

Derbyshire Constabulary

Stop and Search Annual Report April 2017-April 2018

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the use of and scrutiny of Stop and Search powers in Derbyshire throughout the recording period 2017/18.

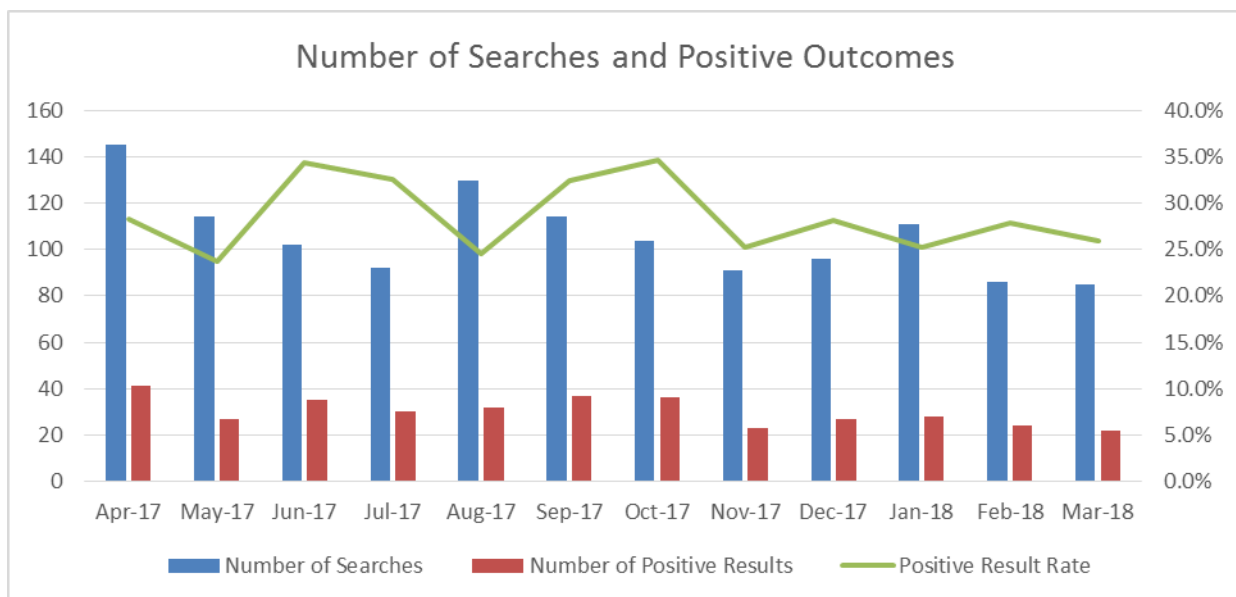
Introduction

The Police powers of Stop and Search have been in existence since the introduction of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE). The Government, College of Policing and HMICFRS have taken a more intrusive approach to the use of such powers by Forces, mainly via the Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSSS) and the introduction of the Authorised Professional Practice (APP).

Derbyshire Constabulary has welcomed the extra scrutiny and increased public participation of the scheme. Stop and Search remains a vital tool in safeguarding communities and bringing offenders to justice when used in a fair, effective and proportionate manner.

Annual Stop and Search Activity in Derbyshire Constabulary April 2017 to March 2018

The following chart and table shows the number of stop and searches carried out within Derbyshire during the period broken down by month and subsequent number of positive outcomes¹:



The number of searches carried out fell noticeably in February and March compared to previous months. The average number of searches carried out per month is just below 110. The positive outcome rate has remained relatively stable over the last five months and is just below 29% for the year.

Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSSS)

¹ Positive Outcomes includes alcohol seized, arrest, caution, drugs warning, penalty notice for disorder, police discretionary resolution, postal requisition/postal charge/summons, or tobacco seized

Derbyshire Constabulary are fully compliant with the voluntary BUSSS which was introduced by the Home Secretary in 2014.

Structures exist within Derbyshire Constabulary to ensure that Stop and Search activity is monitored against the BUSSS, HMICFRS recommendations. Good practice or lessons learnt from internal accountability groups is shared both internally and externally if necessary by the means of the force intranet, force videos or externally via social media.

The Stop and Search Steering Group, meets quarterly and is chaired by ACC Paul Gibson; in attendance are departmental leadership teams. Stop and Search activity is discussed and examined to establish trends including disproportionality, learning and training requirements.

Scrutiny is in place within the organisation with departmental leads dip testing 30 searches per month and directly providing feedback to officers, including viewing the Body Worn Video footage.

