**Agenda Item No. 8**

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING**

**18 June 2024**

**SUBJECT: Stop and Search**

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| **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT PRODUCED BY WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE**1. The attached report outlines work undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in respect of Stop and Search.
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| **RECOMMENDATION**1. That the Mayor/Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) uses the report to scrutinise Force performance in respect of Stop and Search.
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| **POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 21-24**1. The Police and Crime Plan was developed after extensive public and partner consultation culminating in the creation of ‘The Voice of West Yorkshire’.  Face to face and online consultation and engagement ran from 1 September 2021- 30 November 2021; The Voice of West Yorkshire is one of two key documents which supports the Police and Crime Plan 2021 -24.  The document includes the notes of key events and can be found here: [police-and-crime-plan-voice-of-west-yorkshire-public-consultation.pdf (westyorks-ca.gov.uk)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/8215/police-and-crime-plan-voice-of-west-yorkshire-public-consultation.pdf).
2. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion is a key cross cutting theme which runs throughout the Police and Crime Plan. West Yorkshire is a vibrant and diverse region. It is home to many different communities within the towns, cities, and villages of our districts. Together we all share the same ambition to live in thriving, safe neighbourhoods. At the centre of the Police and Crime Plan is the celebration of this diversity and the vision of a strong, cohesive, and welcoming West Yorkshire which is fair, just, and inclusive.
3. Stop and Search is a protective tool used by the police in specific circumstances where an officer has reasonable grounds to suspect a person is carrying a weapon, stolen property, illegal drugs, or an article used to commit a crime. Stop and Search, used effectively and within the law, makes communities safer.
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| **KEY INFORMATION**1. Mayoral/DMPC Activity to date includes:
2. The Mayor/DMPC hold the Chief Constable to account to ensure Stop and Search activity is used appropriately, proportionately, in the pursuit of a legitimate aim and in a way that can be explained by the searching officer to the person stopped, this report is part of that process.
3. As part of the national portfolio on the Association of Police and Crime Commissioner’s Race Disparity Working Group the DMPC has considered the recommendations of the Independent Office for Police Conduct national stop and search learning report as part of the ongoing work to tackle race disparity and improve communities’ confidence in policing and the criminal justice system.
4. The DMPC also works closely with the National Police Chiefs’ Council (NPCC) and other organisations on the Race Action Plan.
5. The DMPC attended and supported the West Yorkshire Police launches of the Race Action plan in November 2023 held in Leeds and Kirklees.
6. Policing and Crime Colleagues attend the West Yorkshire Police Tactical Delivery Group (TDG) Inequalities Meeting (where the work to support implementation of the Police Race Action Plan takes place), West Yorkshire Police Independent Advisory Group and Independent Scrutiny and Advisory Group (ISaAG) which looks at Inequalities. The DMPC has also met recently with the Independent Chair of ISaAG for an update on their work.
7. The Mayor and DMPC sought reassurance from West Yorkshire Police after Child Q, a 15-year-old black schoolgirl, was strip-searched while at school and asked that routine monitoring data be updated to better reflect child related stop and search.
8. The Mayor/DMPC welcomed the Children's Commissioner report and recommendations into Strip-Search.
9. The Mayor/DMPC are currently recruiting to an Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel **-** The Panel will consist of an independent chair and ten independent members, drawn from communities across West Yorkshire. The Chair will be supported by the Police and Crime Team. The Panel will also include, representatives from West Yorkshire Police, commissioned custody health care, staff associations and a member of the legal defence community. The Panel will meet quarterly. On a themed basis, the Panel will review the detention and treatment of detailed persons. For example, the use of force/stop and search in the custody environment, appropriate adult and legal rights provision, the welfare of those with mental ill-health or neurodiverse conditions. The Panel is currently being recruited through an open process.
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| **PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION**The Mayor and DMPC work with specific groups and organisations to better understand the impact of Stop and Search on individuals and communities. The DMPC and Chief Constable have previously met with colleagues from West Yorkshire Police and representatives of the Black Boy Joy at Carr Manor School in Leeds to listen to their experiences of Stop and Search. |
| **EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION** The Mayor and DMPC are working closely with the Chief Constable at both a national and local level to better understand the explanation for disproportionality in relation to Stop and Search. |
| **ATTACHMENT**[Chief Constables report – Stop and Search](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/12478/item-8-com-stop-search-report.docx) |