

ORIGINATOR: CHIEF CONSTABLE

PAPER NO. AP21/32

SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL – 2 JULY 2021

SUBJECT: USE OF STOP SEARCH IN SUFFOLK – 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021

SUMMARY:

1. This report provides analysis of stop and search for the twelve-month period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. There were 5,244 stops searches during the reporting period.
2. An assessment of the reason for search and the object of the search shows that the majority of stop and searches were associated with drugs. 3985 stop searches (76%) had drugs as the reason for the search. 463 stop searches (9%) were strip searches and of these, 443 (96%) were in relation to drugs. The second highest category is for searches under PACE S1.
3. Over eight out of ten people stopped and searched reported that they understood the reasons for their search and were treated with respect and dignity by the officer(s).
4. As a county, there has been a general increase in the total number of stop searches conducted per quarter since Q4 of 2018/19, which is reflective of the Constabulary's approach to proactive policing in a sustained effort to identify and prevent potential crime and disorder. The rate of stop searches resulting in arrest is above the national average and remained relatively high compared to other Forces in year ending March 2020 (data for year ending March 2021 will be published shortly).

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Accountability and Performance Panel is asked to take account of the steps that the Constabulary is taking to ensure stop search legislation is used fairly and effectively.

1. USE OF STOP/SEARCH IN SUFFOLK APRIL 2020 – MARCH 2021

- 1.1. A database for recording 'stop and search' and 'stop and account' was implemented in Suffolk in December 2014, as directed by the Home Office. The rationale behind the database is to allow for greater governance of the use of stop and search powers and to allow for the identification of trends in the use of powers by individual officers, teams or stations. The database also allows for increased data collection on stop and search outcomes.
- 1.2. The Home Secretary wrote to all forces in April 2014 following the findings of an HMIC inspection into how stop and search powers are used. Two main concerns raised were:
 - a) the HMIC found that fewer than half of police Forces in England and Wales complied with PACE 1984 requirements for arrangements to be in place for stop and search records to be scrutinised by the communities they serve.
 - b) some forces set officer targets in relation to stop and search.
- 1.3. As a result, the Home Office and College of Policing introduced the 'Best Use of Stop and Search' scheme. Participating forces were asked to record the use of stop and search in more detail going forward in order to show the link (or otherwise) between the object of the search and the outcome. The scheme also introduced lay observation policies to enable members of the public to accompany officers on patrol and a 'community trigger' whereby police must explain to the public how powers are being used when there is a large volume of complaints.
- 1.4. This report (and future reports) is based on data collected from stop and search records since then and covers the period between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021 inclusive.
- 1.5. At the end of 2020, a new recording system (Optik) was implemented in Suffolk for recording stop and search events, which has been reported on in this paper alongside data from the pre-existing system which is still in use. While ongoing work is being undertaken to ensure the new system can replicate the information that is currently reported, there are some limitations to the overall dataset in places. In some areas of this report Optik data is merged with non-Optik data and in areas where the Optik data is not available or has a high rate of blank fields, the two datasets have been separated in order to avoid significant impact on the overall findings

2. OVERALL TRENDS¹

2.1. Use of stop and search

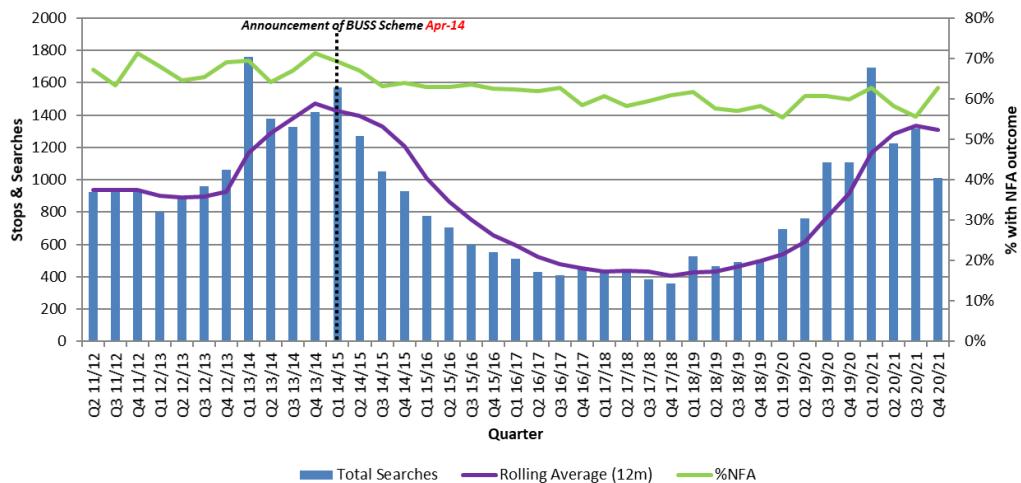


Figure 1: Long-term trends in use of stop and search in Suffolk

¹ Rolling average based on a 12-month period

2.1.1. Figure 1 displays long term trends in stop and search over time, from Q2 2011/12 to Q4 2020/21 (showing data from both recording systems). There was a consistent downward trend in stop and search following the announcement of the Best Use of Stop and Search (BUSS) scheme until Q4 2017/18. Since Q4 2017/18 there has been an upward trend, reaching a peak in Q1 2020/21 before decreasing from Q2 2020/21.

2.1.2. The peak in Q1 can likely be attributed to the impact of proactive policing at the start of the Covid-19 lockdown.

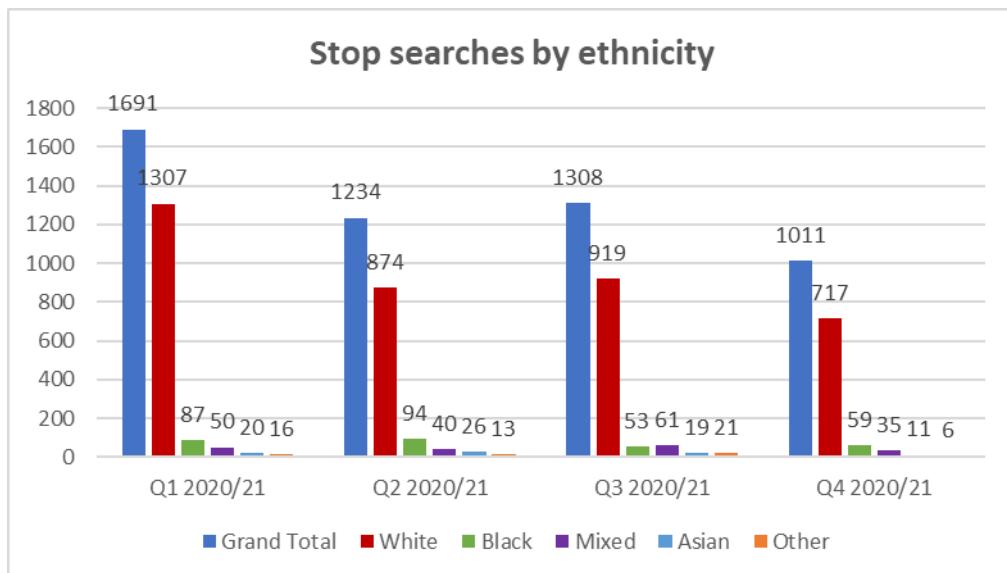


Figure 2: Stop searches by ethnicity

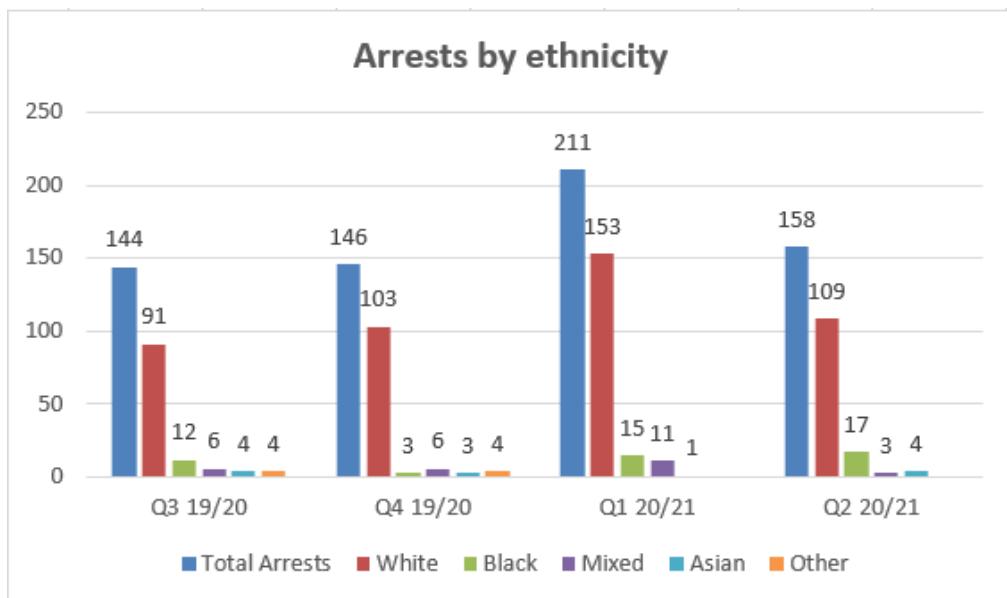


Figure 3: Total arrests by ethnicity (please note that an arrest may not result in a prosecution)

