 7% something other than what was searched for and 65% nothing was found.

A manual audit of 173 Stop and Search forms Search forms (taken from January – December 2019), undertaken independently by HMIC examining our compliance with reasonable grounds, found that the force was compliant in 94% of cases (162 records). They found that 58% were self-generated, 8% were intelligence led and 34% were as a result of responding to public concern/incident. HMIC also found that 19% of drug searches were on suspicion of supply offences.

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Section 1 – Overview of Stop Search

Legitimacy

An ethical approach

Stop and search is an intrusive policing tool and if not used with care, the damage that any perceived unfairness inflicts on community relations can eclipse any improvement in public safety. We pride ourselves on maintaining our high standards of legitimacy and effectiveness.

National statistics show that the use of stop and search throughout England and Wales has been on the decline since 2011 but this trend appears to be slowing and, in some areas reversing. This is certainly the case across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The force has placed a significant focus on reinvigorating the use of appropriate, ethical and proportionate stop searches in recent years but with this comes our commitment to ensuring the legitimacy of what we do. The sub sections which follow highlight the safeguards we have put in place.

Public focused

As part of ensuring that stop search remains a legitimate operational policing tactic it is vital that our use of powers reflects community concerns. We have significantly enhanced our community consultation through 'Neighbourhood Link', using public surveys to inform our local policing priorities. We will continue to use this to shape our approach going forwards and to focus our use of tactics in line with public expectations.

| Beat priorities	Beats
Anti-social behaviour - General	60
Drugs (dealing or taking)	46
Road Safety Issues	36
Nuisance motorbikes	17
Vehicle crime (theft from or theft of)	14
House burglary	9
Alcohol	5
Rural Crime/farming equipment	4
Fraud	1
Cycle theft	1
Robberies	1
Domestic Abuse	1
Knife crime	1
Fly tipping	1
Shop theft	1

Each of our dedicated neighbourhood teams have identified the top 3 - 4 priorities for their respective neighbourhoods.

Officers have used neighbourhood link survey data (9,000 residents) and other existing consultation methods.

As the table demonstrates - across the 66 neighbourhoods, in the force area, drug dealing and drug taking, when taken together, were the second biggest concern for local communities after Anti-social behaviour.

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Intelligence-led

As well as taking into account the local priorities identified by our communities, we also use crime information & intelligence to inform our policing priorities. For 2019/20 these were:
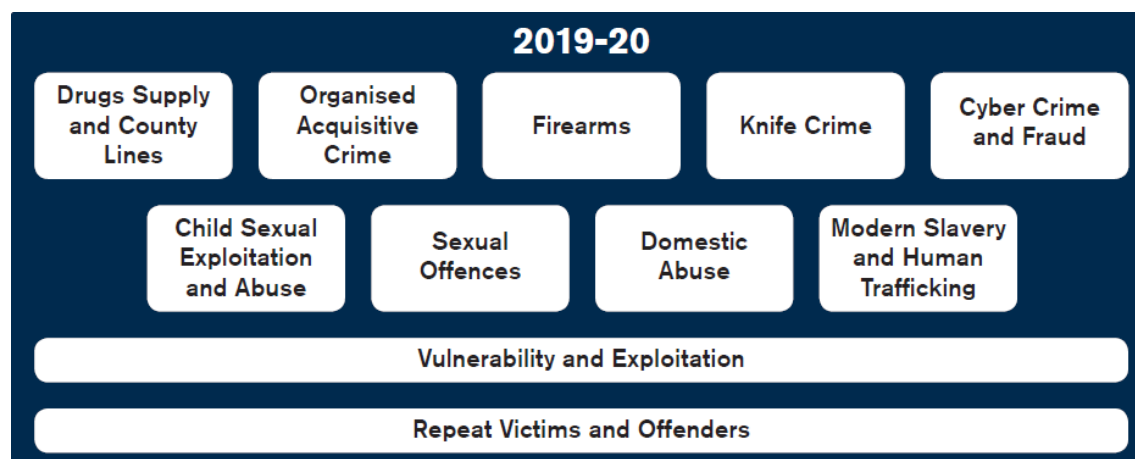
These policing priorities each have many facets to addressing them, both proactive and reactive. In many of the crime types identified as strategic priorities, there is an obvious place for the proportionate use of intelligence-led stop search to be employed within the operational policing response.

Internal scrutiny and accountability

Crime and Operations Effectiveness Board – Monthly meeting chaired by an Assistant Chief Constable, where data about the use of stop and search powers is presented and considered alongside a wider set of performance information about how the force treats people.

PILOT meeting - (Police Intervention, Legitimacy and Organisational Transparency), chaired by a Chief Supt, meets Bi-Monthly and actively seeks to identify any information which could suggest any abuse in the use of powers or discriminatory behaviour. The group was formed in January 2017 and consists of a cross section of senior police managers, training and equality and diversity officers who provide internal oversight and scrutiny on the use of coercive powers to include stop search, strip search, use of Taser and use of force (UOF).

The PILOT group reviews stop search data from the most recent period and up to the previous three years carrying out careful analysis to determine any concerning trends or patterns, unacceptable use, learning opportunities, matters of policy and the examination of disproportionality. Those officers highlighted as high users of stop search powers have their search records examined by the tactical stop search lead or one of the stop search coaches.

Tactical level meeting - Chaired by an Inspector, supports the PILOT group and has nominated representatives from around the force responsible for:

- Dip sampling 5% of all stop search records and officers Body Worn Video
- The recruitment, administration and development of stop search coaches
- Arranging, publicising and hosting reasonable grounds panels across the force area
- Training and development
- Maintaining a Lay Observers scheme and
- National best practice and scanning

Chief Officers and OPCC scrutiny - In addition, on request, reports on the use of stop and search are sent to both the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Ethics, Integrity and Complaints Committee, the force Strategic Fairness and Equality Board chaired by the Chief Constable and the Race Religion and Belief steering group, chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable, which examines proportionality across a wealth of data to include stop search, staff recruitment and retention, staff grievances, progression etc.

Transparency and external governance

Body Worn Video - Leicestershire Police has personally issued 1500 Body-worn video cameras (BWV) to all of our frontline officers and staff and we have an expectation that recording is activated whenever coercive powers are used or when attending incidents likely to involve confrontation. We dip sample and review the footage from such incidents both internally and via the showing of randomly selected footage to the Coercive Powers Scrutiny Group.

The use of body worn video cameras help to reassure the public that their interactions with the police are recorded. The technology offers greater transparency for those in front of the camera as well as those behind it. Cameras allow us to demonstrate the professionalism of officers, the gathering of evidence and demonstrate their professionalism in the face of many challenges.

Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSSS) – The force is a voluntary member of the Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSSS 1.0) and are committed to delivering the requirements of any subsequent schemes in addition to following the revised guidance within the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice (APP).
BUSSS guidelines and the APP encourage forces to use external scrutiny and support to improve the use of stop and search whilst promoting community confidence.