This is complemented by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) holding monthly meetings with members of the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) reviewing 10 stop and search forms per month with the associated body worn video. Again, direct feedback is given to the officers and any lessons shared across the organisation via the intranet.

Disproportionality

The Stop and Search Steering group reviews stop search data in order to establish any trends or patterns in the conduct of the stop and searches and include a wide range of factors such as location, the age, gender and ethnicity of the person searched including the outcome for the search.

Disproportionality rates for stop and search are scrutinised and comparisons made at a force and local level.

We recognise that there is still a disproportionality rate, self-defined Asian (Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi) persons being searched on 5% of all searches conducted, however the Asian population is 4% within Derbyshire according to the 2011 census data. With officer defined ethnicity this search rate increases to 9%. This data is the only available regarding population and clearly the population mix will be significantly different in the current day.

What is noticeable is the vast differences with population with the county, South Division have an 8% Asian Population with the city area representing 13% of the Asian population. Compared with North Division which have a 1% Asian Population.

Stop Search records which fall into a category where disproportionality exists are randomly dip tested by Local Inspectors to identify reasons why disproportionality exists. This has shown that a large proportion of the searches are intelligence led in respect of some of the organised criminality within the city area.

There is an expectation that these figures will change when the next census data is collected.

The following table shows the number of searches and positive outcome rate by age² for April 2017 to March 2018. Vehicle searches are included.

Age	Number of Searches	Proportion of Searches	Positive Searches	Positive Search Rate
Under 18	186	15%	49	26%
18-24	395	31%	147	37%
25-34	306	24%	89	29%
35-44	221	17%	54	24%
45-54	72	6%	19	26%
55-64	24	2%	3	13%
65+	1	0%	0	0%
Unknown	75	6%	1	0%
	1280		362	28%

The majority of searches are carried out on subjects between 18 and 24 years old and 55 percent of all searches are for persons between 18 and 34. Approximately one in seven searches are carried out on persons under 18.

The following table shows the number of searches and positive outcome rate by self-defined ethnicity² for April 2017 to March 2018. Vehicle searches are included in the information below:

Self-Defined Ethnicity	Number of Searches	Proportion of Searches	Positive Searches	Positive Search Rate
A1. Asian - Indian	12	1%	1	8%
A2. Asian - Pakistani	57	4%	20	35%
A3. Asian - Bangladeshi	2	0%	0	0%
A9. Any other Asian background	15	1%	7	47%
B1. Black Caribbean	41	3%	13	32%
B2. Black African	12	1%	4	33%
B9. Any other Black background	13	1%	5	38%
M1. White & Black Caribbean	18	1%	6	33%
M2. White & Black African	1	0%	0	0%
M3. White & Asian	3	0%	1	33%
M9. Any other mixed background	8	1%	3	38%
NS. Not stated	77	6%	24	31%
O1. Chinese	0	0%	0	0%
O9. Any other ethnic group	7	1%	4	57%
W1. White British	881	69%	256	29%
W2. White Irish	4	0%	1	25%
W9. Any other white background	51	4%	13	25%
	79	6%	4	5%
	1281		362	28%

² Numbers of searches broken down will differ slightly from overall totals due to multiple persons being linked to searches. Each characteristic will only be counted once however for each search. Previously these have been manually reconciled.

Two out of every three searches is carried out on persons that are White British which is lower than the population of Derbyshire. Four per cent of all searches are carried out on Asian Pakistani persons. Six per cent of persons refused to state their ethnicity and six percent of entries were blank. This does include vehicle only searches.

The following table shows the number of searches and positive outcome rate by officer defined ethnicity² for April 2017 to March 2018. Vehicle searches are included in the information below:

Ethnicity	No. of Searches	Proportion of Searches	Positive Searches	Positive Search Rate
0. Unknown	13	1%	3	23%
1. White - North European	898	70%	273	30%
2. White - South European	36	3%	10	28%
3. Black	89	7%	30	34%
4. Asian	110	9%	38	35%
5. Chinese, Japanese, SE Asian	1	0%	0	0%
6. Middle Eastern	2	0%	0	0%
	132	10%	8	6%
	1098		316	29%

The breakdown of the officer defined ethnicities are fairly consistent with the self-defined ethnicities recorded above.

The following table shows the number of searches and positive outcome rate by gender² for April 2017 to March 2018. Vehicle searches are included.

Gender	Number of Searches	Proportion of Searches	Positive Searches	Positive Search Rate
Male	1077	84%	319	30%
Female	122	10%	38	31%
Unknown	77	6%	5	6%
	1276		362	28%

The majority of persons stopped and searched were male with only ten per cent of searches being on female subjects. This is significantly disproportionate to the population of Derbyshire which is 51% female.

