

ORIGINATOR: CHIEF CONSTABLE

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**SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL –
8 JULY 2022**

**SUBJECT: USE OF COERCIVE POWERS IN SUFFOLK –
1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022**

SUMMARY:

1. This report provides analysis of stop and search, use of force and taser usage for the twelve-month period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. During the reporting period there were 4214 stop searches, 4830 reported instances of use of force and within this 321 Conducted Energy Device (Taser) usages.
2. There was a decrease of 5.7% in overall volume of stop searches when compared to the previous reporting period (October 2020 to September 2021). The average rate of searches resulting in No Further Action (NFA) was 61.9%; the positive outcome rate was 35% and the arrest rate was 16.1%.
3. The highest rate of positive outcomes are within the Mixed ethnicity group, and positive outcome rates are very similar amongst White (35.7%), Black (34.9%) and Other (37.9%) ethnicities. Arrest rates are highest amongst the Other ethnicity group, closely followed by the Black ethnicity group.
4. 805 subjects of stop search were under 18, accounting for 19.1% of stop search in the current reporting period. 78.9% (635) of under 18s were within the 15-17 age group.
5. 84.9% of subjects of stop search in the current reporting period were male. 14.5% were female and 0.6% were Other.
6. 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. 2,862 stop searches (68.0%) had drugs as the reason for the search. Offensive weapons were the next highest reason for searches at 8.2% (345).
7. 349 stop searches (8.3%) were strip searches and of these, 339 (97%) were in relation to drugs. The second highest category is for searches under PACE S1.

8. 82 strip searches (23.5%) were undertaken on Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) individuals, 250 (71.6%) were undertaken on persons of white ethnicity, with the remainder (4.9%) undertaken on people who have declined to define or have misunderstood the reason for providing their ethnicity.
9. The item(s) being searched for were found in 138 strip searches (39.5%), whilst additional items not being searched for were found in 61 strip searches (17.5%).
10. The percentage of stop searches resulting in "Article found" has increased by 0.6p.p compared to the last reporting period, at 6.2%. The most common outcome for stop and search in Suffolk is 'No Further Action' (NFA), accounting for 61.9% of all outcomes.
11. The report provides analysis on the use of force where 4,830 reported instances were reported in the current reporting period. This is an increase of 23.1% compared to 3,925 in the 12 months ending March 2021.
12. Over the 12 month reporting period Conducted Energy Device (C.E.D) usage totalled 321, with an average of 27 usages a month. 81.8% of the subjects where a C.E.D was used were of white ethnicity, 7.4% were black and 2.4% were Asian. 88% of C.E.D usage occurred on a male subject; Female subjects made up 9%.
13. 8% of all usages resulted in the C.E.D being fired and therefore 92% of usages resulted in the device not being fired. 40% of usages resulted in the red dot being used on the target and 43% involved the device being drawn by the officer.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner is asked to consider the steps that the Constabulary is taking to ensure stop search legislation is used fairly and effectively.

1. INTRODUCTION - USE OF COERCIVE POWERS – 1 APRIL 2021 – 31 MARCH 2022

- 1.1. Coercive Powers is overarching terminology to monitor the use of some Police Powers including Stop & Search, Taser, Use of Force and Custody related processes.
- 1.2. It is monitored through Joint Norfolk & Suffolk Coercive Powers Board, which is a quarterly meeting looking at areas of disproportionality, and where necessary Police complaints. This allows for additional scrutiny and early identification of issues. It is also the overarching board to manage recommendations from the College Of Policing, HMIC and IOPC.
- 1.3. This report will predominantly focus on the use of stop and search and provide some detail around Use of Force and Taser. More detail will be available to include in future reporting.
- 1.4. Stop & Search
 - This 12-month period has seen a number of reports published including HMICFRS Disproportionality Report & IOPC Stop & Search Learning Report
 - Recommendations from these reports are captured and managed through the Coercive Powers Board.
 - A review of the Joint Stop & Search Policy for 2022 is complete with the amended version about to be distributed for consultation.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. This report (and future reports) is based on data collected from stop and search records since then and covers the period between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022 inclusive.
- 1.9. 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.
- 1.10. Use of Force

- Use Of Force is currently being reviewed as part of a bigger piece of work relating to Assaults, Force and Incidents (AFI) and looks to combine Use of Force, Health & Safety reporting and Operation Hampshire. As part of this work a new reporting form for Officers and Staff is being created which will enhance data collection and trend analysis leading to aid in identifying future training requirements.
- Operation Hampshire is an initiative managed by the National Wellbeing Service to recognise the impact of injuries and assaults on Police Officers and Staff duty and how forces should provide wrap around care.
- In Suffolk Op Hampshire will be extended to include verbal assaults and Hate Crime
- Work is currently underway to explore how External Scrutiny of Use of Force can be achieved similar to the current Stop & Search external scrutiny processes

1.11. Taser

- All incidents where Taser has been utilised are reviewed by the Lead Taser Instructor
- This includes where a Taser has been “Drawn”, “Aimed”, “Red-Dotted” and “Fired”
- A full review of Norfolk & Suffolk’s Taser capability will begin in June 2022

2. OVERALL TRENDS¹ - STOP AND SEARCH

2.1. Use of stop and search

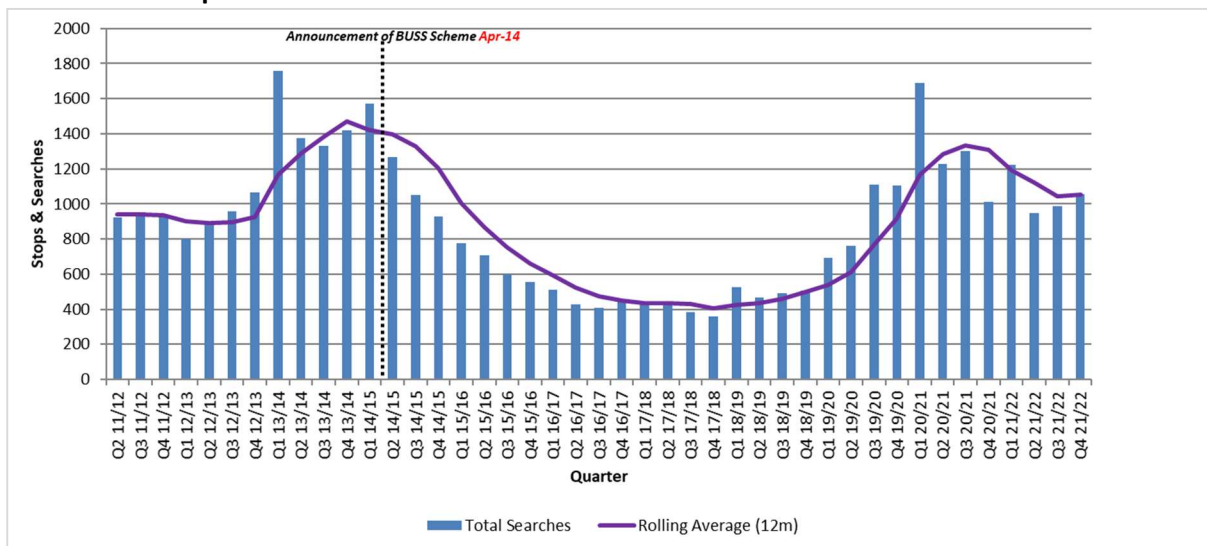


Figure 1: Long-term trends in use of stop and search in Suffolk

2.1.1. Figure 1 displays long term trends in stop and search over time, from Q2 2011/12 to Q4 2021/22. Volumes peaked in early 2020 and despite some quarterly fluctuation, there has been a general downward trend in volume since then. High volumes in 2020 could be attributed to the impact of proactive policing at the start of lockdown and the general decrease since mid-2020 is likely due to additional demands relating to the increase in CADs and crimes as social restrictions were gradually relaxed.

