



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) Stop and Search 2: are the police using them effectively and fairly?

As per my statutory responsibility to prepare comments on any of HMIC's published reports, Section 55(5) of the 1996 Police Act, I have read through the report and have the following response to this follow up report on the ten recommendations made in 2013, where it was concluded that stop and search powers were rarely targeted at priority crimes in particular areas and the lack of understanding about how the powers should be used.

I have noted the comments on the reports overall findings for forces failing to understand the impact of stop and search, but I am pleased to report that Nottinghamshire has made significant progress in this area. I am working with the Chief Constable who will be promoting what he is doing to progress against all ten of the recommendations made in 2013. The Force has signed up to the Home Secretary's Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme in 2014. As one of the 24 launch forces, the aim is to use an intelligence-led approach to target stop and searches to areas where specific crimes have occurred and focus on key impact crimes including burglary, robbery and carrying offensive weapons.

The report identifies that overall forces have made the most progress against the recommendation to improve the use of technology to record encounters. Whilst we have one of the lowest rates of the use of Stop and Search, we have improved our tasking and briefing systems and intelligence gathering. We have improved our data recording with the year to date being 25.8% of all stop and searches leading to a positive outcome, i.e. arrest, Cannabis warning, Fixed Penalty Notice, Report for Summons, restorative Justice Outcome. There have also been members of local communities accompanying police officers on patrol using Stop and Search Powers. There is a Complaints Trigger Policy which is out for public consultation through the Forces website.

There will be a need to audit the use of the Road Traffic Act power to stop motor vehicles, with a need to develop a policy to support the use of these powers which will be reported through my governance structures, this will include progress against HMIC recommendations to the Audit and Scrutiny Panel.

I support the aim of Stop and Search powers to help keep people safe and will continue to work with the Chief Constable to ensure that we fully understand and support communities who feel the impact is greater on them. We will be working with our communities to ensure they understand how and why these powers are used.

There is a Stop and Search Scrutiny Board which reviews the use of Stop and Search which holds the police to account for the use of the powers, supported by regular audits to ensure the grounds for searches are properly recorded and to ensure individual officers are not using these powers in a disproportionate manner.

The Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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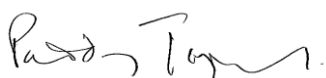
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My Police and Crime Plan identifies in the priority to: ***Improve the efficiency, accessibility and effectiveness of the criminal justice process*** an activity to utilise the power to stop and search in a necessary and proportionate manner, sharing data and encouraging greater scrutiny. Progress against the 10 recommendations of this report will be reported in my 6 monthly update and my annual report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paddy Tipping'.

Paddy Tipping
Police and Crime Commissioner