The following table shows the reason for the searches for April 2017 to March 2018:

Purpose	Number of Searches	Number of Positive Searches
Alcohol and Tobacco	12	11
Articles to Damage	4	0
Drugs	795	259
Firearms	25	4
Going Equipped	211	51
Other	20	2
Stolen Goods	65	19

Terrorism	1	0
Unknown	26	0
Weapons	111	16
Wildlife	0	0
	1270	362

The main reason for searches continues to be for drugs with 63% of all searches relating to this reason for search. The second most common reason is going equipped which accounts for approximately 17% of all searches.

The following table shows the outcomes of stop and searches within Derbyshire during the period, showing whether the outcome was linked to the purpose for the search, removing all searches where there was no further action³ :

	Not Linked to Reason to Search	Linked to Reason to Search
Alcohol seized	1	3
Arrest	37	167
Caution - simple/conditional	2	2
Community resolution	1	3
Drugs warning	3	90
Penalty notice for disorder	2	15
Police discretionary resolution	4	6
Postal requisition/postal charge/summons	3	16
Tobacco seized	0	7
Sum:	53	309

The most common positive outcome following a search is that of arrest although drugs warnings were issued in over a quarter of cases.

The following table shows the number of searches for each Local Police Unit (LPU) for April 2017 to March 2018:

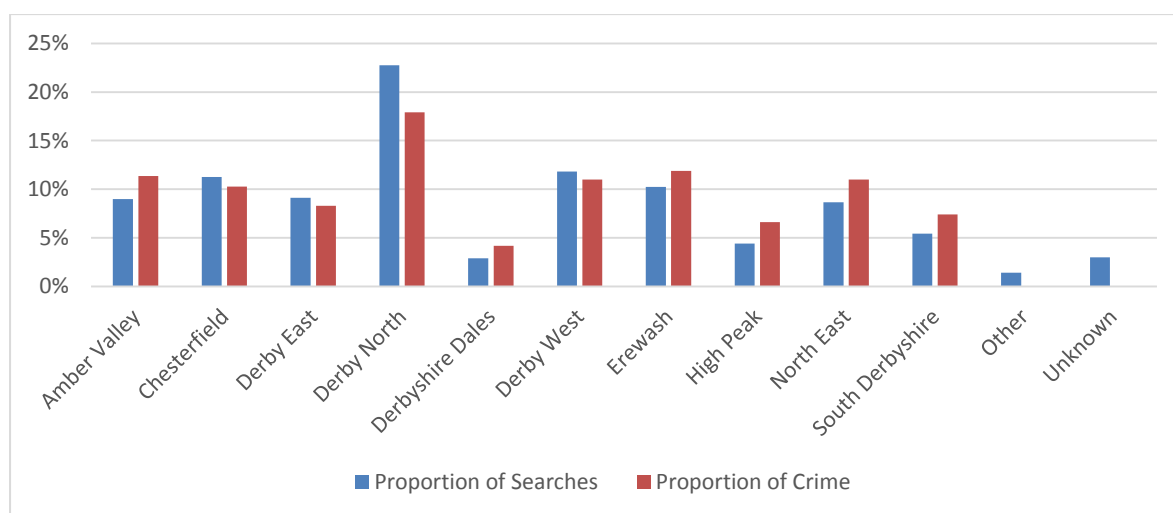
Location	Number of Searches	Proportion of Searches	Positive Searches	Positive Search Rate
Amber Valley	114	9%	27	24%
Chesterfield	143	11%	59	41%
Derby East	116	9%	40	34%
Derby North	289	23%	67	23%
Derbyshire Dales	37	3%	12	32%
Derby West	150	12%	13	9%
Erewash	130	10%	38	29%
High Peak	56	4%	41	73%

³ No further action includes being detained under the mental health act, voluntary attendance at a police station and no further action taken.