¹ Rolling average based on a 12-month period

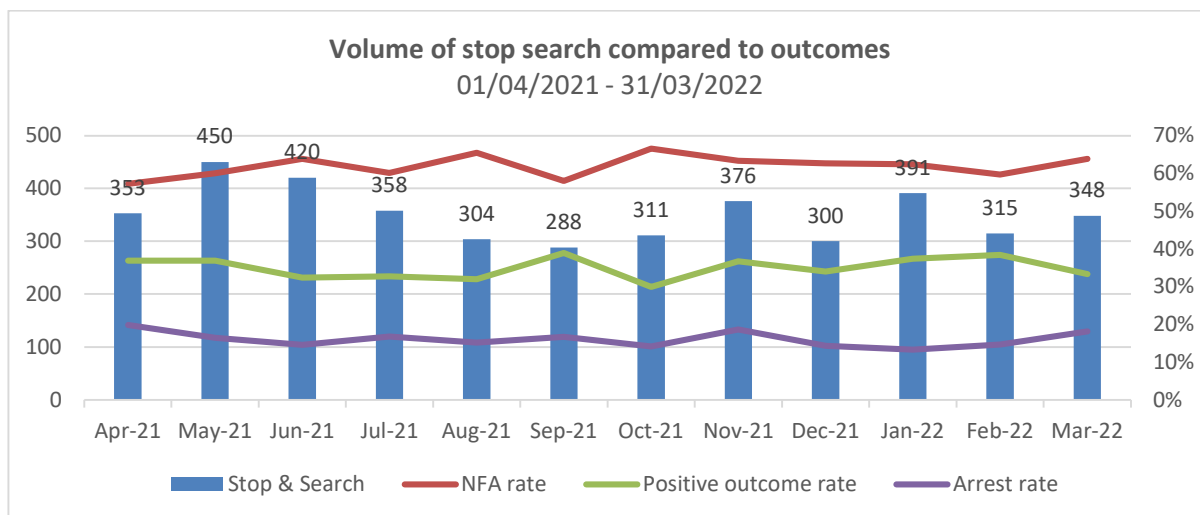


Figure 2: Volume of Stop and Search compared to outcomes April 2021 – March 2022

2.1.2. 4,214 stop searches took place in the current reporting period (01/04/2021-31/03/2022). Figure 2 above displays the trend in usage of stop and search in Suffolk since the beginning of this reporting period, alongside the No Further Action (NFA), positive outcome and arrest rates. This shows a fluctuating trend in volume, with peaks in May 2021 and January 2022. There was a decrease of 5.7% in overall volume over the last twelve months compared to previous reporting period (October 2020 – September 2021).

2.1.3. In the current reporting period, the average rate of searches resulting in NFA was 61.9%, the positive outcome rate was 35.0% and the arrest rate was 16.1%. The NFA rate in Suffolk has increased by 2p.p since the last reporting period. The positive outcome rate is the highest rate since financial year 2018/19 and there has been a slight increase in arrest rate 0.4p.p since the last reporting period.

2.1.4. The positive outcome rate for white subjects is 35.7% compared to 38.8% for Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME). For subjects where ethnicity was not stated/declined, the positive outcome rate was 27.3%. Within the positive outcomes, the arrest rate for white subjects was 15.5% compared to 22.3% for BAME. The NFA outcomes rate is higher for white subjects (61.7%) when compared to BAME (58.9%).

2.2. PROPORTIONALITY - ETHNICITY

Ethnicity	Population*
Asian	13,131
Black	6,854
Mixed	12,472
Other	2,511
White	693,195

Table 1: Suffolk population by district
* As per 2011 Census, ONS

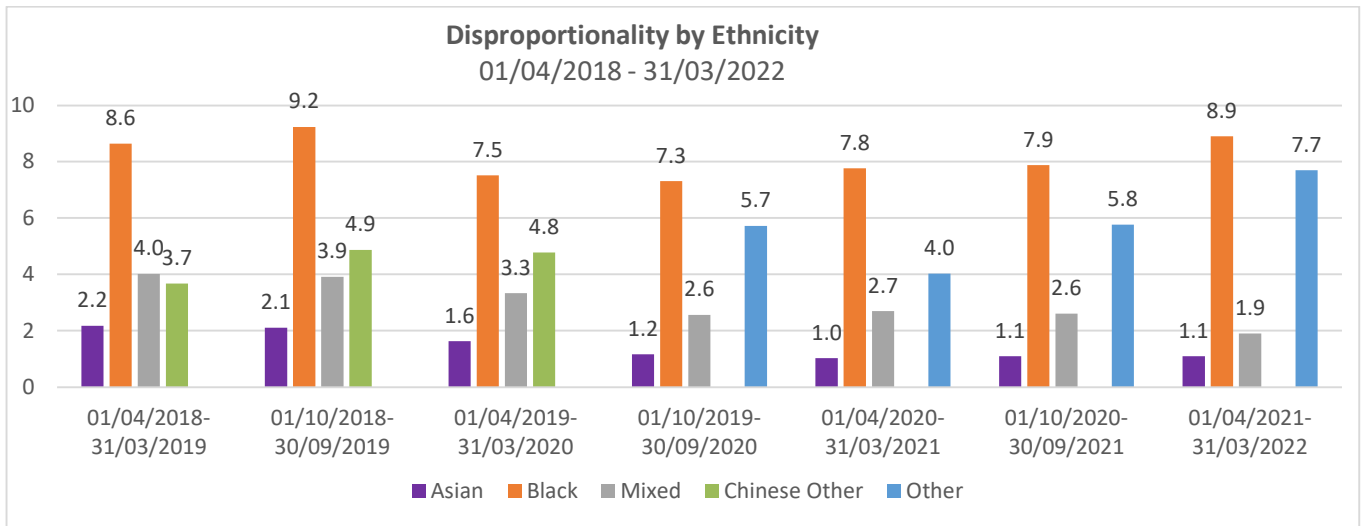


Figure 3: BAME disproportionality by reporting period, 01/04/2018 – 31/03/2022

2.2.1. Figure 3 displays the disproportionality by each ethnicity in the current reporting period, compared to the previous six reporting periods. This splits BAME grouping by specific ethnicity. 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 likelihood increases and becomes disproportionate for a person of black or minority ethnicity. In the current reporting period, BAME individuals are 3.4 times more likely to be subject to stop and search than their white counterparts.