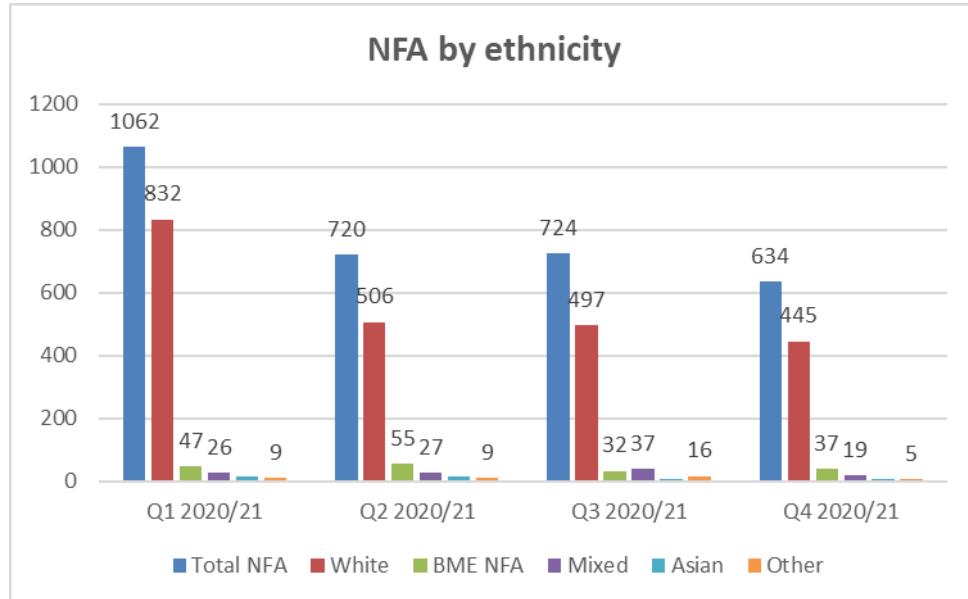


Figure 4: Total NFA by ethnicity

2.1.3. The above three charts (figures 2, 3 & 4) show the stop and search trend data for the last 12 months, split by ethnicity (with data from both recording systems). Please note that in some cases the number of ethnicities recorded does not match the total number of searches, arrest outcomes and no further action outcomes because on occasions the ethnicity is not stated within the data.

2.1.4. Figure 5 below displays the trend in usage of stop and search in Suffolk since the beginning of this reporting period, which shows a general downward trend with peaks in May and November 2020. Despite this trend, there has been a slight increase in volume over the last twelve months compared to previous periods. In the year that BUSS was introduced there was an average of 400 stop and searches per month; this has now decreased slightly to an average of 387 per month in the last six months. During the last six months the number of stop and searches has fluctuated reaching a peak of 478 in November 2020.

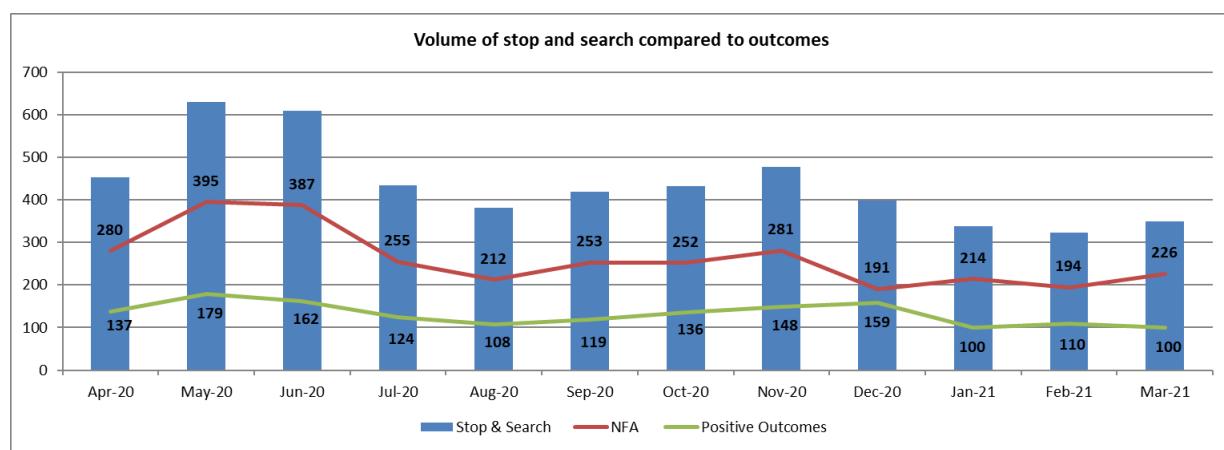


Figure 5: Volume of Stop and Search compared to outcomes April 2020 – March 2021

2.1.5. Between April 2020 and March 2021, the average rate of searches resulting in no further action (NFA) was 60%. In terms of quarterly statistics, there has been an almost continual decrease in NFA rate since the introduction of BUSS compared to moderate fluctuations prior to April 2014

(ranging between 63% and 71%). However, the NFA rate has remained the same since the last reporting quarter.

2.2. Object of search

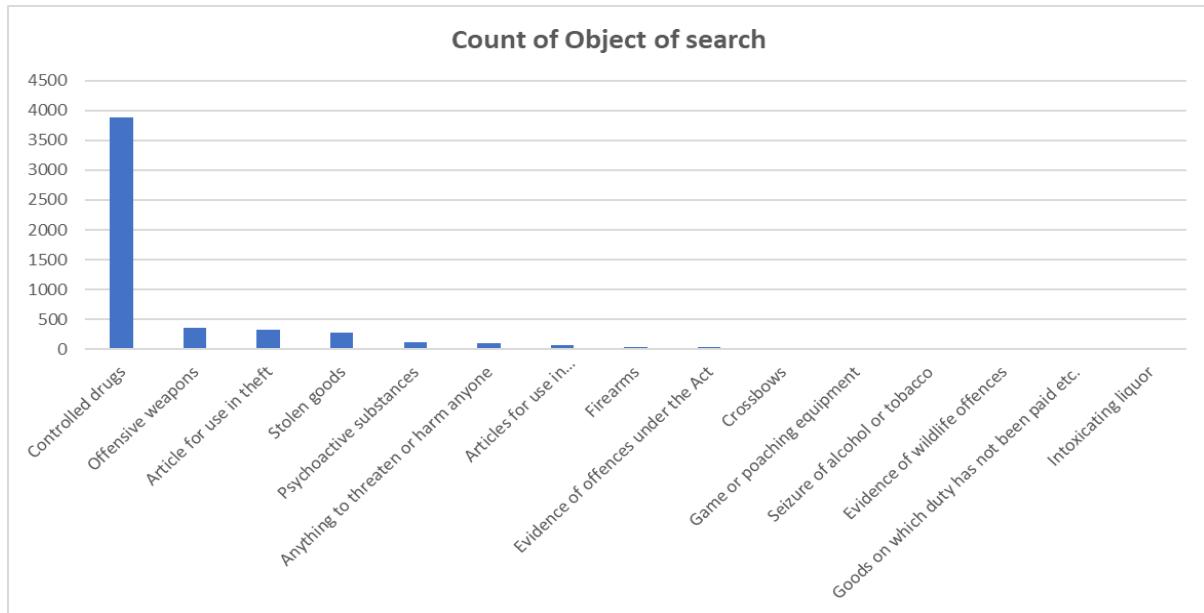


Figure 6: Count of Object of Search

2.2.1. Figure 6 displays the object of searches undertaken in Suffolk during this reporting period. In the majority of stop searches (74%) controlled drugs has been recorded as the object of search. The highest volumes of these searches have taken place in two of the main centres of population in Suffolk – Ipswich and West Suffolk districts which is where police intelligence indicates that there is a higher prevalence of drug dealing and usage activity. Drugs related stop and searches accounted for 72% of the total number of stop searches in Ipswich, with a similar rate (73%) in West Suffolk.

2.2.2 During the reporting period, 3,877 stop and searches (74%) were conducted where the object searched for was drugs. Analysis of these drugs searches shows that 1,872 (48%) were carried out against persons aged under 25 years old². In terms of ethnicity, 468 (12%) of these searches were on those of black or minority ethnicities, 2,844 (73%) on those of white ethnicity and 541 (15%) on people for whom the ethnicity is not known/not stated.

2.3. Use of strip search

2.3.1 Between April 2020 and March 2021, there were 463 strip searches, accounting for 9% of all stop and searches which is the same figure reported in the previous report (published in January 2021). Figure 7 displays the reasons for those strip searches, with 443 (96%) being drug related. Drug dealers are known to use various tactics to conceal drugs about their person, including concealing them in body cavities, hence the high prevalence of the use of strip searches in relation to drugs.

² Public bodies, including public health, the NHS, local authorities and care providers, now widely recognise a young person as being anyone up to the age of 25 as opposed to age 18.