Coercive Powers Scrutiny Group - In addition to our internal scrutiny described above, analysis of stop search and use of force is shared with the external Coercive Powers Scrutiny Group. CPSG meets bi monthly and is chaired by the Director of The Race Equality Centre (TREC) with invited attendees from

the community, FPAGE (Fire and Police Advisory Group for Equality), representatives of young people's groups, legal advocates and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The group seek to better understand how we are using our powers, to provide us with an independent perspective and when necessary to challenge us about usage whilst identifying ways in which we can increase confidence in the community. At each meeting, the group are supplied with data about the use of stop and search and use of force powers and are asked to randomly select and review Body Worn Video footage of officer stop and search encounters.

Reasonable Grounds Panels – The force hosts regular external stop search reasonable grounds panels which are held in different locations around the force area and which are open to the public to come along and review the grounds used in ten stop and search encounters.

We use both meetings to seek the opinion of those attending to develop points of individual and organisational learning and to gain a better sense of how the use of coercive powers is perceived by the public. These opinions, both positive and where areas for development are identified, are then fed back directly to officers to aid their continued professional development.

Independent Evaluation - We have previously worked in partnership with the University of Leicester, recruiting an intern to work solely on how stop and search was perceived by the public and by ethnic minorities. The intern was allowed access to Force systems and accompanied officers on patrol to observe the use of stop search powers. The intern also designed and distributed several internal and external surveys around the perception of the use of stop search.

The survey identified that over 60 % of respondents (public and police officers) believed that Stop and Search was a positive power for the police although it did highlight that better explanation of why the powers are being used to both the individual and the wider public would be beneficial to the Police. This report helped to influence the redesign of the receipt that officers now hand out during a Stop and Search encounter.

Lay Observation - We operate a 'lay observers scheme' where we have recruited independent observers to accompany officers during operations and to view Body Worn Video footage that specifically use stop and search powers in order that we can seek their views about how the powers were used and how the subjects were treated by officers. We are actively seeking to increase the number and diversity of our observers to ensure they reflect the community that we serve.

We currently have six Lay-observers that have gone through Force vetting and are available for deployment.

S.60 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 - S.60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 is the "blanket" power to stop and search any person in a defined area to prevent serious violence or to find weapons which are believed to be being carried.

This power was not used in the 12 month period.

Publication of Data - Leicestershire Police publish data and statistical information in relation to stop and search on the Police.uk website. A direct link to this site can be found by accessing the stop and search pages on our website: www.leics.police.uk

All officers now use mobile data terminals to record stop and searches electronically (PRONTO), this has greatly improved the efficiency and speed at which the Force can examine and publish stop and search data. It also provides a quicker and more convenient method for people searched to obtain an electronic copy of the record.

Complaints - Leicestershire Police advocates that a fair stop search is a justifiable one, which is without prejudice and is conducted efficiently and with respect. It is recorded, open to scrutiny and supports public confidence.

In 2019/20 we received four public complaints in relation to stop search, which amounts to just 0.09% of all stop searches conducted in that year.

HMICFRS - Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's Fire and Rescue Services publish data on the efficiency, effectiveness and legitimacy of the Force and this includes the use of stop and search.

HMICFRS recently undertook a desk top review examining our officer's compliance with recording 'reasonable grounds'. From a random sample size of 173 stop searches taken from the period 1st January 2019 – 31st December 2019 they found our officers to be compliant in 94% or 162 of cases.

This is consistent with the findings from their 2018/19 Police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy inspection (PEEL) where they reviewed 163 records from 2017/18 and concluded a 95% compliance rate.
Given the substantial rise in the volume of Stop Searches completed this demonstrates that a rise in volume has not resulted in a deteriorating compliance rate.

The table below, whilst not reflecting this annual report recording year, puts into context the relative position of Leicestershire in comparison to other forces nationally in regards to compliance with reasonable grounds. A more recent comparator table is expected to be published in November 2020 showing our position based on 2018–19 data.

HMIC review of reasonable grounds by force 2017/18

The below chart shows the percentage of stop and search records that were found to have reasonable grounds meaning that the search was justified. This gives an indication on how well the forces use their stop and search powers.

Reasonable Grounds by Force 2017/18
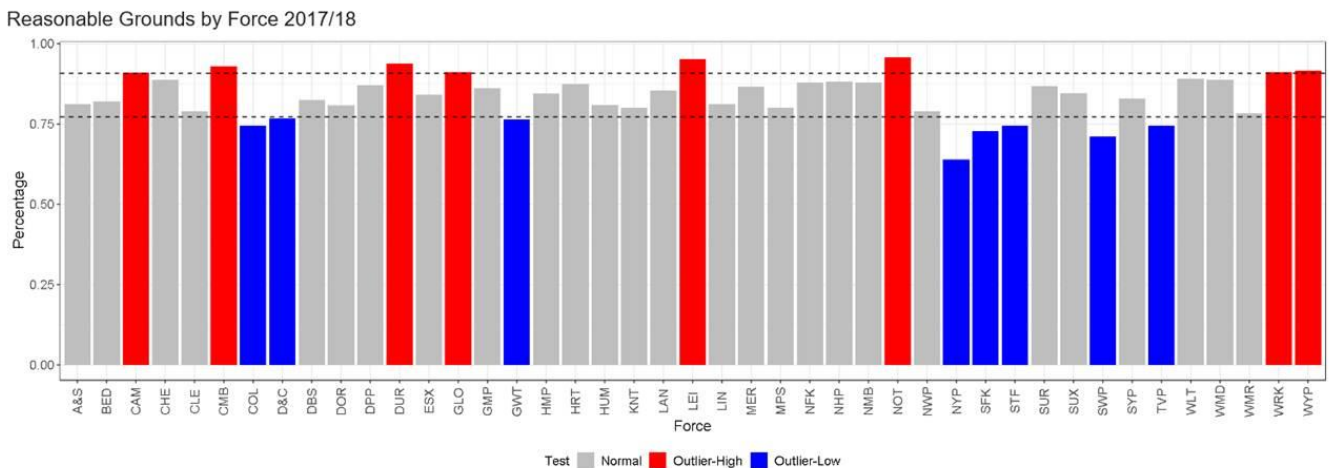
95.09% of stops in **LEI** had reasonable grounds

What does the data mean?

Forces with a **higher** value and an above average reasonableness level may be using search powers only where necessary and may have good practice to share.

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Effectiveness

Training - We have invested in training all of our frontline officers and providing practical guidance in line with the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice (APP) for using powers to stop and search. Training is provided through the completion of online material but reinforced with ongoing personal briefings by Sgts and with the support of a number of stop search coaches around the force.

In 2019, building upon the stop search inputs that were given to all response officers during 2018, a new neighbourhoods training programme was rolled-out to local policing teams. A key element of this is a section on police legitimacy which includes stop search best practice and guidance from the force practitioner lead. This training programme has since been adopted by a number of other forces.

Also in late 2019 and early 2020, in preparation for the launch of the force's new target operating model in March 2020, all frontline police officers received an additional training input on stop search at dedicated training days.

Training is further supplemented with a feedback loop to officers following the random dip sampling of 5% of all monthly stop searches completed by the Forces tactical lead for stop search or nominated force leads.

Officers have also previously received training in unconscious bias.

Section 2 – Stop Search data

Overview

The following sections set out more detailed analysis of the use of Stop Search during 2019-2020

- During 2019-20, Leicestershire Police officers conducted a total of 4,631 stop searches, up by 20% from 3,711 the previous year.