2.2.2. There has been a general downward trend in BAME disproportionality since 2018 and a very slight increase to the previous reporting period (3.3). Since the last reporting period, there has been an increase in disproportionality amongst Black and Other ethnicities, levels of disproportionality remained stable amongst Asian ethnicities and decreased slightly for Mixed ethnicities.

2.2.3. The 2011 census has been used to establish the ethnicity breakdown of persons within Suffolk. There are limitations associated with using the 2011 census population data for disproportionality calculations as the demographic breakdown of Suffolk will have changed in this time. The impact of this is even greater on datasets with smaller numbers as even small changes in numbers can create noticeable fluctuation i.e. when the BAME is split into specific ethnicities. In addition to this, not all persons that are subject of stop and search in Suffolk will be resident in the county. In this reporting period, 12.3% (549) of persons subject to Stop and search were not Suffolk residents and 15.6% (697) did not have an address recorded. The rate of subjects residing outside of Suffolk is particularly prominent within the Black and Asian ethnic groups, with almost one quarter (24.4%) of Black subjects and 38.8% of Asian subjects with a home address outside of Suffolk, compared to only 10.4% in the White ethnic group. When subjects with addresses outside of the county are excluded, disproportionality decreases for every ethnicity, with the largest decrease in the Black ethnic group (reduces to 6.8).

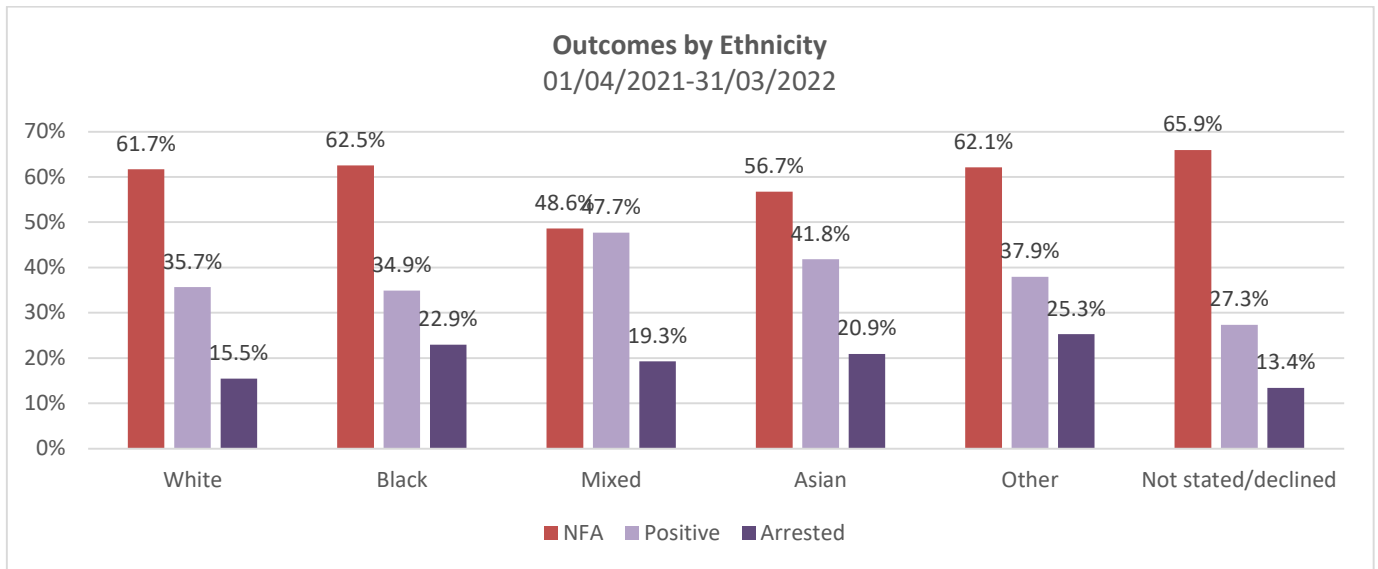


Figure 4: NFA, positive and arrest outcomes by ethnicity April 2021 – March 2022

2.2.4. Figure 4 shows the rate of NFA outcomes, positive outcomes and arrests in the current reporting period, split by ethnicity.

2.2.5. The highest rate of NFA outcomes are amongst persons who do not state/decline to provide ethnicity. The highest rate of positive outcomes are within the Mixed ethnicity group, and the lowest amongst persons who do not state/decline to provide ethnicity. Positive outcome rates are very similar amongst White (35.7%), Black (34.9%) and Other (37.9%) ethnicities. Arrest rates are highest amongst the Other ethnicity group, closely followed by the Black ethnicity group.

District	Population*	Stop search count
Suffolk	34,968	4,214
Babergh	1,895	279
West Suffolk	9,234	1,086
Ipswich	14,788	1,860
Mid Suffolk	2,064	217
East Suffolk	6,987	745

Table 2: Suffolk population by district * As per 2011 Census, ONS

2.2.6. Suffolk is split by local authorities and do not precisely align with policing commands. The majority of stop search occurs in Ipswich and West Suffolk, the districts with higher populations and staffing levels.

Quarter	Babergh				West Suffolk				Ipswich				Mid Suffolk				East Suffolk			
	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other
Q1 2021/22	14.6	4.7	0.0	0.0	3.0	1.5	1.7	3.7	7.9	1.2	0.4	2.5	11.6	9.0	6.7	0.0	8.8	1.5	0.5	4.0
Q2 2021/22	21.2	2.3	19.6	0.0	2.6	1.5	1.3	1.0	5.4	1.1	0.6	5.1	14.6	2.8	0.0	87.3	3.7	1.3	1.7	29.9
Q3 2021/22	8.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	3.4	2.4	0.5	3.1	5.6	1.3	0.5	8.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	0.0	3.1	1.0	1.0	12.5
Q4 2021/22	5.4	3.5	0.0	31.1	4.1	0.5	0.7	2.8	7.7	0.8	0.6	4.5	0.0	0.0	3.3	22.6	8.0	4.3	1.0	0.0

Table 3: Disproportionality by ethnicity and District, 01/04/2021-31/03/2022

2.2.7. Table 3 displays the rates of disproportionality by ethnicity, district and quarter. As previously referenced, levels of disproportionality are more likely to fluctuate when looking at small numbers. This is more prevalent in districts with smaller population numbers as shown in Table 2 (Babergh, Mid Suffolk, East Suffolk), particularly relating to ethnic groups with the smallest numbers, such as Other and Black ethnic groups. The highest rates of disproportionality

amongst Black ethnicity is seen in Babergh and Mid Suffolk, though these represent small numbers. The higher disproportionality rates in these districts are a result of targeted enforcement related to county lines.

2.2.8. The majority of stop searches undertaken on subjects within Black ethnic group occurred in Ipswich. There were higher levels of disproportionality in the Black ethnic group in Ipswich, specifically in Q1 and Q4. In Q4 there were a number of gang related violent offences involving weapon, resulting in a number of Section 60s in early 2022 and an operation was commissioned to monitor tensions between gangs.