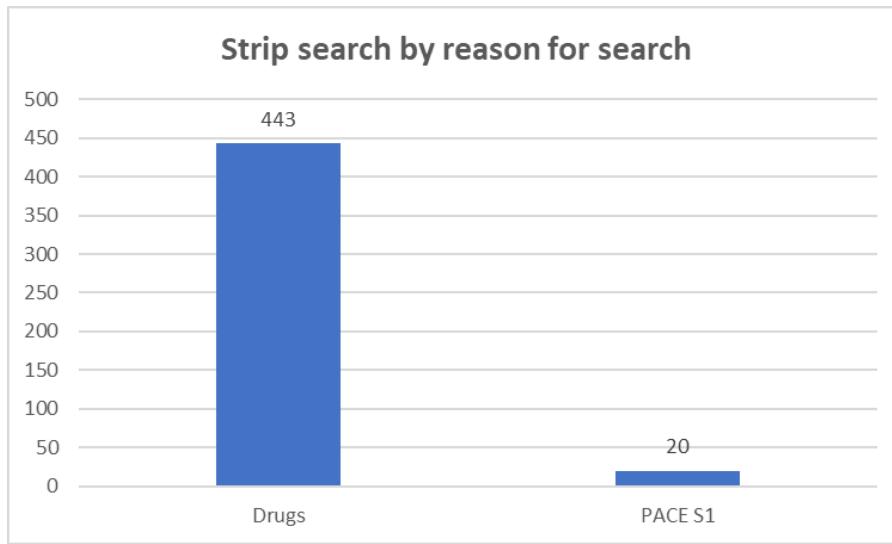


Figure 7: Suffolk strip search by reason for search

2.3.2 Strip search volumes reflect both non-Optik and Optik records. During the reporting period, 101 strip searches (22%) were undertaken on people of a black or minority ethnicity, which compares to 12% of stop searches undertaken on individuals of the same background. 316 strip searches (68%) were undertaken on persons of white (British) ethnicity, with the remainder undertaken on persons who have declined to define their ethnicity, or do not understand what is required. The item(s) being searched for was/were found in 183 strip searches (31%), whilst additional items not being searched for were found in 67 strip searches (15%). Note that find rates are based on non-Optik data only. The rate of items searched for that are subsequently found has increased by 3p.p. since the last reporting period, and items that were not searched for but were subsequently found have remained at a consistent rate.

Table 1: Strip search by reason and ethnicity

Strip search type	Total count	Total %	White count	% White total	Black count	% Black total	Mixed count	% Mixed total	Asian count	% Asian total	Other count	% Other total	Not stated count	% Not stated total
Drugs	443	96%	298	94%	67	99%	23	96%	7	100%	2	100%	46	100%
PACE S1	20	4%	18	6%	1	1%	1	4%		0%		0%		0%
Grand total	463	100%	316	100%	68	100%	24	100%	7	100%	2	100%	46	100%

2.3.3. The above table shows stop search by reason and ethnicity. The first two columns show the count and percentage of stop searches according to the reason for search. The subsequent columns assess the count/percentage according to ethnicity for each of the reasons for stop search, and this part of the table should be read crossways. The majority of strip searches are conducted for drugs-related reasons for every ethnicity group.

2.3.4. During the reporting period, the age category for which there were the most strip searches was 25 years and over, accounting for 56% of all strip searches irrespective of ethnicity. For those of white ethnicity it was also 25 years and over (61% of all white individuals undergoing strip search) and for those of black or minority ethnicity it was the 18-24 years age category (49% of all individuals undergoing strip search).

Table 2: Age breakdown and ethnicity of people who were the subject of a strip search

Age category	Count	Total %	White count	% ethnicity	Black count	% ethnicity	Mixed count	% ethnicity	Asian count	% ethnicity	Mixed count	% ethnicity	Asian count	% ethnicity	Mixed count	% ethnicity	Asian count	% Age category	Other count	% ethnicity	Not stated count	% ethnicity
10 to 14	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	1	2%
15 to 17	55	12%	30	9%	17	18%	3	13%	0	0%	3	13%	0	0%	3	13%	0	0%	1	50%	9	20%
18 to 24	140	30%	86	27%	29	43%	13	54%	3	43%	13	54%	3	43%	13	54%	3	43%	1	50%	8	17%
25 and over	260	56%	196	62%	26	38%	8	33%	3	43%	8	33%	3	43%	8	33%	3	43%	0	0%	27	59%
Not stated	6	1%	4	1%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%
Grand total	463	100%	316	100%	68	100%	24	100%	7	100%	24	100%	7	100%	24	100%	7	100%	2	100%	46	100%

2.4. Stop and Search Outcomes

Table 3: Outcome breakdown and ethnicity of people who were the subject of a strip search

Outcome	Total count	% of Total	White count	% of White	Black count	% of Black	Mixed count	% of Mixed	Asian count	% of Asian	Other count	% of Other	Not stated count	% of Not stated
Nothing found – No further action	3140	60%	2280	60%	171	58%	109	59%	45	59%	39	70%	496	61%
Suspect arrested	733	14%	516	14%	56	19%	34	18%	12	16%	1	2%	114	14%
No Category	522	10%	357	9%	27	9%	11	6%	5	7%	6	11%	116	14%
Offender given drugs possession warning	315	6%	246	6%	17	6%	17	9%	8	11%	2	4%	25	3%
Article found - Detailed outcome unavailable	257	5%	209	5%	9	3%	5	2%	1	1%	4	7%	29	4%
Local resolution	104	2%	82	2%	4	1%	4	2%	1	1%	0	0%	13	2%
Suspect summonsed to court	66	1%	47	1%	3	1%	3	2%	3	4%	2	4%	8	1%
Offender cautioned	49	1%	37	1%	1	0%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	9	1%
Offender given penalty notice	41	1%	31	1%	4	1%	1	1%	0	0%	1	2%	4	0%
Suspected psychoactive substances seized – No further action	17	0%	12	0%	1	0%	1	1%	0	0%	1	2%	2	0%
Grand total	5244	100%	3817	100%	293	100%	186	100%	76	100%	56	100%	816	100%

2.4.1 The percentage of stop searches resulting in “Article found” has stayed the same since the last reporting period, at 5%. When assessing outcome types for subjects of white ethnicity and of black or minority ethnicities (excluding not stated), the most common outcome for stop and search in Suffolk is ‘No Further Action’ (NFA), accounting for 60% of all outcomes³. Overall, this is a 1p.p. decrease when compared to the last reporting period (01/10/2019 to 20/09/2020) however NFA rates have remained fluctuated across different ethnicities. NFA rate has remained the same for those of a black ethnicity, whilst increasing slightly for those of mixed ethnicity (by 4p.p) and for Asian and ‘other’ ethnicities (by 1p.p and 8p.p respectively). It is worth noting that ‘Other’ represents small numbers. The NFA rate for those of white ethnicity decreased by 1%.

2.4.2 A further 10% of searches did not have an outcome recorded, as displayed in Table 3. This has increased by 1p.p. when compared to the last reporting period (01/10/2019 to 30/09/2020).

2.4.3 The proportion of stop and search where NFA is the recorded outcome varies from district to district, ranging from 56% in Babergh, to 64% in Mid Suffolk.

2.5 Proportionality in the Use of Stop and Search

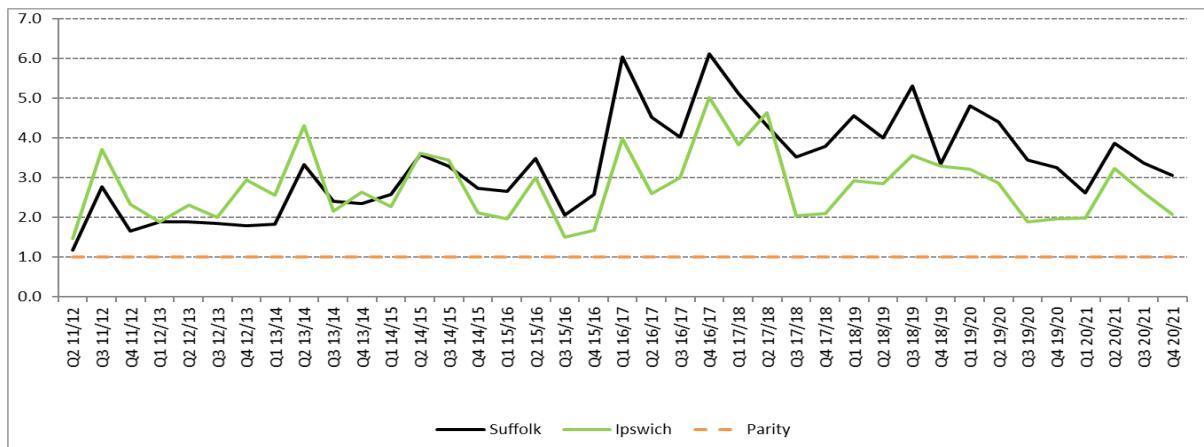


Figure 8: Proportionality in the use of Stop and Search in Suffolk

2.5.1 Figure 8 displays the proportionality of the use of stop and search across ethnicities in Suffolk as a whole and for Ipswich separately (where the use of stop and search is most prevalent). As a guide, if the proportionality figure is equal to one, it equates to parity – or that a person of black or minority ethnicity has an equal likelihood of being subject to a stop and search as a person of white ethnicity. Where the figure is greater than one, this indicates that the

³ Where ethnicity is known ('not stated' ethnicities are removed from this figure). If 'not known' ethnicities are included, the average proportion of NFA outcomes drops to 60% for the county.

likelihood increases and becomes disproportionate for a person of black or minority ethnicity.⁴.