- 13.8% of all stop searches were for weapons and 65.7% for drugs. In comparison, the previous year stop searches for weapons were 17.8% and 58.1% for drugs.

- The combined arrest and positive outcome rate for stop search use in 2019-20 was 35.7%, which was an increase from 31.2% the previous year. The positive outcome rate is the number of stop searches that lead to an arrest or another outcome, for example a cannabis warning or a report for summons.

- This positive outcome rate has steadily increased since 2015 when it was around 19%. This demonstrates that we are using the tactic in a more intelligence-led and proportionate way and it is believed that our current rate of 35.7% will compare favourably nationally.

Stop and Search and Stop Search Arrests

In 2019-20, 746 arrests were made as a result of the use of stop and search powers; this includes 400 arrests after a stop search for drugs and 144 arrests for possessing weapons. These represent 53.6% and 19.3% respectively of all stop search arrests made by the Force and indicates how stop search protects the public by removing drugs and weapons from the streets.
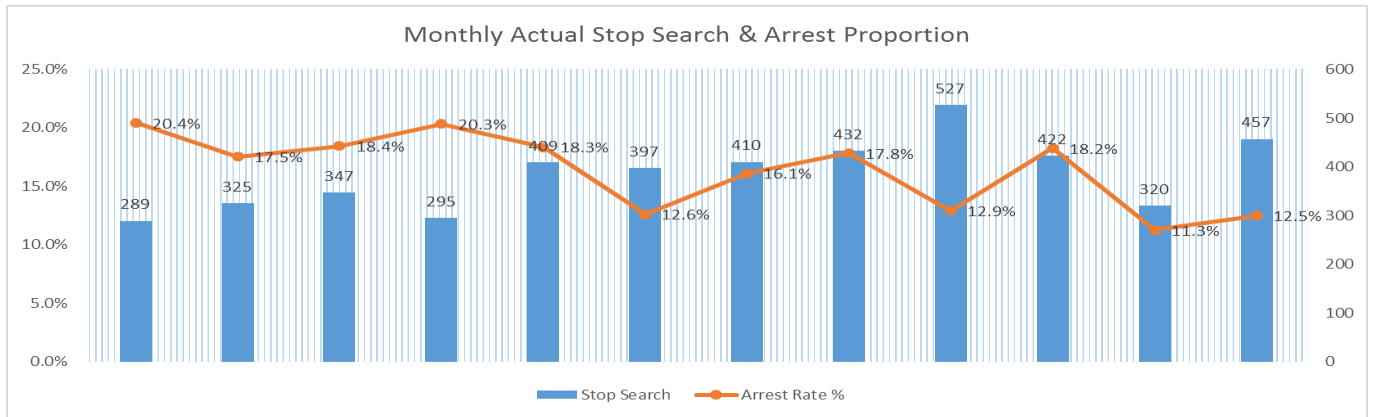
The chart below shows the number of Stop Searches carried out since April 2019. The average number of searches per month in 2019/20 was 412 which is a significant uplift from the previous year's figure of 309.

Total number of Stop Searches 2019/20

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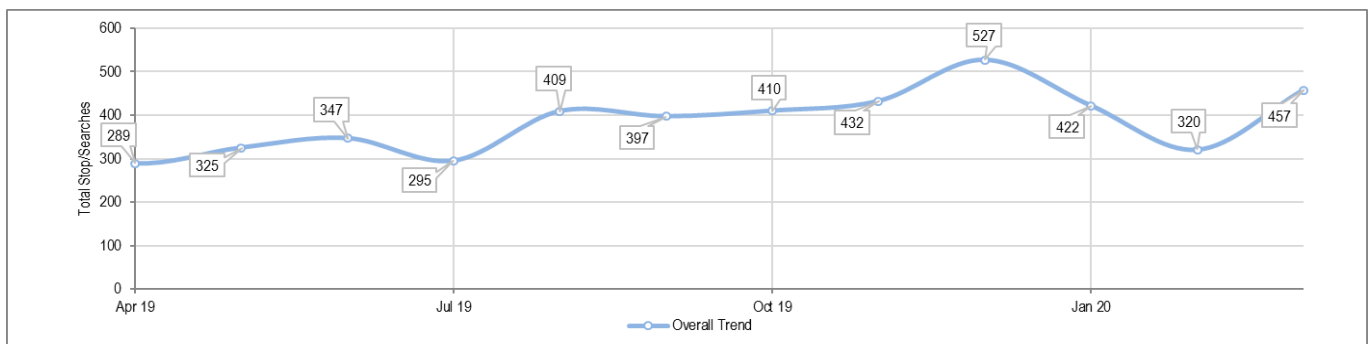
Total number of arrests

The above chart takes the total number of stop searches carried out each month (blue bars) and overlays the percentage of those that resulted in an arrest (Orange line). This is important as it allows us to understand how effectively we are employing stop search as a tactic.

For instance, the figure of 527 searches conducted in December 2019 was as a result of a policing operation targeting street robbery in the city of Leicester, but the lower arrest rate that month (12.9% against an average of 16.5%) suggests that our searches in this operation were less effective.

Knowing this allows us to learn and to be more intelligence-led in our response to crime.

GPMS: NOT OFFICIALLY MARKED

Monthly Headline Figures

The headline figures below cover the 12-month period and show the actual number of Stop Searches broken down by the number of arrests, other positive outcomes and no further action taken. Since PRONTO has been introduced (an operational app-based reporting solution) there had been an increase in the *Not Stated* outcome, this referred to when the outcome was not directly related to the Stop Search e.g. an individual was stopped for Drugs, nothing was found but they were wanted for another reason, such as for an offence.

An upgrade to PRONTO during September 2019 has now addressed this anomaly, with secondary outcomes of the stop being included in the data set. The other positive outcomes as at February 2020 include Arrest, Voluntary attendance, Postal requisition/postal charge/summons, Caution - simple/conditional, Drugs warning, Penalty notice for disorder, Community resolution, Police discretionary resolution, Alcohol seized, Tobacco seized and No further action.

What this table shows is that despite the increase in monthly averages between 2018/19 and 2019/20, the rate of positive outcomes has remained fairly consistent at circa 35%. This is reassuring and shows that despite the uplift in the volume of searches, we continue to target the correct people.
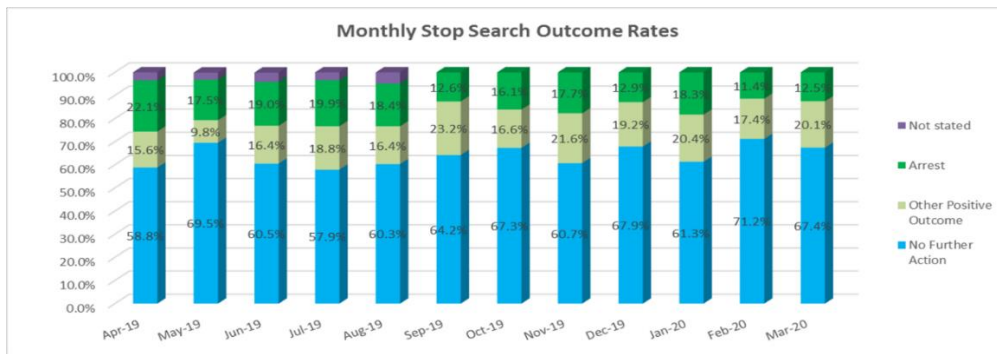