2.3. Proportionality - Age

Age group	Count of stop search	Percentage of all stop search
10-14	170	4.0%
15-17	635	15.1%
18-24	1,234	29.3%
25 and over	2,009	47.7%
Not stated	166	3.9%

Table 4: Disproportionality by ethnicity, 01/04/2021-31/03/2022

2.3.1. Table 4 displays all stop searches by subject age group. 805 subjects of stop search were under 18, accounting for 19.1% of stop search in the current reporting period. 78.9% (635/805) of under 18s were within the 15-17 age group.

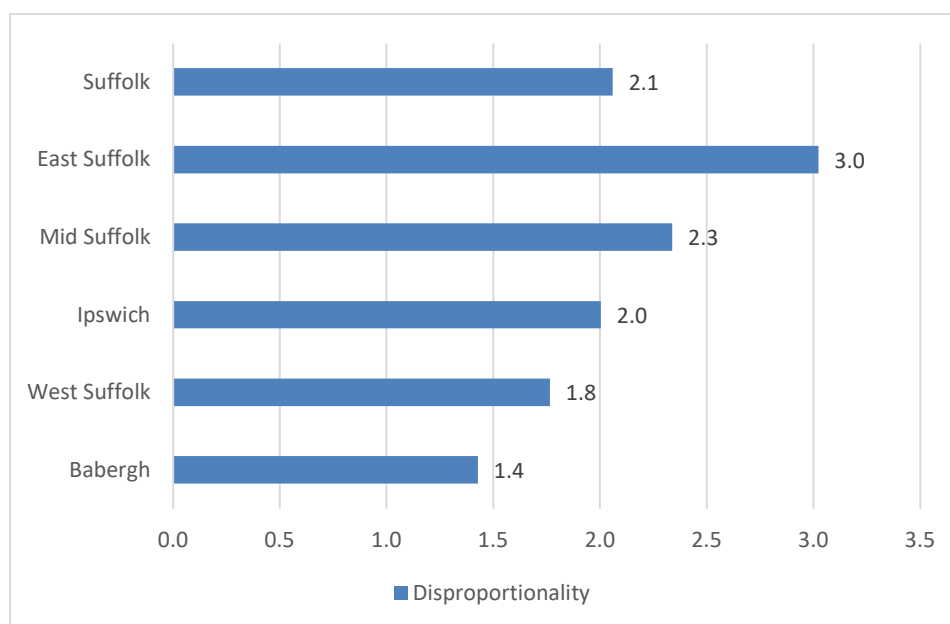


Figure 7: Disproportionality by district, 01/04/2021-31/03/2022

2.3.2. Figure 7 shows the rate of disproportionality of under 18s being subject of stop and search, compared to over 18s, by district. For Suffolk, under 18s are 2.1 times more likely to be subject to stop and search than their over 18 counterparts. For districts this ranges between 3.0 times more likely in East Suffolk and only 1.4 times more likely in Babergh.

Ethnicity	Population* (under 18s only)
Asian	1,547
Black	592
Mixed	2,471
Other	205
White	62,862

Table 5: Suffolk population by district
* As per 2011 Census, ONS

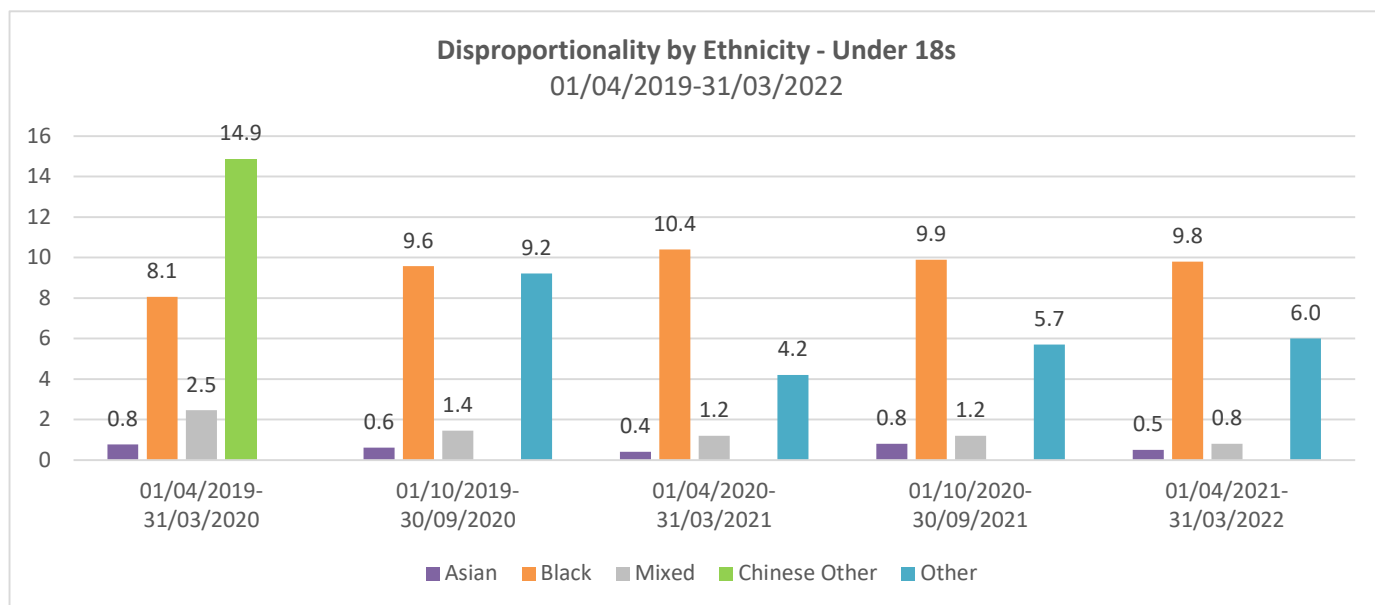


Figure 8: Disproportionality amongst under 18s by ethnicity

- 2.3.3 In the current reporting period, amongst under 18s, BAME individuals are 2.1 times as likely to be subject to stop and search than their white counterparts, showing that disproportionality between BAME and White decreases for under 18s compared to all age groups.
- 2.3.4 Figure 8 displays the disproportionality by each ethnicity amongst under 18s in the current reporting period, compared to the previous four reporting periods. This splits BAME ethnicity grouping by specific ethnicity.
- 2.3.5 As previously referenced, any shifts in demographics since the 2011 census would have more of a significant impact on smaller subsets of data. This is particularly pronounced when reviewing under 18s as this relates to ages 10-17 only and these are relatively small numbers, as shown in Table 5. The highest rate of disproportionality is seen amongst the Black ethnic group (9.8), followed by Other ethnic group (6.0). A smaller percentage of under 18s have a home address outside of Suffolk when compared to all ages reviewed together, though a much higher percentage of subjects within the Black ethnic group have addresses outside of Suffolk. For example, 24.6% (14/57) of under 18 subjects within the Black ethnic group had a home address outside of Suffolk. This compares to 14.3% in Asian, 8.3% in Other, 5.3% in Mixed and 5.2% in the White ethnic group.
- 2.3.6 When subjects with addresses outside of the county are excluded, disproportionality decreases for every ethnicity, with the largest decrease in the Black ethnic group (reduces to 7.8).