2.5.2 In the last quarter, subjects who were of black or minority ethnicities were 3.1 times more likely to be stopped and searched than subjects of white ethnicity when assessing the county as a whole.

Table 4: Suffolk Stop and Search by district, broken down by White/BME ethnicity

	Suffolk				Babergh				Ipswich				Mid Suffolk				West Suffolk				East Suffolk				
	Total	White	BME	% BME	Total	White	BME	% BME	Total	White	BME	% BME	Total	White	BME	% BME	Total	White	BME	% BME	Total	White	BME	% BME	
Q1 2015/16	776	667	89	11.5%	83	70	12	14.5%	190	148	36	18.9%	81	70	9	11.1%	255	219	28	11.0%	167	158	4	2.4%	
Q2 2015/16	885	724	127	14.4%	85	75	8	9.4%	219	153	57	26.0%	66	55	5	7.6%	246	212	30	12.2%	269	229	27	10.0%	
Q3 2015/16	744	653	68	9.1%	82	71	11	13.4%	145	117	22	15.2%	63	33	30	5	6.1%	234	207	23	9.8%	250	228	15	6.0%
Q4 2015/16	715	603	79	11.0%	43	36	4	9.3%	151	120	25	16.6%	47	42	3	6.4%	202	166	32	15.8%	272	241	15	5.5%	
Q1 2016/17	524	391	119	22.7%	46	40	6	13.0%	173	107	61	35.3%	38	28	8	21.1%	153	117	32	20.9%	114	99	12	10.5%	
Q2 2016/17	428	338	77	18.0%	32	29	3	9.4%	110	72	29	26.4%	24	22	2	8.3%	130	101	27	20.8%	132	114	16	12.1%	
Q3 2016/17	408	320	65	15.5%	48	37	10	20.8%	98	67	25	25.5%	44	33	6	13.6%	131	111	13	9.9%	87	72	11	12.6%	
Q4 2016/17	455	327	101	22.2%	37	28	7	18.9%	151	88	55	36.4%	44	43	1	2.3%	110	81	24	21.8%	113	87	14	12.4%	
Q1 2017/18	443	333	86	19.4%	33	27	4	12.1%	135	86	41	30.4%	39	33	4	10.3%	164	124	31	18.9%	72	63	6	8.3%	
Q2 2017/18	438	335	73	16.7%	38	34	4	10.5%	107	59	34	31.8%	63	57	3	4.8%	133	99	28	21.1%	97	86	4	4.1%	
Q3 2017/18	383	310	55	14.4%	27	22	4	14.8%	99	75	19	19.2%	39	30	6	15.4%	119	93	20	16.8%	99	90	6	6.1%	
Q4 2017/18	358	277	53	14.8%	19	16	1	5.3%	119	84	22	18.5%	36	34	2	5.6%	110	79	20	18.2%	74	64	8	10.8%	
Q1 2018/19	524	391	90	17.1%	57	44	5	8.8%	159	107	39	24.5%	58	49	5	8.6%	151	118	20	13.2%	101	73	21	20.8%	
Q2 2018/19	467	356	72	15.4%	33	28	3	9.1%	183	116	41	22.4%	37	28	6	16.2%	146	121	19	13.0%	68	63	3	4.4%	
Q3 2018/19	491	344	92	18.7%	26	15	6	23.1%	213	131	58	27.2%	36	22	3	8.3%	131	104	16	12.2%	85	72	9	10.6%	
Q4 2018/19	508	373	63	12.4%	45	39	2	4.4%	194	115	47	24.2%	22	17	1	4.5%	133	110	8	6.0%	114	92	5	4.4%	
Q1 2019/20	694	469	114	16.4%	50	39	5	10.0%	316	178	71	22.5%	30	22	6	20.0%	163	120	21	12.9%	135	110	11	8.1%	
Q2 2019/20	762	512	114	15.0%	35	30	2	5.7%	379	216	77	20.3%	23	18	1	4.3%	189	146	16	8.5%	136	102	18	13.2%	
Q3 2019/20	1109	786	137	12.4%	68	53	6	8.8%	611	391	92	15.1%	39	30	3	7.7%	239	191	28	11.7%	152	121	8	5.3%	
Q4 2019/20	1106	774	127	11.5%	81	69	3	3.7%	497	319	78	15.7%	55	34	4	7.3%	286	194	33	11.5%	187	158	9	4.8%	
Q1 2020/21	1691	1307	173	10.2%	149	128	14	9.4%	497	323	80	16.1%	172	145	7	4.1%	491	391	47	9.6%	382	320	25	6.5%	
Q2 2020/21	1233	874	172	13.9%	120	106	9	7.5%	542	313	127	23.4%	51	39	0	0.0%	286	227	25	8.7%	234	189	11	4.7%	
Q3 2020/21	1303	919	154	11.8%	119	99	7	5.5%	522	315	102	19.5%	75	56	6	8.0%	330	256	27	8.2%	258	193	12	4.7%	
Q4 2020/21	972	710	107	11.0%	66	51	6	9.1%	371	233	65	17.5%	35	28	1	2.9%	331	264	20	6.0%	175	134	15	8.6%	

2.5.3 As a county, there has been a general increase in the total number of stop searches conducted per quarter since Q2 of 2018/19, which is reflective of the Constabulary's approach to proactive policing in a sustained effort to identify and prevent potential crime and disorder. This peaked in Q1 2020/21 due to the proactive policing during the first lockdown before dropping in the following three quarters.

2.5.4 Table 4 provides some context to the county-wide picture, by displaying volumes of stop and searches over time in Suffolk at district level, broken down by stop searches conducted on people of white ethnicity and people of black or minority ethnicity. The last 12 months of district data (quarter by quarter comparisons) shows that from a county perspective, the overall number of stop and searches on people of white ethnicity has increased every quarter until the latest quarter where there has been a decrease in volume of overall stop searches. Although the number of stop and searches on people of black or minority ethnicities was higher in Q1 2020/21, the proportion this represents of overall stop searches was the lowest it has been since Q3 of 2015/16. For this reporting period (Q1 to Q4 2020/21), stop searches on people of black or minority ethnicity accounted for 11.6% of all stop and searches (11.7% in the previous period). In terms of individual districts, there has been a general trend of increasing numbers of people who are the subject of stop and search tactics when comparing this reporting period with the last reporting period, but all with lower volumes in Q4 2020/21 with the exception of West Suffolk

2.5.5 Table 5 (page 9) highlights the proportion of all stop searches that are against people of black or minority ethnicities, and how disproportionate this was in each quarter. The overall disproportionality value for Suffolk has increased over the last 12 months from 3.5 in Q3 2019/20 to 3.9 in Q2 2020/21, however in Q1 of 2020/21 it was the lowest it has been in recent years.

⁴ Based on the ethnic breakdown for Suffolk / Ipswich given in the latest census (2011) - ONS

Table 5: Proportionality of Suffolk Stop and Search by district

Quarter	Suffolk		Babergh		West Suffolk		Ipswich		Mid Suffolk		East Suffolk	
	% BME	Prop.	% BME	Prop.	% BME	Prop.	% BME	Prop.	% BME	Prop.	% BME	Prop.
Q1 2017/18	19.4%	5.1	12.1%	6.7	35.7%	6.7	30.4%	3.8	10.3%	5.6	0.0%	0.0
Q2 2017/18	16.7%	4.3	10.5%	5.3	18.9%	2.6	31.8%	4.6	4.8%	2.4	7.5%	2.4
Q3 2017/18	14.4%	3.5	14.8%	8.2	4.3%	0.6	19.2%	2.0	15.4%	9.2	5.0%	1.5
Q4 2017/18	14.8%	3.8	5.3%	2.8	21.4%	3.9	18.5%	2.1	5.6%	2.7	7.7%	2.3
Q1 2018/19	17.1%	4.6	8.8%	5.1	5.9%	0.7	24.5%	2.9	8.6%	4.7	23.0%	8.8
Q2 2018/19	15.4%	4.0	9.1%	4.9	18.5%	2.7	22.4%	2.8	16.2%	9.8	4.8%	1.4
Q3 2018/19	18.7%	5.3	23.1%	18.1	12.2%	2.7	27.2%	3.6	8.3%	6.3	10.6%	4.2
Q4 2018/19	12.4%	3.4	4.4%	2.3	6.0%	1.3	24.2%	3.3	4.5%	2.7	4.4%	1.8
Q1 2019/20	16.5%	4.8	10.0%	5.8	12.9%	3.1	22.5%	3.2	20.0%	12.5	8.4%	3.3
Q2 2019/20	15.4%	4.6	5.9%	3.1	8.5%	1.9	20.5%	2.9	4.3%	2.5	14.3%	6.4
Q3 2019/20	14.8%	3.5	10.2%	5.1	12.8%	2.6	19.0%	1.9	9.1%	4.6	6.2%	2.2
Q4 2019/20	14.1%	3.3	4.2%	2.0	14.5%	3.0	19.6%	2.0	10.5%	5.4	5.4%	1.9
Q1 2020/21	10.2%	2.6	9.4%	5.0	9.6%	2.1	16.1%	2.0	4.1%	2.2	6.5%	2.6
Q2 2020/21	13.9%	3.9	7.5%	3.5	8.7%	1.9	23.4%	3.4	0.0%	0.0	4.7%	1.7
Q3 2020/21	11.8%	3.3	5.9%	3.2	8.2%	1.8	19.5%	2.6	8.0%	4.9	4.7%	2.1
Q4 2020/21	11.0%	3.1	9.1%	5.3	6.0%	1.3	17.5%	2.2	2.9%	1.6	8.6%	3.7