Reason for search

The following chart shows the reason for the Stop Search as a % of the total monthly Stop Searches carried out over the 12-month period:
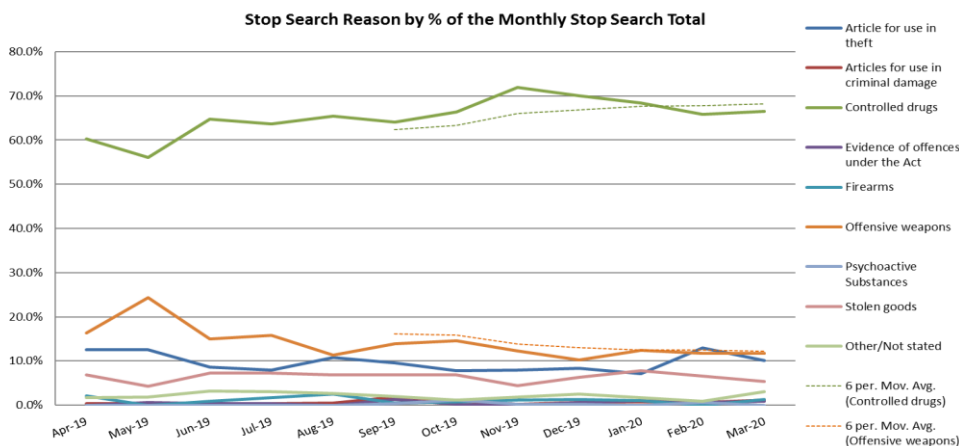
This shows that the proportion of searches for controlled drugs has risen while those for offensive weapons have fallen slightly since the beginning of the year this is examined further later.

Reason for arrest

When considering that the total number of arrests has fluctuated over the year, the following chart shows the reason for the arrest as a percentage of the total monthly Stop Search reason:
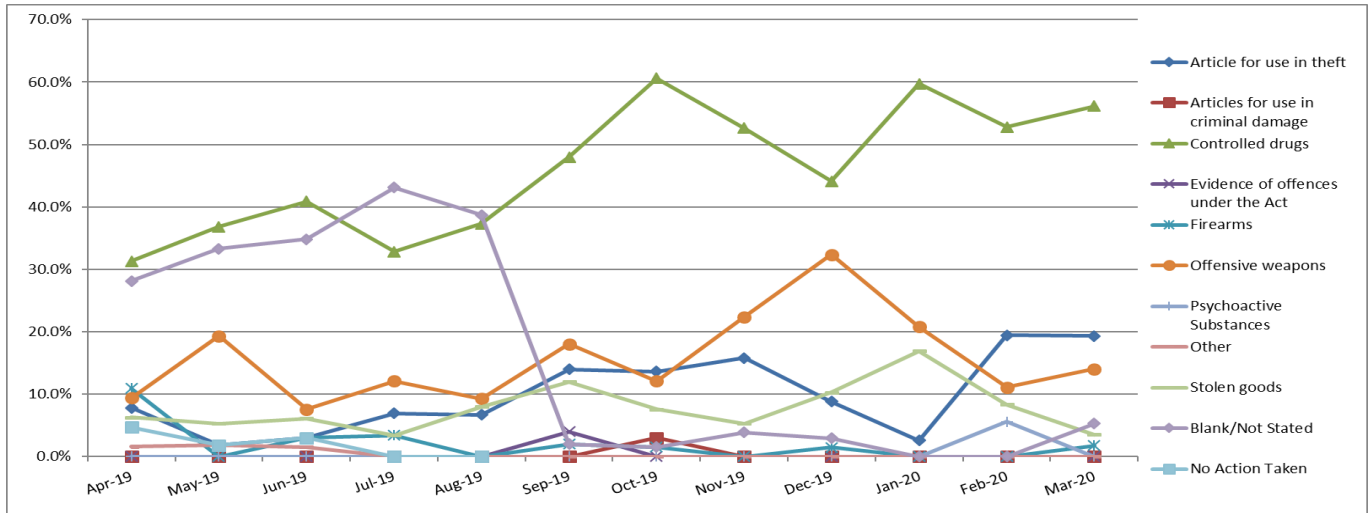
NB: The significant reduction in *blank / not-stated* records in August 2019 was as a result of an improvement in recording via our mobile-data solution. This reduction saw a corresponding increase in the proportions of the other reasons for arrest.

Understanding the volume of drugs searches

By the end of the year 2018/19, searches conducted under s.23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act accounted for 65.7% of all stop search activity.

The question of why so many searches are carried out using this power is one that comes up frequently, both locally and nationally.

Many of the searches carried out for drugs are in relation to cannabis and are the result of the "reasonable grounds to suspect" being formed, in part, due to the distinctive smell of the drug. In many of these cases there was no prior intent by the officer to conduct a search, but having stopped a vehicle for example and having smelled cannabis, additional factors become apparent, such as openly visible drugs paraphernalia, they then conduct a search to confirm or allay their suspicions. (N.B. It is important to point out that officers cannot conduct a drugs search on the grounds of smell of cannabis alone).

We also respond to calls from the public, or local-authority CCTV operators, who alert us to suspicious behaviour which then may result in a stop search and we have conducted regular operations to address drug misuse in the night-time economy, utilising passive drugs-dogs supported by officers in areas of high footfall.

Additionally there are many drugs searches conducted as a result of policing activity designed to address other crime-types, such as knife and violent crime. These street-level policing operations often use plain-clothes officers who then witness behaviour not necessarily indicative of the crime-type they are addressing, but which gives rise to other suspicions, such as people passing things between them in otherwise apparently random encounters. In such circumstances, officers either have to act or make the decision to ignore potentially criminal behaviour.

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Although possession of cannabis is not a current strategic policing priority in itself, drug supply at an organised level very much is. The recent phenomenon of the "county lines" type drugs supply business model sees organised and violent criminals targeting children and vulnerable adults to carry out the street-level dealing for them, often in smaller towns away from the bigger conurbations.

Initial rewards of high value items can give way to threats and acts of violence to the "dealer" who often would not come to the attention of the police until they are caught in possession. Stop search in these cases not only removes some of the product from the streets, but also allows us to identify these vulnerable children and adults and start to take appropriate steps to safeguard them.
A manual audit of 173 random Stop and Search forms from January – December 2019, undertaken independently by HMIC examining our compliance with reasonable grounds, found that 19% of our drugs searches were for suspicion of drug supply offences.

Finally, as demonstrated by our most recent community survey of over 11,000 residents across LLR, drugs supply and possession are a significant concern for our communities and it is right that we are seen to be addressing this.

Proportionality

There is no avoiding the fact that both nationally and in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland a disparity does exist between race and stop and search. The reasons for that disparity are complex and can vary depending on local issues and crime trends. It is also important to note that no population base used to determine disparity can ever be entirely accurate and in fact at this time the force is still having to rely on the most up to date information available to us which is the 2011 Census data.