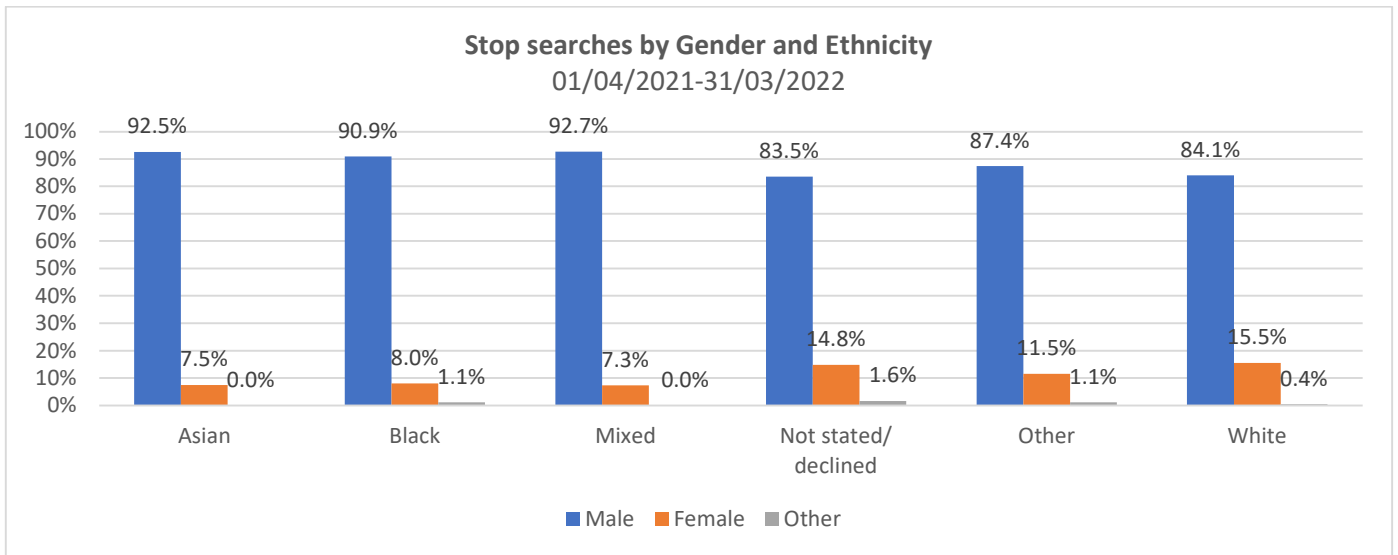


Figure 9: Stop searches by gender and ethnicity, 01/04/2021-31/03/2022

Age group	Male		Female		Other	
	Count	Percentage of all ages	Count	Percentage of all ages	Count	Percentage of all ages
10-14	141	3.9%	28	4.6%	1	3.8%
15-17	551	15.4%	83	13.6%	1	3.8%
18-24	1059	29.6%	169	27.6%	6	23.1%
25 and over	1673	46.8%	326	53.3%	10	38.5%
Not stated	152	4.3%	6	1.0%	8	30.8%

Table 6: Gender by age group, 01/04/2021-31/03/2022

2.3.7 84.9% of subjects of stop search in the current reporting period were male and this has remained stable since the last reporting period (85.6%). 14.5% were female and 0.6% were Other. Figure 9 displays the rates by ethnicity.

2.3.8 As shown in Table 6, the majority of under 18s were aged between 15-17 years, for all genders.

2.4 Object of search

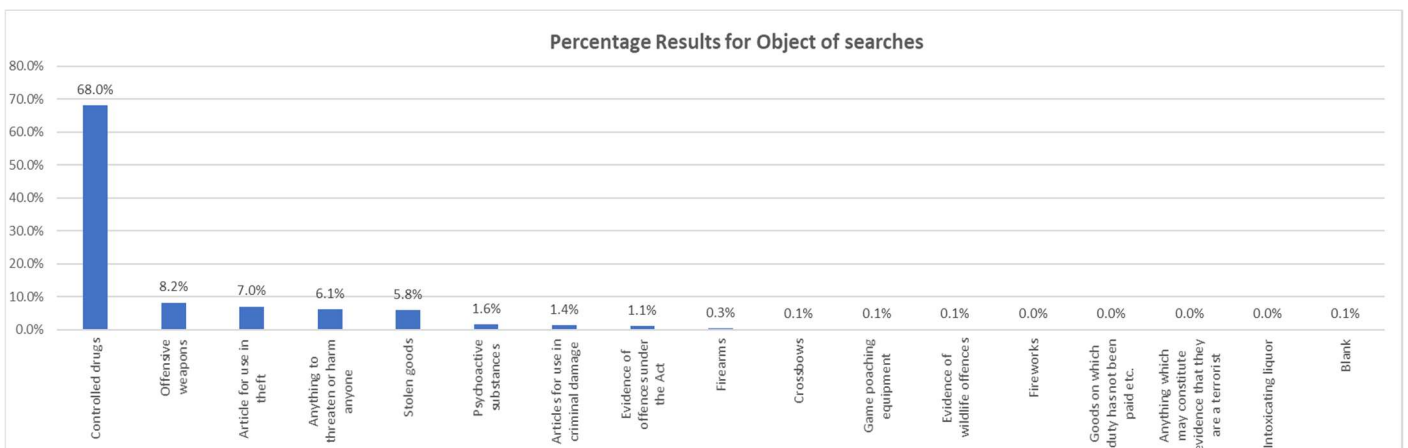


Figure 10: Percentage breakdown of Object of Search

2.4.1 Figure 10 displays the object of searches undertaken in Suffolk during this reporting period. In the majority of stop searches (2862, 68.0%) controlled drugs has been recorded as the object of search. The highest volumes of these searches have taken place in two of the lesser populated areas in Suffolk – West Suffolk and Babergh districts. This would suggest a more targeted approach to stop searches in these districts. Controlled Drug related stop and searches accounted for 75.5% of the total number of stop searches in West Suffolk, with a similar rate (74.6%) in Babergh.

District	White	BAME	Not stated/declined
Babergh	83.3%	10.3%	6.4%
East Suffolk	85.3%	6.4%	8.3%
Ipswich	63.7%	20.5%	15.9%
Mid Suffolk	72.5%	7.4%	20.1%
West Suffolk	82.2%	9.5%	8.3%
OOF	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	74.4%	13.6%	12.0%

Table 7: Object searches by district and ethnicity

2.4.2 In terms of ethnicity, 389 (13.6%) of these searches were on those of black or minority ethnicities, 2,130 (74.4%) on those of white ethnicity and 343 (12.0%) on people for whom the ethnicity is not known or not stated.