2.5.6 A potential limitation of using census population data for disproportionality calculations is that not all persons that are subject of stop and search in Suffolk will be resident in the county. Between April 2020 and March 2021 there was a total of 5,244 stop and searches – 3,846 were on Suffolk residents, 594 on individuals who are resident outside Suffolk and 804 had no address recorded. Due to the higher rate of blanks in the subject address field on the new Optik system, this data has been separated from non-Optik data. Tables 6 and 7 show the disproportionality of stops and searches where the postal address of the subject is identified as within Suffolk

Table 6: Suffolk Non-Optik stop and search broken down by postal address

Address	Total	White	BME	Not stated	BME as % of total	Proportionality
Postal address in Suffolk	3723	2812	380	531	10.2%	2.7
Postal address outside of Suffolk	565	373	129	63	22.8%	6.9
Postal address not given	744	497	70	177	9.4%	2.8

Table 7: Suffolk Optik stop and search broken down by postal address

Address	Total	White	BME	Not stated	BME as % of total	Proportionality
Postal address in Suffolk	123	96	20	5	16.3%	4.1
Postal address outside of Suffolk	29	19	8	2	27.6%	8.3
Postal address not given	60	20	4	5	6.7%	4.0

2.5.7 Tables 6 and 7 demonstrate the effect that stop and searches, on persons who are resident outside Suffolk, has on overall figures. For the reasons stated in 2.5.6, it is argued this is a more balanced way of looking at proportionality of stop and searches in Suffolk, if using the demographic profile of Suffolk residents as a basis for judging proportionality. The use of stop and search remains disproportionate when looking at this sub-sample, but not as disproportionate.

Table 8: Non-Optik South Suffolk (Ipswich) stop and search broken down by postal address

Address	Total	White	BME	Not stated	BME as % of total	Proportionality
Postal address in Suffolk	1405	880	250	275	17.8%	2.3
Postal address outside of Suffolk	150	72	63	15	42.0%	7.0
Postal address not given	314	192	45	77	14.3%	1.9

Table 9: Optik South Suffolk (Ipswich) stop and search broken down by postal address

Address	Total	White	BME	Not stated	BME as % of total	Proportionality
Postal address in Suffolk	48	35	11	2	22.9%	2.7
Postal address outside of Suffolk	2		2		100.0%	6.9
Postal address not given	10	5	3	2	30.0%	2.8

2.5.8 As in Tables 6 and 7, the data in Tables 8 and 9 demonstrates the effect that stop and searches, on persons who are resident outside Suffolk, but showing data for South Suffolk only. In line

with county statistics, the use of stop and search remains disproportionate when analysing this sub-sample, but not as disproportionate.

2.6 Community Satisfaction/Quality of Service

Table 10: Responses to the question: Did you understand the reason for being searched?

Response	Total	Male	Female	Other	White	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other
No	825	697	111	16	487	43	19	10	9
Yes	4207	3587	610	8	3195	235	155	63	45

2.6.1 Community Satisfaction/Quality of Service currently cannot be extracted from Optik so Tables 10 and 11 relate to non-Optik records only. Table 10 shows responses to the question 'Did you understand the reason for being searched?'. As the table shows, the majority of respondents did understand the reason for the search (84%) with 16% of respondents indicating that they did not understand why they were searched.

Table 11: Responses to the question: Did you feel you were treated professionally, respectfully and with dignity?

Response	Total	Male	Female	Other	White	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other
No	947	802	128	16	550	55	26	11	9
Yes	4085	3482	593	8	3132	223	148	62	45

2.6.2 Table 11 shows responses to the question 'Did you feel you were treated professionally, respectfully and with dignity?' Responses are similar to the previous question, with 81% of respondents answering that they did and 19% saying they did not.

2.6.3 In terms of public satisfaction therefore, approximately eight out of ten stop search subjects were satisfied with the way in which they were treated by officers.

3. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY ISCRE ON THEIR WORK TO ADMINISTER THE STOP AND SEARCH REFERENCE GROUP (SSRG)

Reporting Period: January to May 2021

3.1. The aim of the Stop and Search Reference Group is to build trust and equity in the way Suffolk Police use Stop and Search powers. The group provides people from BAME communities and others with a safe space and a neutral platform to share their experiences whilst challenging unfairness in order to reduce disproportionality in the use of the policing tool.

3.2. During the pandemic, we have been having SSRG meetings online. Online meetings were held on 27 January, 31 March, and 26 May 2021. January's meeting was attended by a total of 19 people. March's meeting was also attended by 19 people. May's meeting had 21 attendees. Most attendees from each meeting were from across Suffolk. Additionally, some attended from Essex. Attendees included police representatives.

3.3. For the 27 January 2021 meeting, we received a total of 670 stop and search forms, and out of that we selected the following, to audit:

- W1 – 37
- BAME – 36
- White Other – 29

3.4. For the 31 March 2021 meeting, we received a total of 828 stop and search forms, and out of that we selected the following, to audit:

- W1 – 85
- BAME – 41
- White Other - 36

3.5. For the 26 May 2021 meeting, we received a total of 82 stop and search forms. The total number of searches was 570. However, we had agreed with Suffolk Police that, from this meeting onwards, the police would send us the forms already in the format of a Stop Search Data Sample. Out of the 570, the following were selected, to audit:

- W1 – 47
- BAME – 30
- White Other – 5

Main issues

3.6. Community members expressed concern in all three meetings about perceived over-reliance on the “smell of cannabis” in grounds. There was worry that this was being used to the detriment of better things that could have been included in the grounds. The community again enquired about the perceived prioritisation of limited resources on stop and searches conducted for possession of cannabis. Some officers suggested that this was one of the biggest issues in Suffolk and this was disputed by members of the community.

3.7. Concern was expressed about continued failure by some officers to clearly articulate the reasonable grounds for suspicion on the face of the forms. On multiple occasions, community members pointed out a “disparity” between what was said on the face of the forms and the supervisor’s comments. Often, it was said that the supervisor’s comments should have been included on the face of the form and that there was a difference between the grounds and the information that was actually available to the officer at the time. The police largely agreed with this.

3.8. Questions were raised about what happens after feedback is given at meetings and by ISCRE during the dip sampling process. Although officers consistently reported that feedback had been passed on to the individuals concerned and that there had been workshops arranged, there was concern that this did not appear to reduce the number of forms with problematic grounds. Officers often suggested that forms lacking in grounds were produced by new recruits and this led to further concern about training and how new recruits are seen as being allowed to go out and conduct stop searches unprepared. It was suggested that the police provide evidence to ISCRE about the training that has been undertaken.

3.9. There was also concern about some words used in grounds such as “suspicious” (with no elaboration), “foreign looking”, “anti police”, and “disrepair” (to describe a vehicle). There was also a form where the grounds appeared to focus predominantly on the age and ethnicity of the subject. Concerns were raised about how these additions to the grounds could be discriminatory.

3.10. One or two good forms were used as examples in each meeting. When they were described as good, they often encompassed elements included in the grounds such as intelligence being recent and reliable, the time difference between a description being given and someone being stopped and searched, thorough descriptions, what made the officer suspicious of the person on this occasion, and why they stopped a vehicle if one was involved.

- 3.11. It was reiterated on multiple occasions that being evasive to questioning was not necessarily suspicious in itself, especially evasiveness by those from BAME communities who may not trust the police. The same was said about merely being in an area that was “known” for criminality.

IOPC Report

- 3.12. The publishing of the IOPC report into the Lavender Hill incident was discussed at the meeting on 27 January 2021. There was feedback that the family of the subjects, as well as members of the community, were disappointed in the report’s conclusion and how long it took for the report to be published.
- 3.13. Concerns were raised about the bad impact that this incident had on the community’s image of the police, given the content of the video in particular. The negative impact of it on police officers was also raised.

Section 60

- 3.14. At the meeting on 31 March 2021, the use of Section 60 from the 19th-20th of March 2021 was discussed. It was confirmed that discussions had taken place between the police and ISCRE prior to this. The police were clear that they knew what they were looking for and this avoided the random stopping of innocent individuals. No stop searches were said to have been carried out under this.

Complaints

- 3.15. Concerns were raised about what method members of the community should go through to raise complaints because individuals appear to be receiving responses at different rates depending on what method they choose.
- 3.16. The police confirmed that there was a backlog of complaints, which was explained and discussed with ISCRE in a separate meeting.
- 3.17. Community members were encouraged to approach the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to follow up on complaints.
- 3.18. It was pointed out that members often approach Franstine Jones for assistance with complaints. Community members were reminded that body worn video from incidents is deleted after 28 days.