The demographics of the City of Leicester are significantly different to those of Leicestershire and Rutland, with 48% of the population of Leicester identifying as from a Black or Minority Ethnic community in 2011, compared with just 8.6% for Leicestershire and 3% in Rutland. This has the effect of the City data influencing the wider force stop search figures as a result of increased policing activity linked diretly to a heavily populated City and associated policing activity.

The 2017 race disparity audit reported that Leicestershire's disproportionality rates are well below the national average. There is an expectation that these figures will change and disproportionality will reduce further when the next census data is collected in 2021 but despite this we recognise that there is still disparity, with a black person around 5.0 times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white person.

However our local knife crime profile reveals that a person who is black is 5.3 times more likely to be offender of knife crime and 2.5 times more likely to be a victim of knife crime.

Section.23 Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) and proportionality example

The tables below seek to illustrate the changes to proportionality rates dependent upon geographic location.

Table 1 presents the number of drug searches in the Whole Force area; Table 2 identifies those conducted in Leicester City; and Table 3 shows those in Leicestershire and Rutland.

Table 1

Whole Force MDA Searches					
Ethnicity	White	Black	Asian	Other	Unknown
No. of Searches	1769	368	620	21	257
Rate/1000 population	2.2	14.9	3.7	0.6	
Ratio	1	6.74	1.71	0.3	

Table 2

Leicester City MDA Searches					
Ethnicity	White	Black	Asian	Other	Unknown
No. of Searches	531	239	389	9	126
Rate/1000 population	3.1	11.6	3.1	0.4	
Ratio	1	3.64	1	0.14	

Table 3

Leicester County MDA Searches					
Ethnicity	White	Black	Asian	Other	Unknown
No. of Searches	1007	85	133	7	100
Rate/1000 population	1.5	21	3.2	0.6	
Ratio	1	13.19	2.03	0.38	

Here we can see that the much lower resident population of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people in Leicestershire and Rutland results in a significantly higher level of disparity in the rate per 1000 people. This may be due to non-resident people being stopped and searched on the road networks or there may be other factors, such as entertainment hubs or night-time economy issues. Understanding this disparity is a key objective going forward.

When the much larger city BAME population is taken into account, the disparity reduces considerably, demonstrating the effect that different population sizes have on proportionality data

The following charts show the trends from April 2019 to March 2020 for the reason that a Stop Search was initiated and for the arrest rate. These charts also show the monthly ethnicity and associated proportionality figures.

During this same period, 1769 subjects were White, 369 subjects were Black, with a disparity in search rate of 4.8 for drug searches and 6.7 for a subsequent arrest.

630 subjects were Asian, with a similar level of disparity (0.6 and 1.1) for the initial stop search and the arrest rate.

Total Stop Searches by Ethnicity
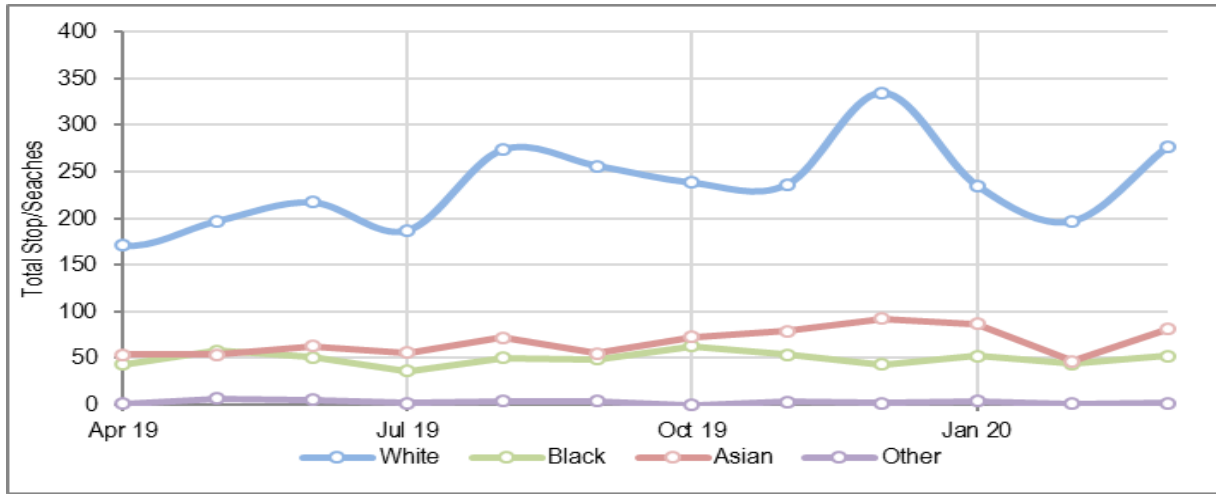
The chart above shows the total number (actual monthly figures) of Stop Searches broken down by the Ethnicity of the subject. The number of searches carried out had remained relatively stable for all Ethnicity types since April 2019. Changes in the number of White subjects searched tends to follow the number of total searches each month. The charts below provide more context.

Proportionality refers to the representation of a racial or ethnic group compared to its percentage in the population. This figure is calculated by using the ethnicity proportions of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) populations from the 2011 Census.

These charts show, firstly, the ratio of how many times a person is likely to be searched when compared with a White person. The excess searches refer to the number of searches above or below parity if the Black/White or Asian/White or Other/White proportionality ratio was 1.0. Both the proportionality rates and excess search figures are rolling 12-month figures.
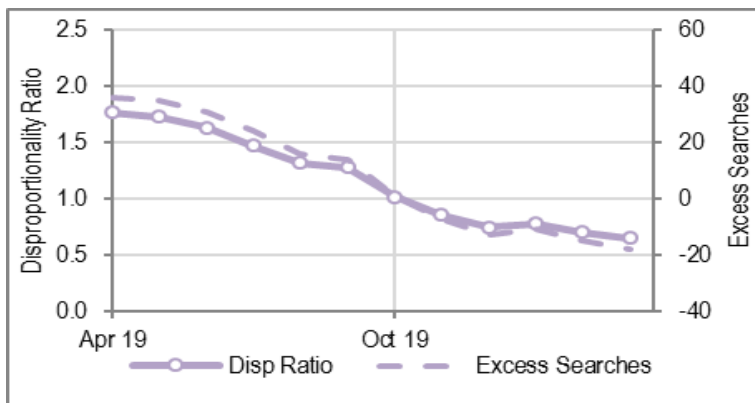
Black Proportionality
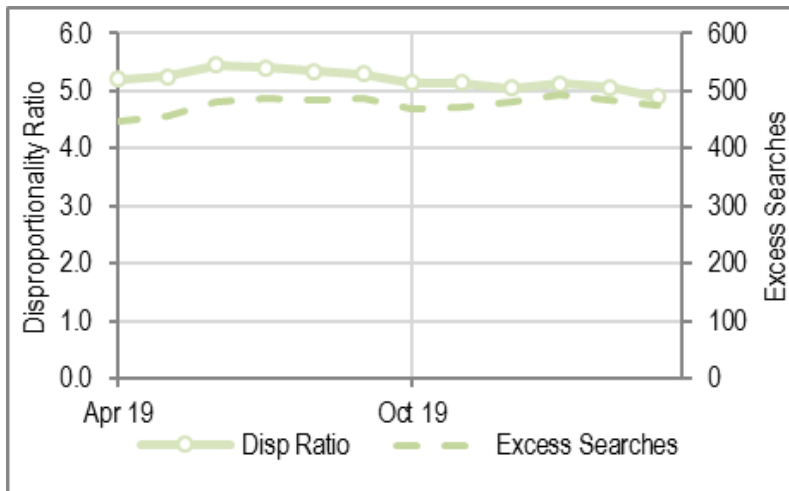
The ratio for Black subjects had reduced slightly, from 5.21 in April 2019, to 4.9 by March 2020. This means that a Black person is 4.9 times more likely to be searched than a White person. The excess search figure has risen gradually over the past 12-months from around 446 to 474, whereas if there was parity in the search rates based on population, this figure would be around 121.