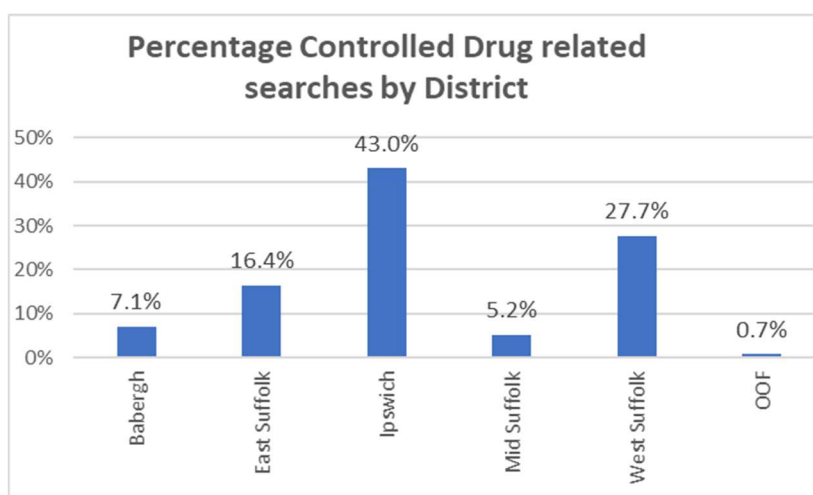


Figure 11: Percentage of controlled drug related searches by district

2.4.3 During the reporting period, 2,862 stop and searches (68.0%) were conducted where the object searched for was controlled drugs. Analysis of these drugs searches shows that 43% occurred in the Ipswich district.

District	Male	Female	Other
Babergh	86.2%	13.8%	0.0%
East Suffolk	86.5%	12.8%	0.6%
Ipswich	85.8%	14.1%	0.2%
Mid Suffolk	81.9%	18.1%	0.0%
West Suffolk	85.9%	13.1%	1.0%
OOF	90.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	85.8%	13.8%	0.5%

Table 8: Drug related searches by location and gender

2.4.4 Overall 85.8% of the searches involved a male subject.

District	10-14	15-17	18-24	25 and over	Not stated
Babergh	3.4%	10.3%	41.4%	42.9%	2.0%
East Suffolk	4.1%	13.2%	33.5%	43.4%	5.8%
Ipswich	0.6%	15.1%	29.4%	51.5%	3.3%
Mid Suffolk	0.0%	18.1%	43.6%	36.9%	1.3%
West Suffolk	2.7%	11.0%	31.2%	52.4%	2.8%
OOF	0.0%	10.0%	40.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	1.9%	13.5%	32.3%	49.1%	3.4%

Table 10: Drug related searches by location and age grouping

2.4.5 The 25 and over age grouping had the highest percentage share in each district except Mid Suffolk where the 18 to 24 age group had the largest share.

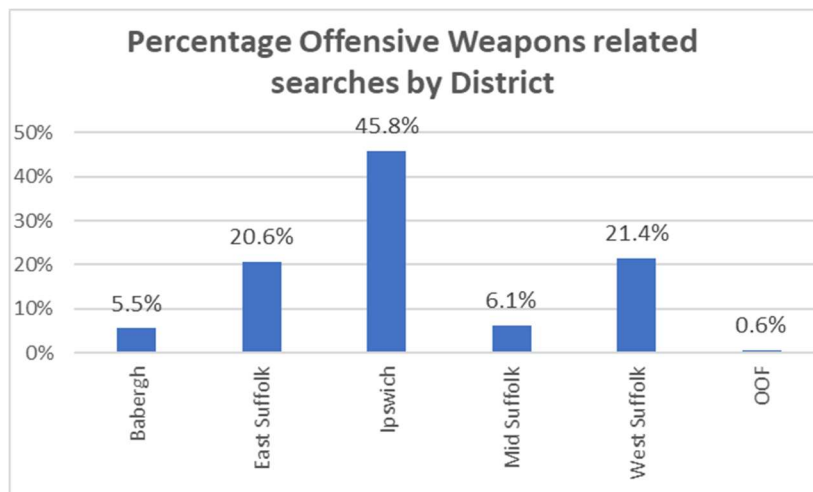


Figure 12: Percentage of offensive weapon related searches by district

2.4.6 During the reporting period, 345 stop and searches (8.2%) were conducted where the object searched for was an offensive weapon. Analysis of these searches shows that 45.8% occurred in the Ipswich district.

District	Male	Female
Babergh	100.0%	0.0%
East Suffolk	94.4%	5.6%
Ipswich	89.2%	10.8%
Mid Suffolk	85.7%	14.3%
West Suffolk	91.8%	8.2%
OOF	100.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	91.3%	8.7%

Table 9: Offensive weapon related searches by location and gender

2.4.7 Overall 91.3% of the searches involved a male subject.

District	10-14	15-17	18-24	25 and over	Not stated
Babergh	15.8%	26.3%	21.1%	31.6%	5.3%
East Suffolk	18.3%	32.4%	23.9%	19.7%	5.6%
Ipswich	5.7%	22.2%	28.5%	34.8%	8.9%
Mid Suffolk	14.3%	19.0%	23.8%	38.1%	4.8%
West Suffolk	17.6%	20.3%	16.2%	39.2%	6.8%
OOF	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	11.9%	23.8%	24.1%	33.0%	7.2%

Table 11: Offensive Weapon related searches by location and age grouping

2.4.8 The 25 and over age grouping had the highest percentage share in each district except East Suffolk where the 15 to 17 age group was the most predominant.