Dates for future 2021 SSRG meetings:

28 July 2021
29 September 2021
24 November 2021

4. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY

- 4.1 The following section outlines some of the operational context within which the stop and search tactic has been used in Suffolk this year.

4.2. East Suffolk

- 4.2.1. Proactivity within the CPC Eastern Area continues to be driven by the Scorpion (East) and the Sentinel (East) teams, working in partnership to support the local SNTs within the Lowestoft and Halesworth localities, addressing local crime and ASB priorities.

4.2.2 The establishment of the “Kestrel” team as a countywide resource but available for deployment within the East Area, saw increased policing visibility, particularly within the rural towns and villages. This provided increased intelligence gathering and proactive deployments in support of local priorities. Over the past 12 months, the Kestrel Team demonstrated the benefits of having a dedicated team available to undertake high profile, highly visible patrols in support of the local SNT. A significant tactic regularly used to good effect by Kestrel has been stop and search, with a number of notable positive results and outcomes. Having proven the concept, the success of the CPC Kestrel team has been influential in the decision to replicate the Team so that each of the CPC Command Areas will now have their own dedicated Kestrel Team, with the original team becoming “Kestrel – East”.

4.2.3 The local intelligence picture in relation to County Lines remains very positive across the East. Whilst the East has previously enjoyed a significant absence of County Lines businesses within the Lowestoft or Halesworth localities, two separate Lines have been identified as undertaking activity within the Lowestoft area. However, as on previous occasions, proactive policing interventions - in some instances working in partnership with the Metropolitan Police (Op ORHI) or colleagues from Norfolk Constabulary’s “Op MOONSHOT” team - have seen these “businesses” subject to significant disruption and enforcement.

4.2.4 As an Area, efforts are made to target “local” Class A drug suppliers, again with significant success in addressing the crime and ASB issues associated with their operation within the local communities.

4.2.5 Effective use of Intelligence led Stop and Search powers remains an integral part of the successful deployments across the eastern area, with examples of this including:

- October 2020: Vehicle stopped and driver spoken to by officers. During the course of the stop it became apparent the driver was providing false particulars. Officers then noted a large screwdriver in the floor of the passenger footwell and a search of the vehicle was conducted in accordance with Sec 1 PACE. A significant quantity of cash was uncovered and the male was arrested on suspicion of money laundering. A subsequent search of his address under Sec 18 PACE revealed involvement in smuggling counterfeit cigarettes, with £4,000 in cash and cigarettes to an approximate value of £20 being seized. The smuggling of cigarettes / counterfeit cigarettes forms a significant part of OGC operations and it is believed this particular find was linked to wider criminal operations.
- October 2020: Vehicle connected with Norwich area spotted in Lowestoft – four male occupants. Vehicle stopped and occupants searched. One person was arrested having been found in possession of a knife. Further evidence revealed connection to sale / supply of Class A drugs, so they were also arrested in connection with this.
- November 2020: Vehicle seen in suspicious circumstances, stopped by Police. Male driver and female passenger spoken to. As a result, officers conducted a search of the vehicle and found a quantity of Class B drugs. Male was arrested on suspicion PWITS (Class B) and was also found to be driving under the influence of drugs, driving without insurance and other than in accordance with a licence. The female was arrested on suspicion of PWITS (Class B), however subsequent enquiries revealed the female to be in a coercive and controlling relationship with the male, and at high risk from DA. Appropriate safeguarding measures were then put in place.
- December 2020: Vehicle activation on ANPR system with intelligence marker indicating involvement in sale/supply of drugs in the Beccles area. Vehicle stopped and driver spoken to. Grounds for search of the vehicle were satisfied – 10 wraps of Class A (heroin) and “dealer” mobile phone located within vehicle and seized. Driver made full admissions in subsequent interviews.

- January 2021: Joint deployment within the Bungay area under “Op SWAN”. A male was encountered on foot within the town and enquiries led officers to conduct a search in accordance with Sec 1 PACE. As a result, subject found to be in possession of a quantity of Class B drugs (approx. value £175) and a mobile phone which supported the view he was actively involved in sale/supply of controlled drugs. Subject was already on bail to Crown Court for similar offences.
- January 2021: There was a policing deployment within Eye, in relation to an address believed connected with drugs supply. Two males seen to make off from police near address. Both were detained and subjected to search and found in possession of Class A and B drugs. This led on to a subsequent search of the target address in which 2.5KG Class B (value £2,600) and 13g Cocaine (value £1400) was seized, together with £11,500 in cash.

4.3 West Suffolk

4.3.1 Stop and Search continues to be an essential tactic in supporting local commanders to achieve the force plan. The use of this tactic can be seen across local policing areas and is deployed within numerous commissioned operations and in response to trending threats. Over the last 12 months it has been effectively used to combat county lines, offensive weapons possession, knife crime, burglaries and theft.

4.3.2 Use of Stop and Search continues to be monitored at the West Daily Management Meeting, weekly and monthly performance meetings and through Operation Velocity (specifically targeting County Lines). The West uses bespoke products to allow commanders to monitor monthly outcome rates (the volume of positive stop / searches) and identify the impact of local operations. This facilitates strong oversight at a local level, allowing commanders to respond quickly to use of the tactic, whilst ensuring its legitimacy as a policing tool and remaining accountable to our communities.

4.3.3 Overall, the positive outcome rate provides a strong indication that stop search is mainly intelligence based, the West has an effective briefing system providing focus for local staff and there are good links between the western area intelligence unit.

4.3.4 Operational Examples:

- Op Nightowl has made good use of stop and search over the past six months, with the targeting of individuals involved in acquisitive crime during hours of darkness. Plain clothes patrols have increased in areas that were identified as at higher risk of burglary / theft from motor vehicle. This has resulted in a number of arrests and detection and recovery of stolen property.
- SNT had picked up on intelligence surrounding a male believed to be bringing drugs into Sudbury, connected to an operation. Officers developed the intelligence to identify that a vehicle he was using was making irregular visits into Suffolk from Essex. Officers used the known information about dealing locations to patrol. They found the vehicle, searched the male and located over £1000 in cash as well as phones. Arrests followed.
- Intelligence was developed by Sudbury SNT and this work assisted the Scorpion team in a deployment and with SNT resources assisting to provide intelligence and locations, Scorpion stop and searched two males in Acton Lane, Sudbury finding three wraps of class A, over £1000 in cash and two phones containing messages indicative of drug dealing. These two arrests have helped to support additional information linking the line to another address.

4.3. **South Suffolk**

4.3.1 Officers continue to use their powers of stop and search as an effective and legitimate tactic against priority crime within the South. The use of Stop and Search is monitored through both the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panels and the Stop and Search reference group. Feedback from these meetings are disseminated throughout the teams. The use of Stop and Search is reviewed within the South performance meeting. The Inspectors conduct their own audits and watch the relevant body worn video (BWV). This review process is to ensure that the use of Stop and Search is intelligence driven, focused in higher crime areas and are conducted to the highest standard.

4.3.2 Operation Shere was created to increase public confidence and satisfaction around Neighbourhood Crime that impacts on local communities. This includes robbery, burglary, theft of/from vehicles. The Shere team have been extremely successful and their Stop and Search outcomes are excellent, they currently have a successful search outcome rate of 30.8%. OP Shere. In real figures this is 231 positive outcomes from 750 searches in the last 6 month period. These include a range of offences from possession of drugs and possession with intent to supply to 17 arrests for possession of an offensive weapon.

4.3.4 In January 2021, a vehicle was stopped in Felixstowe Sea Front whereby the officer had grounds to search the vehicle and occupant. Recovered from the vehicle were Molotov cocktails, a cross bow, a significant amount of class B drugs and numerous knives, including combat knives. The subject was arrested and links were established with an Organised Criminal Group. He was charged and remanded into custody.

4.3.5 Officers in the South continue to use Stop, Engage, Explain and Search. This assists in ensuring that those who are subject to stop and search are fully aware of the reasons, it encourages the officers to think more widely, identifying that each stop and search is an opportunity to gain intelligence, to direct resources in an area and to fully understand the current tensions. This builds an overall picture within a locality.

4.3.6 Drugs remain an ongoing issue within Ipswich, however, there have been recent successes with County Lines investigations, closely working with Operation Orochi from the Metropolitan Police area. Children from Suffolk are sometimes used to work on County Lines (the runner is based in a more rural area and the line holder is situated in an Urban area). There are measures in place where a child is recognised as being at risk of exploitation. The case is discussed within a Multi-Agency forum, either through a Missing tactical meeting or the newly formed partnership Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) meetings and a referral will be made through to the National Referral Mechanism.

4.3.7 The Youth Engagement Team continue work with vulnerable children who have been identified at risk of exploitation. They are key in diverting the children and providing them reassurance and confidence in reporting and speaking to police and other authorities.

4.3.8 There is also a targeted approach to local drug supply. It is recognised that drugs increase acquisitive crime, violent crime and ASB in localities, by proactively tackling drug supply, the resultant crimes should reduce. The Safer Neighbourhood Teams have had some fantastic results utilising their local knowledge and relevant intelligence. This has resulted in significant drug and cash seizures.