Asian Proportionality
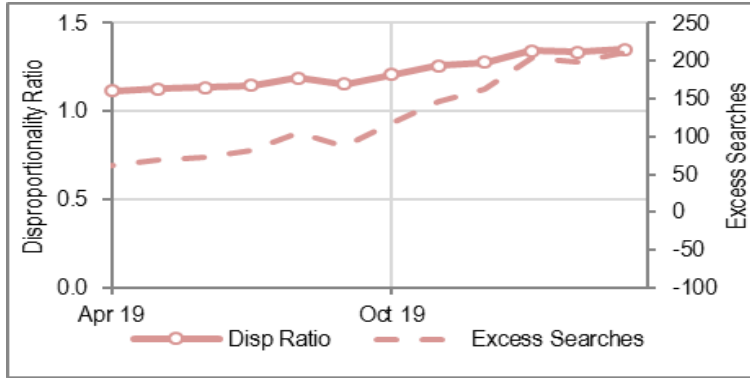
The proportionality ratio and excess search figure have both increased since April 2019. An Asian person was 1.35 times more likely to be searched than a White person by March 2020, with an excess search figure of 212.

Other Ethnic Proportionality

With regards to all Other Ethnic Groups, the trend over the past year had seen decreases in both the excess search figure and the disproportionality ratio. The disproportionality ratio stood at 0.65 by March 2020 and the excess search figure at -18.

Stop Search by Area

The following charts show the number of Stop Searches carried out in different parts of the Force area during the 12 months, April 2019 to March 2020, broken down by ethnicity. The rolling 12-month chart shows the range (upper and lower points) that the searches for each ethnicity fall between when taking into account the actual number of searches when compared with the Census 2011 population.

For searches to be proportionate to the ethnic make-up of the population, the top of the population (orange) bar needs to fall between the upper and lower range dots.

Whole Force Area

Whole Force Stop Search - 2019-20
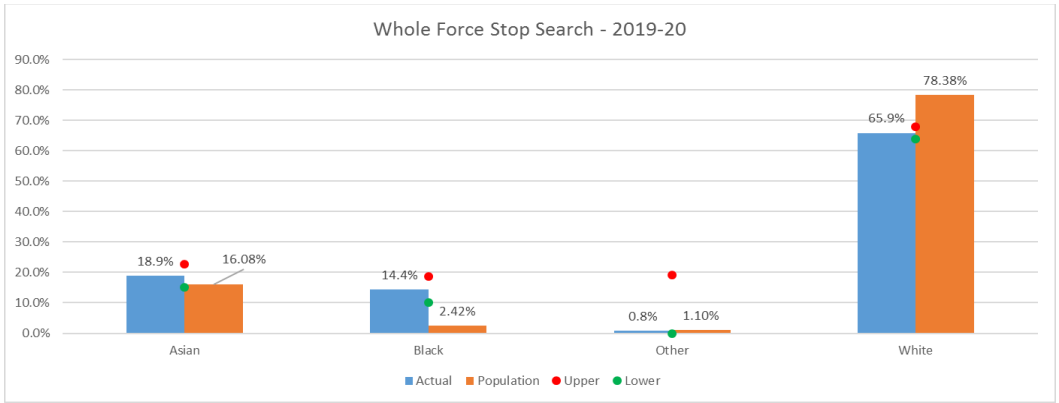
For the whole force area, Asian subject searches were broadly representative when compared to the Asian population in LLR; Black subjects were over-represented when compared with the Black population and White subjects were under-represented in searches during the 12-month period.

City of Leicester

Leicester City Stop Search - 2019-20
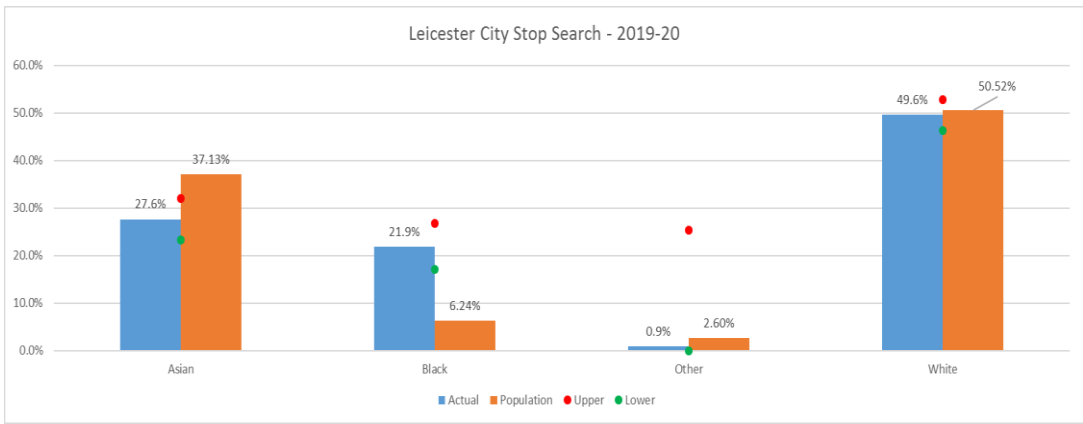
For searches conducted in the city of Leicester, Asian subjects were under-represented in searches when compared to the Asian Leicester City population; Black subjects were over-represented with the Black population in Leicester City; and White subject searches in the City were proportionate during the 12-month period.


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Leicestershire and Rutland (County)