2.5 Use of strip search

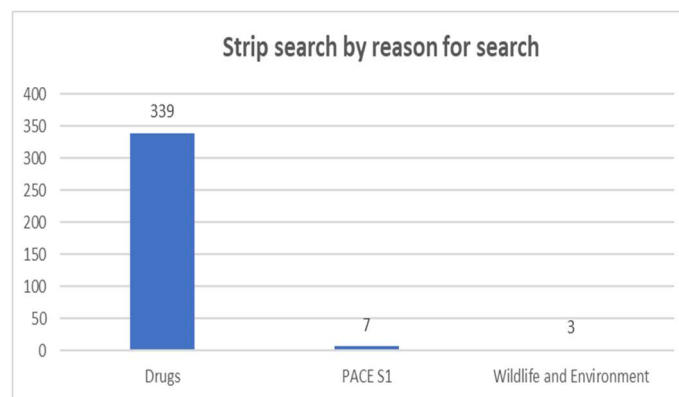


Figure 13: Suffolk strip search by reason for search

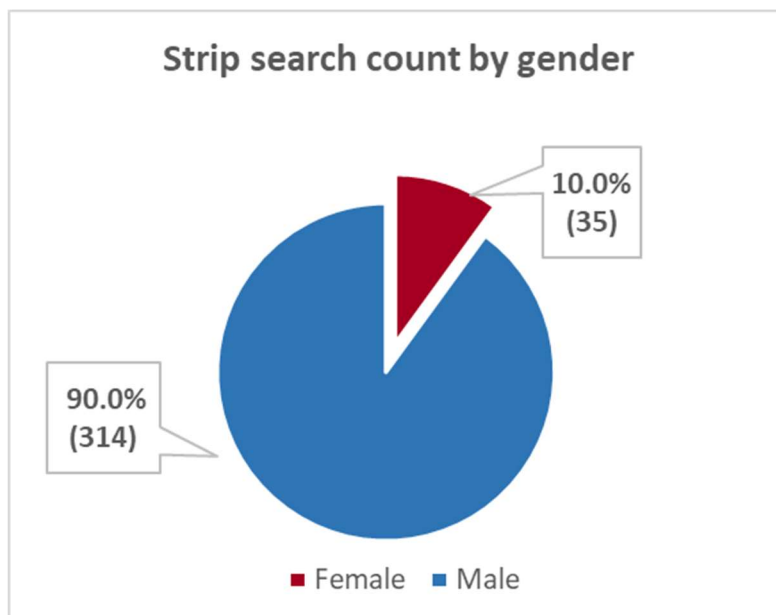


Figure 14: Suffolk strip search by gender

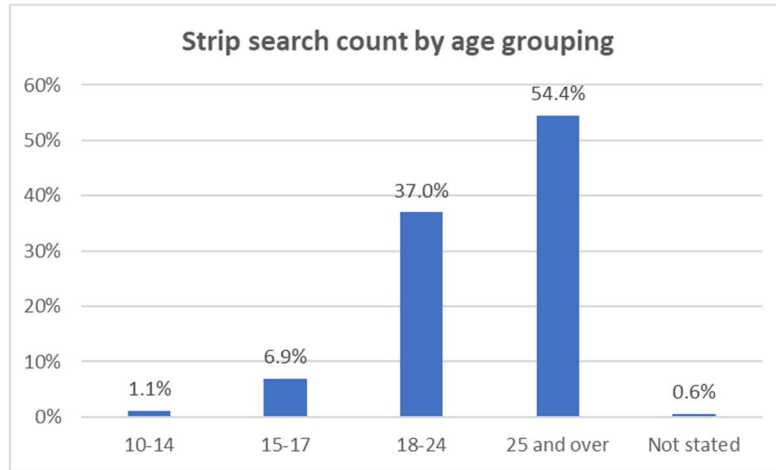


Figure 15: Suffolk strip search by age grouping

2.5.1 Strip search volumes reflect both non-Optik and Optik records. Between April 2021 and March 2022, there were 349 strip searches, accounting for 8.3% of all stop and searches which is 1 percentage point lower than the figure reported in the previous report (published in October 2021). Figure 13 displays the reasons for those strip searches, with 339 (97.1%) 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. 90.0% of strip searches are conducted on males and the 25 and over age group is the most prevalent. No strip searches were conducted on individuals under the age of 14 during this reporting period.

ETHNICITY	Number of Strip Searches	% Strip searched	Items searched for found	Find Rate	Items NOT searched for found	Find Rate
BAME	82	23.5%	34	41.5%	11	13.4%
White	250	71.6%	96	38.4%	47	18.8%
Not Stated	17	4.9%	8	47.1%	3	17.6%
Total	349	-	138	39.5%	61	17.5%

Table 12: Suffolk strip search by ethnicity

2.5.2 Table 12 highlights some of the key Strip Search figures focusing on the subjects ethnicity. During the reporting period, 82 strip searches (23.5%) were undertaken on BAME individuals, which compares to 12.7% of stop searches undertaken on individuals of the same background. 250 strip searches (71.6%) were undertaken on persons of white ethnicity, with the remainder (4.9%) undertaken on people who have declined to define their ethnicity, or do not understand what is required. The item(s) being searched for was/were found in 138 strip searches (39.5%), whilst additional items not being searched for were found in 61 strip searches (17.5%). The rate of items searched for that are subsequently found has decreased by 3.5p.p since the last reporting period, and items that were not searched for but were found also decreased by 2.2p.p.

Strip search type	Total count	Total %	White count	White % total	Black count	Black % total	Mixed count	Mixed % total	Not stated count	Not stated % total	Asian count	Asian % total	Other count	Other % total
Drugs	339	97.1%	242	96.8%	49	96.1%	22	100.0%	17	100.0%	5	100.0%	4	100.0%
PACE S1	7	2.0%	6	2.4%	1	2.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%
Wildlife and Environment	3	0.9%	2	0.8%	1	2.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%
Grand Total	381	100.0%	250	100.0%	51	100.0%	22	100.0%	17	100.0%	5	100.0%	4	100.0%

Table 13: Strip search by reason and ethnicity

2.5.3 Table 13 above shows stop search by reason and ethnicity. The first two columns show the total 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 search are conducted for drugs-related reasons, for every ethnicity group.

Age category	Total count	Total %	White count	White % total	Black count	Black % total	Mixed count	Mixed % total	Not stated count	Not stated % total	Asian count	Asian % total	Other count	Other % total
10-14	4	1.1%	2	0.8%	2	3.9%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%
15-17	24	6.9%	16	6.4%	7	13.7%	1	4.5%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%
18-24	129	37.0%	88	35.2%	20	39.2%	12	54.5%	5	29.4%	2	40.0%	2	50.0%
25 and over	190	54.4%	143	57.2%	22	43.1%	9	40.9%	11	64.7%	3	60.0%	2	50.0%
Not stated	2	0.6%	1	0.4%		0.0%		0.0%	1	5.9%		0.0%		0.0%
Grand Total	349	100.0%	250	100.0%	51	100.0%	22	100.0%	17	100.0%	5	100.0%	4	100.0%

Table 14: Age breakdown and ethnicity of people who were the subject of a strip search

2.5.4 During the reporting period, the age category for which there were the most strip searches was 25 years and over, accounting for 54.4% of all strip searches, irrespective of ethnicity. For those of white ethnicity it was also 25 years and over (57.2% of all white individuals undergoing strip search) and for those of black or minority ethnicity it was again the 25 years and over category (43.1% of all individuals undergoing strip search).

Outcome	Total count	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
Article found - Detailed outcome unavailable	260	6.2%	202	6.5%	9	3.3%	4	3.7%	4	6.0%	2	2.3%	39	7.1%
Local resolution	178	4.2%	140	4.5%	14	5.1%	10	9.2%	1	1.5%	2	2.3%	11	2.0%
No Category	132	3.1%	83	2.7%	7	2.5%	4	3.7%	1	1.5%			37	6.8%
Nothing found - No further action	2608	61.9%	1931	61.7%	172	62.5%	53	48.6%	38	56.7%	54	62.1%	360	65.9%
Offender cautioned	37	0.9%	32	1.0%	1	0.4%	2	1.8%		0.0%		0.0%	2	0.4%
Offender given drugs possession warning	224	5.3%	175	5.6%	8	2.9%	12	11.0%	6	9.0%	7	8.0%	16	2.9%
Offender given penalty notice	19	0.5%	15	0.5%		0.0%		0.0%	3	4.5%		0.0%	1	0.2%
Suspect arrested	677	16.1%	484	15.5%	63	22.9%	21	19.3%	14	20.9%	22	25.3%	73	13.4%
Suspect summonsed to court	69	1.6%	60	1.9%	1	0.4%	3	2.8%		0.0%		0.0%	5	0.9%
Suspected psychoactive substances seized – NFA	10	0.2%	8	0.3%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	2	0.4%
Grand Total	4214	100.0%	3130	100.0%	275	100.0%	109	100.0%	67	100.0%	87	100.0%	546	100.0%