4.3.9 In March 2021, the Ipswich Central Safer Neighbourhood Teams had significant results from Stop and Search. This included a positive intelligence led Stop and Search of an individual whereby a small amount of drugs was located, this was in an area well known for drug supply. The resultant search of the home address found a dealer from London with a significant quantity of class A drugs and cash. The owner of the premises was identified as being

cuckooed and police worked with the housing provider to ensure additional support was put in place. The second was a stop and search of a male who had a substantial amount of cash and class A drugs secreted in his underwear. The male was subsequently charged with the offence of possession with intent to supply drugs.

4.3.10 These are just typical examples of how officers use Stop and search to tackle key issues within the South area.

4.3.11 OP Sceptre, the national knife crime week, was conducted Suffolk wide in April 2021 and resulted in positive outcomes, not only in the South, but across the force. This included 69 engagement and education opportunities around knife crime, two arrests for knives from nine stop and searches, seven direct arrests for knife crime and significant amount of weapons (256) recovered from weapon bins.

4.5 Operation Velocity

4.5.1 Operation Velocity is an initiative focussing on all drugs use/supply in Suffolk. During the reporting period, 136 stop and searches have been flagged as being linked to these operations with West Suffolk reporting 67 and South (Ipswich) reporting 58, equating to 92% of the overall stop and searches attributed to Operation Velocity. In West Suffolk there were 51 stops of subjects from a White background and five on those from a BME background and in Ipswich there were 35 stops on subjects from a White background and 13 stops on those from a BME background.

4.5.2. The countywide statistics are shown in the table below:-

Table 12: Countywide comparisons for Operation Velocity.

District	Total	White	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other	Strip searches	NFA outcome	Suffolk resident	Non-Suffolk resident
Babergh	4 (3%)	4 (4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (2%)	4 (4%)	0 (0%)
West Suffolk	67 (49%)	51 (53%)	5 (28%)	1 (33%)	1 (25%)	1 (100%)	10 (53%)	48 (51%)	10 (50%)	
Ipswich	58 (43%)	35 (36%)	13 (72%)	2 (67%)	3 (75%)	0 (0%)	7 (37%)	35 (39%)	37 (39%)	10 (50%)
Mid Suffolk	3 (2%)	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (10%)	1 (1%)	2 (2%)	0 (0%)
East Suffolk	4 (3%)	4 (4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	0 (0%)
Total	136 (100%)	96 (100%)	18 (100%)	3 (100%)	4 (100%)	1 (100%)	19 (100%)	90 (100%)	95 (100%)	20 (100%)

4.5.3. In respect of postal addresses given by persons stopped in relation to Operation Velocity, 68% were Suffolk addresses, 15% were addresses outside Suffolk and the address had not been stated in 17% of cases.

4.5.4. The NFA rate for Operation Velocity is 65%.

4.5.5. According to the County Lines Disruptions Log, the following statistics have been recorded between April 2020 and March 2021:

Area	No disruptions	Quantity of drugs seized	Cash seized
East	1	Not specified	Not specified
South	158	Approx 400g of Heroin, 1017 wraps of Class A (not specified), 15 wraps of Cocaine, 210g Cannabis and 150 wraps of Unknown	Approx £6,740

West	51	Approx 109 wraps of Heroin, 1128 and 349 wraps of Class A (not specified), 170g Cannabis and 50g and 37 wraps of Unknown	Approx £8,449
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Table 13: Countywide Disruptions.

4.5.6. Please note that in the majority of disruptions, amount of cash seized was not provided (as in blank, not confirmation of no cash seized)

5. NATIONAL COMPARISON

5.1 The latest national stop search data was published to March 2020⁵ (National Stop Search data for year ending March 2021 is likely to be released in October this year). In the year ending March 2020 there were 558,973 stops and searches conducted by police in England and Wales including the British Transport Police under section 1 of PACE, an increase of 52.3% compared with the previous year. For the same period of time in Suffolk (April 2019 to March 2020) the number of stops increased from 1,891 to 3,426 (81.2%) in Suffolk.

5.2 The latest national data are for the financial year 2019/20. This data shows that Suffolk conducted up to five stops per 1,000 of population compared to three stops per 1,000 of population in the previous financial year. In England and Wales there were ten searches per 1,000 population in the year ending March 2020.

5.3 In the year ending 31st March 2020, those who considered themselves to be from BME groups (Black, Mixed Race, Asian and Minority Ethnic) were just over four times as likely to be stopped as those who considered themselves to be White. The difference between the two groups narrowed to twice as likely between the years ending March 2013 and 2015, rising to 3 times as likely in the year ending March 2016 and rising again to 4 times as likely in the year ending March 2018 and just over 4 times as likely in year ending March 2019. This is likely to be because, as mentioned above, the number of overall searches has increased but the stop searches per 1000 amongst the White group has remained relatively steady since year ending March 2017 and has increased among BME groups in year ending March 2020.

5.4 A similar pattern was seen for the Black Ethnic Group (a subset of BME covering Black, Black African, Black Caribbean and other Black backgrounds) which fell from 6 times as likely to just over 4 times as likely between the years ending March 2012 and 2015, before rising to 6.5 times as likely in the year ending March 2016. This rose again to over 8 times as likely in the year ending March 2017 and then 9.5 times as likely in the year ending March 2018. This remained stable in the year ending March 2019 and March 2020, with those who considered themselves to be Black just under 9.5 times as likely to be stopped as those who considered themselves to be White.

5.5 In Suffolk, for the year ending 30 September 2020, those who considered themselves to be from BME groups were 3.2 times as likely to be stopped as those who considered themselves to be White. These statistics show a decrease in disproportionality in Suffolk as at the end of the year ending March 2020 those who considered themselves to be from BME groups were around 4 times as likely to be stopped as those who considered themselves to be from a White background.

6. BEST USE OF STOP AND SEARCH (BUSS/HMIC INSPECTIONS/ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP FOR CHILDREN (APPGC) RECOMMENDATIONS

⁵ Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales Year Ending 31 March 2020

- 6.1.1 The Home Office has requested that all police forces in England and Wales provide returns in relation to progress against actions arising from Best Use of Stop and Search, HMIC PEEL Inspections and APPGC (in terms of use of stop and search on children and young people) in one standardised format.
- 6.1.2 Appendix A displays the latest statistics in respect of the Proportionality of Stop and Search Use in Suffolk in respect of BME and Age, for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 8.1 There are no other implications or risks associated with this report.

PROPORTIONALITY OF STOP & SEARCH USE IN SUFFOLK - BME

Date Range 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Unless stated all numbers exclude subjects with addresses outside Suffolk

Under 18 refers to those aged 10 to 17. A total of 3918 stop searches were recorded during the reporting period.

Suffolk BME population just under 5% (2011 census)

Of all those subject to stop & search, BME accounted for 415 (10.6%)

Disproportionality by ethnicity for Suffolk

	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
All addresses	1.22	7.10	2.79	4.94
Suffolk addresses	1.02	5.74	2.64	4.78

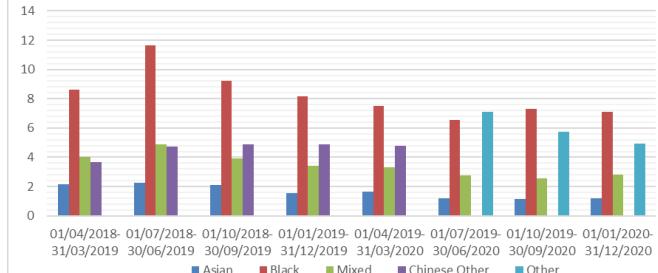
Since the last reporting period there have only been very slight changes in disproportionality by ethnicity.

See comparison to previous seven reporting periods below:

Disproportionality by ethnicity
Suffolk only



Disproportionality by ethnicity
All addresses



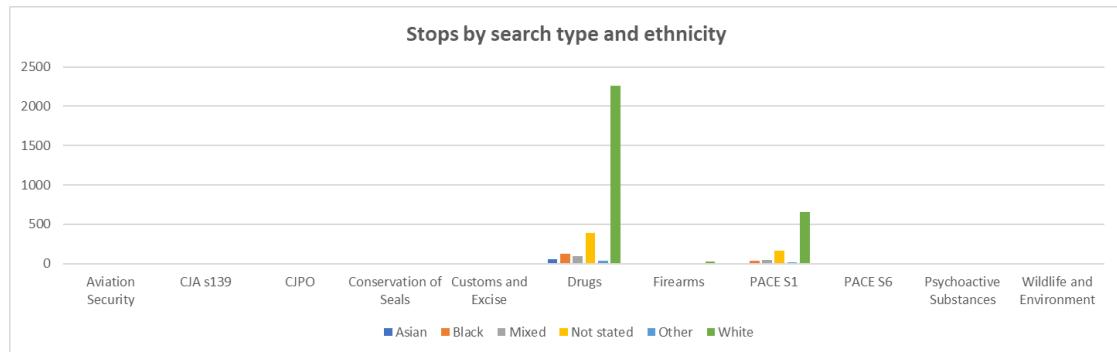
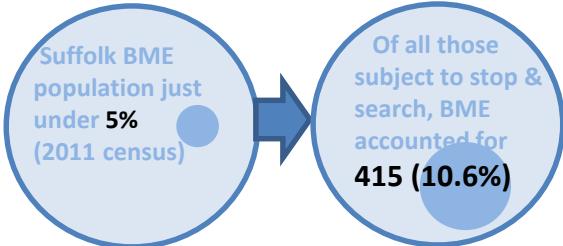
District	All addresses		Suffolk Addresses	
	White	BME	White	BME
All	3858	623	2945	415
East Suffolk	856	57	712	39
Mid Suffolk	274	17	227	9
Ipswich	1272	386	982	275
West Suffolk	1055	131	737	72
Babergh	401	32	287	20

The table to the left displays the counts of stop searches conducted on persons split by White/BME and District.