Leicester County Stop Search - 2019-20
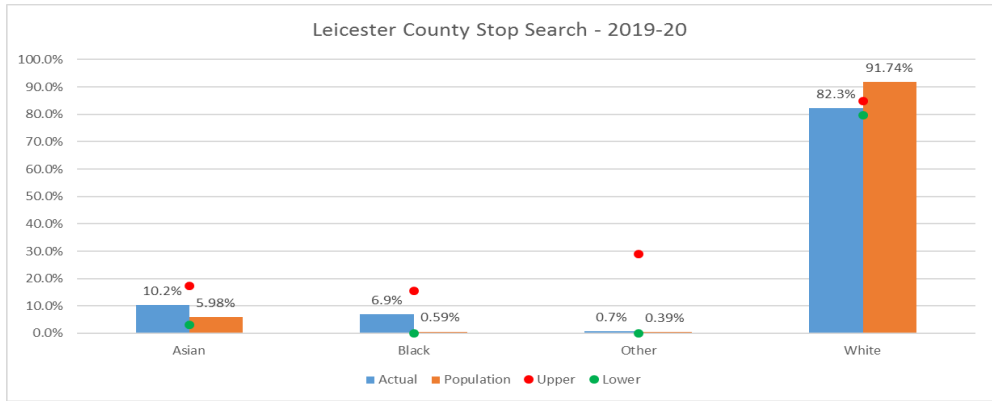
For searches in the counties, Asian subjects were within proportions for the county Asian population; Black subjects were bordering on being within proportionate limits for the Black population in the county (although the small number of searches makes this statistically less accurate) and white-subject searches in the county were under-represented during the 12-month period.
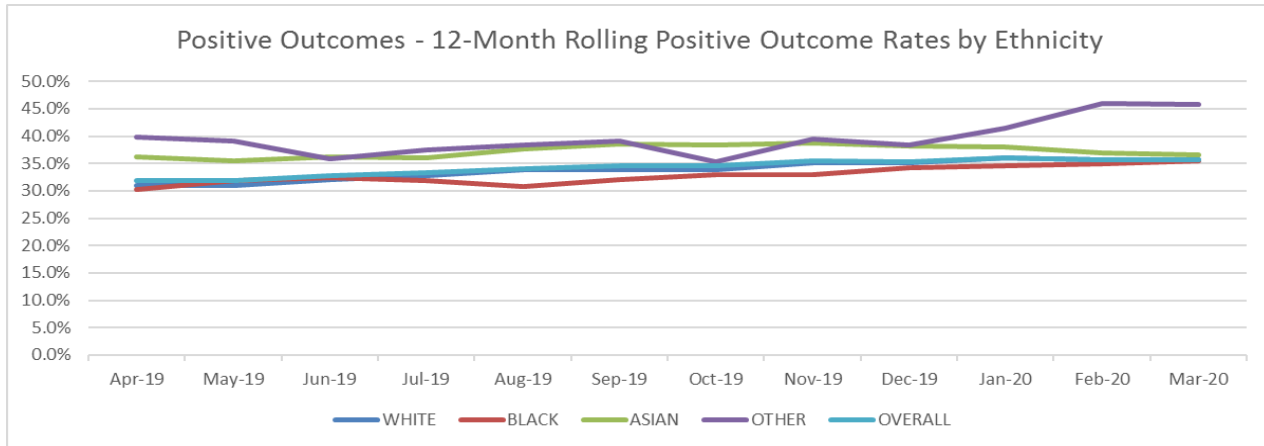
Outcome Rates

Outcome rates are calculated using the rolling 12-month total number of positive outcomes/arrests and the rolling 12-month total number of Stop Searches.
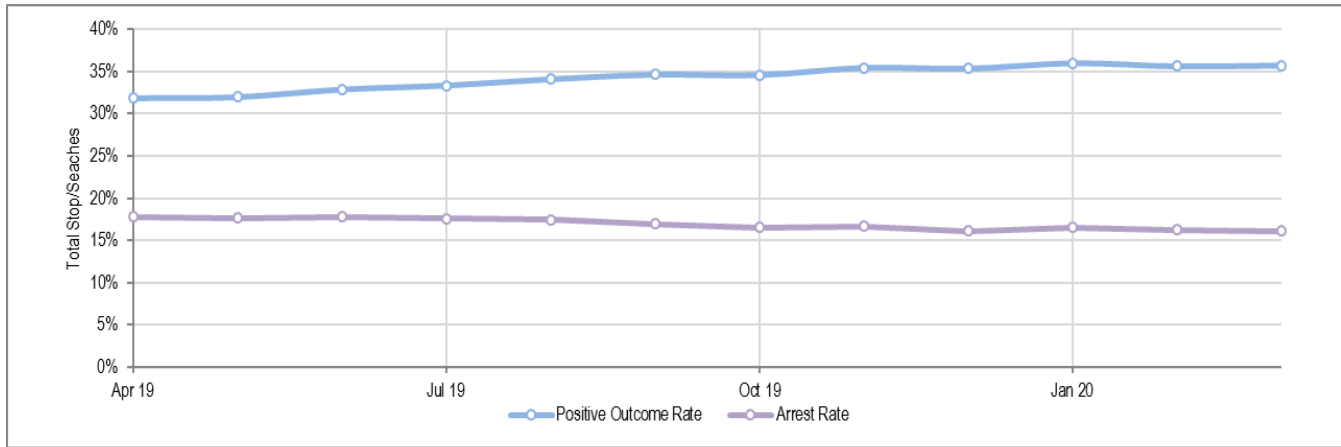
The chart above shows the trend for Overall Outcome Rate. Since April 2019, the positive outcome rate has remained fairly constant at around 30%, although has risen slowly over the past 12-months to 35.7%.

Positive outcomes as at February 20 include Arrest, Voluntary attendance, Postal requisition/postal charge/summons, Caution - simple/conditional, Drugs warning, Penalty notice for disorder, Community resolution, Police discretionary resolution, Alcohol seized, Tobacco seized and No further action. The arrest rate for all subjects who were stop searched was 16.1% by March 2020, which has slowly decreased over the past 12 months.

Positive Outcome Rate by Ethnicity

The above chart shows the positive outcome rates for different ethnicities over the 12-month period. Although there has been some fluctuation in the positive outcome rates over the 12 months, they are broadly similar, with Asian people being slightly more likely to receive a positive outcome than White or Black subjects. *Other* is a small number of searches numerically (n.35) and therefore the rate is easily skewed by a small number of positive outcomes.

Ethnicity Arrest Rate
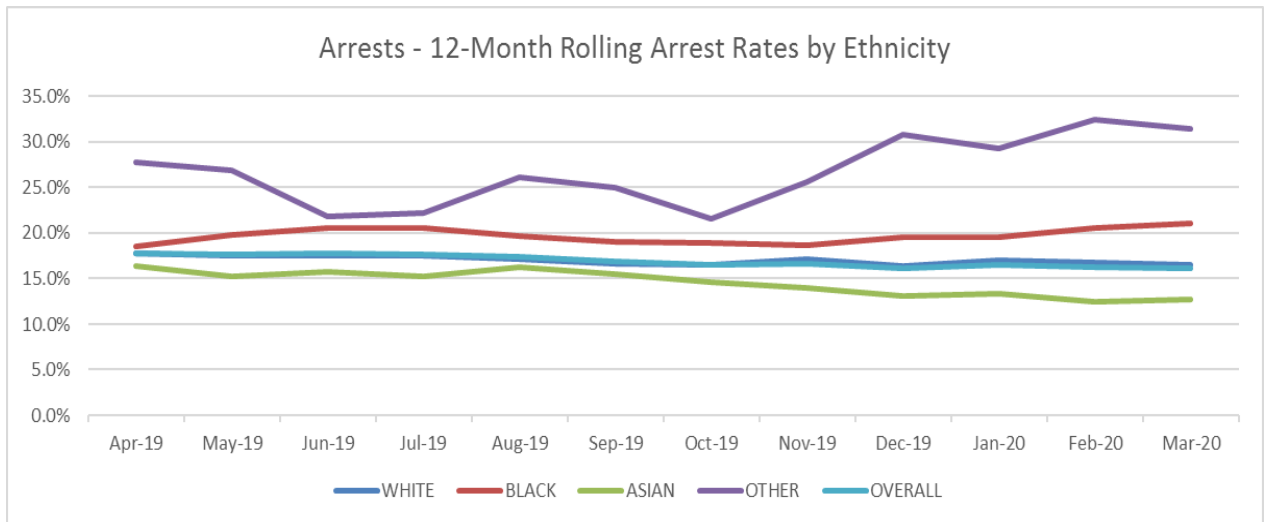
The above chart shows the arrest rates for different ethnicities over the 12-month period.