North East	110	9%	15	14%
South Derbyshire	69	5%	30	0%
Other	18	1%	5	0%
Unknown	38	3%	15	0%
	1270		362	29%

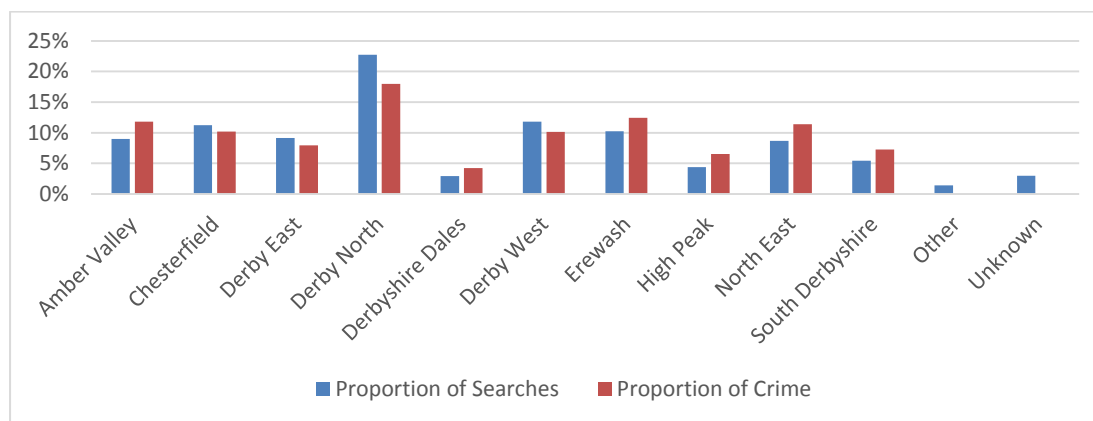
Derby North continues to have the majority of the stop and searches carried out with nearly one in four occurring on the LPU. Derby West, Chesterfield and Erewash all also have a more significant proportion of stops.

The following chart shows the distribution of searches across the LPU areas in comparison to all crime:



Chesterfield, Derby East, Derby North and Derby West all have proportions of searches that are higher than the proportion of crimes. It is worth noting however that a proportion of stop and searches have locations outside of the force and there are a number of searches where the address is unknown.

The following chart shows the distribution of searches across the LPU areas in comparison to stop and search related⁴ crime:



⁴ Stop and search related crime has been defined as criminal damage, drugs offences, possession of weapons, robbery and all theft offences.

Stop and searched related crime accounts for approximately two thirds of all crime recorded. Therefore the comparison shown above is very similar to that of all crime.

Scrutiny of Powers

All stop and search forms are checked by the officer's supervisor and officers know that both their stop search form and their Body Worn Video may be subject to either an internal or external dip sample.

A recent video in respect of supervisor responsibility has been produced internally with the supervisor being asked to comment on the OEL for the following areas:

- Were the grounds for the search documented on the form sufficient? If not what have they done to rectify this issue
- Were all data fields completed
- Was feedback required and has it been given
- Parent/Guardian informed if under 10
- Was Body Worn Video used in line with force policy
- Was hand held device used

In addition to the above, each month divisional management teams randomly scrutinise 30 forms across the force area and provide direct feedback to the officers.

An external, independent scrutiny group exists which meets monthly and also randomly dip test 10 stop search and associated Body Worn Video per month. This panel consists of the OPCC and the IAG. AN annual report from this meeting is submitted to the OPCC, Strategic Performance Assurance Board and is published in the public domain.

The Force Lead for Stop and Search also produces an annual report for the SPAB to enable to PCC to be satisfied in the use of stop and search within Derbyshire Constabulary.

Body Worn Video

Derbyshire Constabulary have issued Body Worn Video devices to all frontline uniform operational officers and there is an expectation that recording is activated when conducted a stop and search unless there are exceptional circumstances or the search reveals intimate parts. Footage is dip sampled during the panels as outlined above.

Community Involvement Scheme

Derbyshire Constabulary operates a community involvement scheme whereby member of the community can go on patrol with officers and potentially observe a stop search in practice. This scheme is currently being reviewed.

Publication of Data on Force Website

Stop and Search data is published and updated every quarter on the Derbyshire Constabulary web page, <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/My-Local-Police/Stop-and-Search/Stop-and-Search.aspx>.

Training

We have invested training to all our frontline officers, which is the full College of Policing Package and is in line with the Authorised Professional Practice (APP) for using powers to stop and search.

Further localised training has been given by the force lead at Divisional Training events which captures all frontline Constables and Sergeants.

Other training and awareness has been provided by using internal video briefs, power points and at the point feedback is given for those searches which have been scrutinised.

Conclusion

It is fair to say that the technological challenges when the force moved to a new crime recording system prevented data being full available to be published until the summer of 2017 and the data recording and publishing is a focus of the organisations attention.

Reasonable grounds have improved since the training and awareness sessions have been introduced.

Over the coming 12 months further developments will be sought in respect of community engagement at both a general and targeted level.

Disproportionality will continue to be monitored and increased overview and information at a localised level.