PROPORTIONALITY OF STOP & SEARCH USE IN SUFFOLK – BME

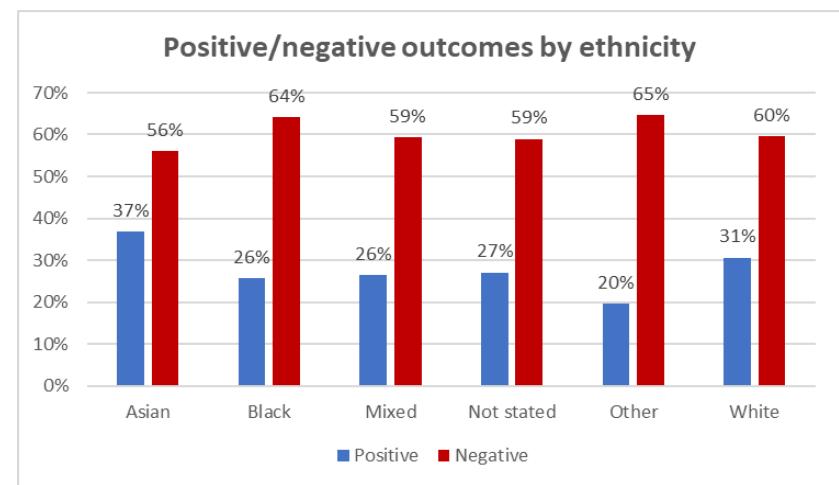
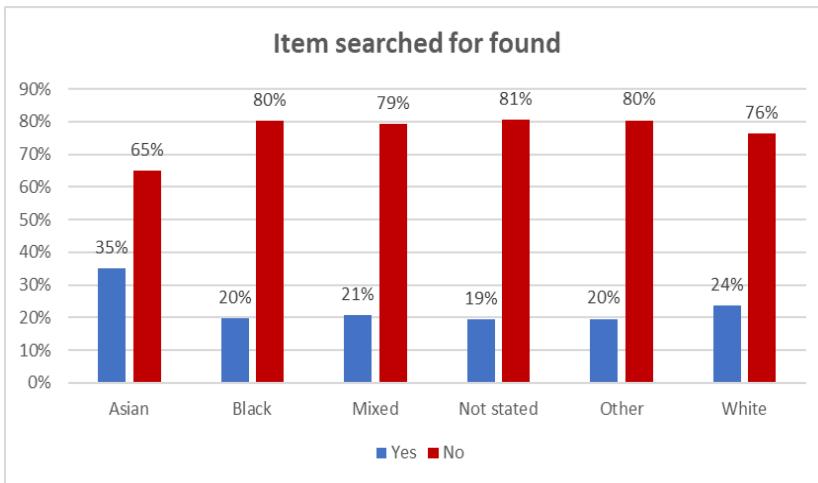
Date Range Date Range 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Continued...



The most prevalent reason for search is Drugs (S23 Misuse of Drugs Act). This has remained stable since previous reporting periods.

Find rates for items that have been searched for have increased overall by 2p.p for all searches (23%) and have been relatively stable with slight increases in find rates across all ethnicities.



The percentages in the graph above are the percentages of each ethnicity total rather than a percentage of all stops in Suffolk. Please note a small number of stops will show a high percentage. Negative relates to NFA and positive is all other outcomes excluding No Category.

The positive rate is higher and NFA rate is lower for those living outside of Suffolk than inside of Suffolk, across every ethnicity group.

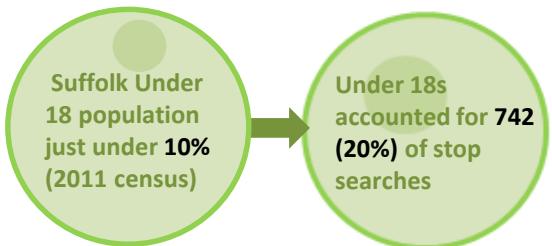
Overall positive outcome rate is 29.7%.

PROPORTIONALITY OF STOP & SEARCH USE IN SUFFOLK - AGE

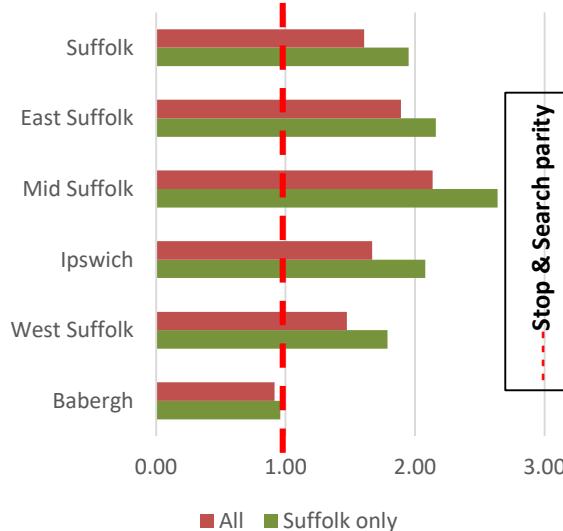
Date Range 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Unless stated all numbers exclude subjects with addresses outside Suffolk

Under 18 refers to those aged 10 to 17. A total of 3918 stop searches were recorded during the reporting period.



Disproportionality by District



- The Suffolk U18 community is just over **2.0** times more likely to be subject of stop/search than over 18s counterparts, decreasing to **1.6** times when including all subjects indicating that the majority of external subjects are aged over 18.
- Disproportionality has remained the same for all subjects and for Suffolk addresses only since the last reporting period.
- Highest disproportionality seen in Mid Suffolk for Suffolk only and all addresses.

Disproportionality by ethnicity for Suffolk for Under 18s

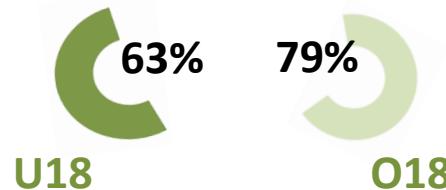
Under 18s	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
All addresses	0.69	9.72	1.64	5.72
Suffolk addresses	0.46	8.03	1.39	5.80

Amongst U18s, Asian and Mixed ethnicities experience lower disproportionality than when all ages are reviewed together.

For Suffolk only addresses, disproportionality for U18s has decreased for all ethnicities other than Mixed though for all addresses, there have been slight increases for all ethnicities apart from Other.

Items Searched for by reason for search

Drugs were the most common items searched for by reason for search for Over 18s and Under 18s.



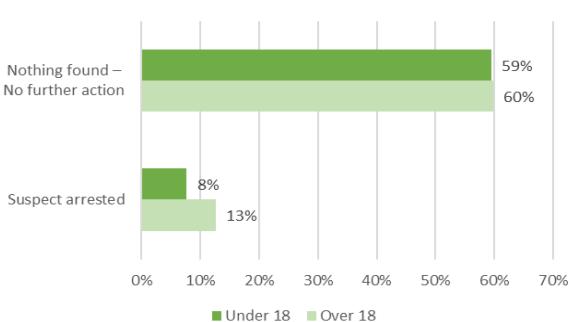
For all stop searches, objects searched for found

The percentage of objects searched for found has increased by 3p.p for U18s compared to last reporting period and increased by 1p.p. for the O18.

Under 18 disproportionality amongst BME.....

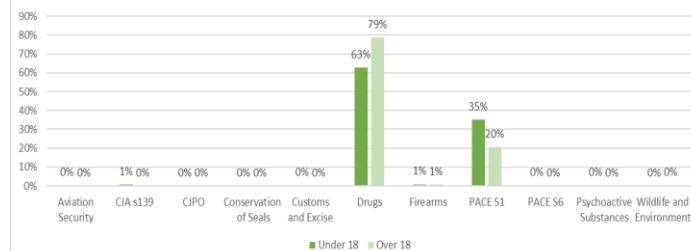
Looking at Suffolk's BME communities, under 18s are more likely to be subject of stop and search than over 18s at a rate of **1.2**. This is a 0.3p.p. decrease since the last reporting period.

Outcomes by age



- Following stop search under 18s are subject to NFA more often than over 18s
- Under 18s are subject to arrest less than over 18s

Stop by reason for search and age



Drugs and PACE S1 are the most common reason for stop searches and this has remained relatively stable since last reporting period. A slightly higher percentage of both Under 18s and Over 18s have stop searches related to drugs than in previous reporting period.