Black people were slightly more likely to be arrested following a stop search than White people, and Asian subjects less likely. *Other* arrests are again likely to be skewed by the overall small numbers involved.

Outcome by Power and Ethnicity

In 2017 HMICFRS recommended that Forces should be able to '*monitor and analyse comprehensive stop and search data to understand reasons for disparities.* The below seeks to show different 'find' rates mapped against ethnicities and the different types of searches.

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The following tables present this data, which could be interpreted in many ways; a high arrest rate could be seen as effective policing or that officers have a lower threshold for arrest of members of that community. Consequently, greater focus is placed on the combined arrest and positive outcome rate.

White Subjects	Alcohol seized	Arrested	Drugs Warning	Local Resolution	No Further Action	Police discretionary resolution	Street Caution	Summons	Unknown	Voluntary attendance	Grand Total
Criminal Justice Act 1988 (section 139B)					4						4
Firearms Act 1968 (section 47)		7			10				1		18
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (section 23)		231	14	374	1077	33	7	2	1	30	1769
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 1)	1	224	4	47	720	14	1	3	1	8	1023
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 32)					1						1
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 4)		1			2						3
Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 (s36(2))		2									2
Unknown					1	1					2
Grand Total	1	465	18	422	1815	47	8	5	3	38	2822
Outcome Rate %	0.04	16.48	0.64	14.95	64.32	1.67	0.28	0.18	0.11	1.35	

Black Subjects	Arrested	Drugs Warning	Local Resolution	No Further Action	Police discretionary resolution	Street Caution	Summons	Voluntary attendance	Grand Total
Firearms Act 1968 (section 47)	1			8					9
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (section 23)	66	5	55	228	5	2	2	5	368
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 1)	57		4	149	5		1	1	217
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 4)	1								1
Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 (s36(2))				2	1				3
Grand Total	125	5	59	387	11	2	3	6	598
Outcome Rate %	20.90	0.84	9.87	64.72	1.84	0.33	0.50	1.00	

Asian Subjects	Arrested	Drugs Warning	Local Resolution	No Further Action	Police discretionary resolution	Street Caution	Summons	Unknown	Voluntary attendance	Grand Total
Firearms Act 1968 (section 47)	1			5						6
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (section 23)	71	4	149	367	12	4	3	1	9	620
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 1)	32	1	7	138	2			1	1	182
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (section 32)				1						1
Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 (s36(2))			2	1						3
Unknown				1						1
Grand Total	104	5	158	513	14	4	3	2	10	813
Outcome Rate %	12.79	0.62	19.43	63.10	1.72	0.49	0.37	0.25	1.23	

Summary table of three above

Ethnicity	No. of Searches	Arrest Rate %	Total Arrest & Positive Outcome Rate %	% Searches Conducted for Drugs
All Ethnicities	4630	16.11	35.7	65.55
White	2822	16.48	35.58	62.69
Black	598	20.9	35.28	61.54
Asian	813	12.79	36.65	76.26
Other	35	31.43	45.17	60
Unknown	362	11.33	34.25	70.99

The summary table demonstrates that the total positive-outcome rates for Black and Asian subjects are broadly the same as that for white subjects although there is greater variation in the arrest rate with a black subject being more likely to be arrested. A consistent positive action rate suggests that, once we have taken the decision to search someone, we deal with any items found in a similar way, regardless of the person's ethnicity, but there is further work to understand the disparity in the arrest rate.

Link between item searched for and item found

The headlines from the table below are that 28% of all searches resulted in finding the object searched for, 7% something other than what was searched for and 65% nothing was found.

The following chart shows the stop search *Found* category by % of subject ethnicity.

Object Found by Ethnicity 2019-20
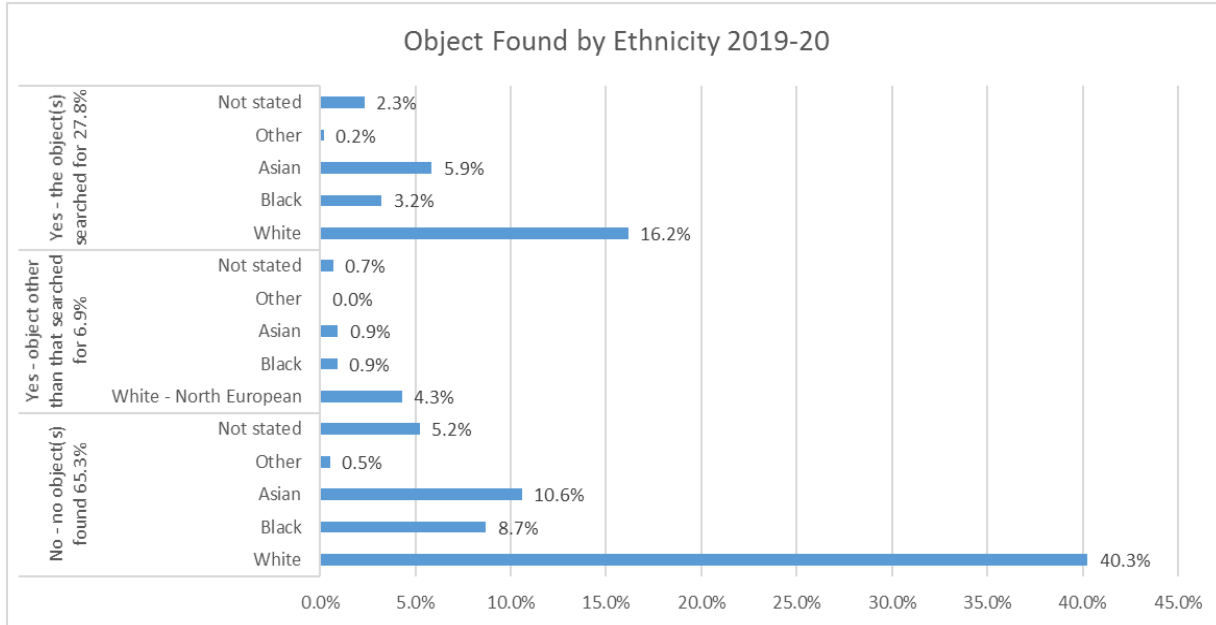
Looking to the future

The PILOT Group continues to evolve utilising a new proportionality reporting measure and work is ongoing with our PRONTO mobile-data solution team to identify ways of refining stop search data even further.

The force would very much like to be able to identify which searches are directly linked to public driven calls for action and spontaneous police incidents and those where an officer has chosen to use discretion.

We are also exploring how we might be able to better record stop and search where the initial grounds were for more than just drug possession and actually targeted at drug supply offences.

At this time this can only be established via a manual data extract and we are seeking to automate the process.

Person to Contact

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