Table 15: Outcome breakdown and ethnicity of people who were stop searched

2.5.5 The percentage of stop searches resulting in “Article found” has increased by 0.6p.p compared to the last reporting period, at 6.2%. 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 61.9% of all outcomes . Overall, this has increased by 2.2p.p. when compared to the last reporting period (01/10/2020 to 30/09/2021) however NFA rates have remained fluctuated across different ethnicities. NFA rate has increased by 3.1p.p for those of a black ethnicity, and by 2.3p.p for Asian ethnicities. Mixed ethnicity has decreased (by 7.0p.p) along with ‘other’ ethnicities (by 5.5p.p). It is worth noting that ‘Other’ represents small numbers. The NFA rate for those of white ethnicity has also decreased by 2.0p.p.

2.5.6 A further 3.1% of searches did not have an outcome recorded, as displayed in Table 15. This has decreased by 3.6p.p. when compared to the last reporting period (01/10/2020 to 30/09/2021).

Outcome	Babergh		East Suffolk		Ipswich		Mid Suffolk		West Suffolk		OOF	
	Count	% share	Count	% share	Count	% share	Count	% share	Count	% share	Count	% share
Article found - Detailed outcome unavailable	20	7.2%	48	6.4%	90	4.8%	23	10.6%	76	7.0%	3	11.1%
Local resolution	7	2.5%	41	5.5%	90	4.8%	7	3.2%	33	3.0%		0.0%
No Category	5	1.8%	32	4.3%	49	2.6%	14	6.5%	32	2.9%		0.0%
Nothing found - No further action	162	58.1%	460	61.7%	1193	64.1%	123	56.7%	652	60.0%	18	66.7%
Offender cautioned	6	2.2%	8	1.1%	12	0.6%	4	1.8%	7	0.6%		0.0%
Offender given drugs possession warning	23	8.2%	42	5.6%	91	4.9%	14	6.5%	54	5.0%		0.0%
Offender given penalty notice		0.0%		0.0%	11	0.6%	2	0.9%	5	0.5%	1	3.7%
Suspect arrested	50	17.9%	92	12.3%	303	16.3%	24	11.1%	205	18.9%	3	11.1%
Suspect summonsed to court	6	2.2%	20	2.7%	17	0.9%	4	1.8%	20	1.8%	2	7.4%
Suspected psychoactive substances seized - No further action		0.0%	2	0.3%	4	0.2%	2	0.9%	2	0.2%		0.0%
Grand Total	279	100.0%	745	100.0%	1860	100.0%	217	100.0%	1086	100.0%	27	100.0%

Table 16: Stop Search outcome breakdown by district

2.5.7 Table 16 above shows the breakdown of outcomes across the districts. The proportion of stop and search where NFA is the recorded outcome varies from district to district, ranging from 56.7% in Mid Suffolk, to 64.1% in Ipswich. Stop searches where articles were found vary between 10.6% in Mid Suffolk and 4.8% in Ipswich.

2.6 Operational Activity

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

2.6.2 East Suffolk

2.6.3 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.

2.6.4 The “Kestrel - East” Team continue to deploy across the East Area predominantly in an engagement role, particularly within the rural and market towns and villages, but also in support of local policing priorities and problem-solving initiatives. Stop & Search remains a significant tactic, across all the proactive teams, which is regularly demonstrated to be used to good effect.

2.6.5 The local intelligence picture in relation to County Lines remains very positive across the east Area, with County Lines activity remaining significantly absent in terms of an established presence within the towns across both Lowestoft and Halesworth Localities. However, we continue to liaise closely and work in partnership with the Metropolitan Police and colleagues from Norfolk Constabulary regarding particular operations, maximising all opportunities to deter and disrupt County Lines from gaining a foothold in the area.

2.6.6 As an area, we also continue 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, through proactive disruption and enforcement. Effective use of Intelligence led Stop and Search powers remains an integral part of the successful deployments across the eastern area.

2.6.7 Operational Examples:

- On 29th September 2021, officers on patrol within Lowestoft observed 2 males engage in an exchange of items, within an alleyway. As a result, both males were stopped by officers and, following a brief conversation, grounds for a search were established. During the search, a significant amount of crack-cocaine and cash was found in a backpack carried by one of the males. He was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply (PWITS). The second male, found in possession of a

single wrap of what was suspected to be crack cocaine was released, to be interviewed at a later time. Following the detention of the first male, premises searches in accordance with Section 18 PACE were conducted and further evidence of dealing (mobile phones, multiple sim cards, weighing scales and self-seal bags) were discovered and recovered. In all, a total of 29 exhibits were recovered including drugs with an approximate value of £1700 and £620 in cash.

- On 10th February 2022, Officers from Kestrel - East were engaged on foot patrols within an area subject of continuing reports of nuisance and Anti-social behaviour, predominantly by younger males and females during the evenings. Two young females walked past the officers, who immediately noticed a strong smell of cannabis. The officers stopped the girls and engaging them in conversation were able to establish grounds for a search. As a result of the search, a small quantity of herbal cannabis was found on each female. Due to the relatively small amount of cannabis recovered (which equated to personal use only) the officers dealt with the matter by means of brief interview at the roadside and issue of a community resolution. The drugs were also seized. Officers subsequently followed up with visits to the respective girls' parents to provide the educational message as a means of encouraging diversion away from drug use.

2.6.8 West Suffolk

2.6.9 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 drug dealing & possession, county lines, offensive weapons possession, knife crime, burglaries and theft.

2.6.10 Use of stop and search continues to be monitored at the monthly performance meetings and through commissioned operations, allowing commanders to monitor monthly outcome rates and identify the impact of local operations. This facilitates strong oversight at a local level, enabling commanders to respond quickly to use of the tactic, whilst ensuring its legitimacy as a policing tool and remaining accountable to our communities to minimise negative impact on trust and confidence.

2.6.11 Overall, the positive outcome rate provides a strong indication that stop search is mainly intelligence based. The West reviews recent intelligence at daily management meetings, to be tasked out to local policing, providing a focus for local staff and continuing the good links between the western area intelligence unit and frontline staff.

2.6.12 Operational Examples:

- Bury St Edmunds – Kestrel Team - During mobile patrols in an area known for drug supply a male was seen to walk through a garage block before attending a known drug users address. Male stayed for only 1 minute before leaving. On leaving he was detained for a search under Section 23 Misuse of Drugs Act during which a number of clear snap bags of white powder were found, an uncounted quantity of cash and a mobile phone. Male was arrested for PWITS class A. Following arrest, Section 32 search was conducted at the address the suspect was in prior to his arrest. Another male ran out of the back door with him located in a neighbour's shed a short time later. This male was searched under Section 23 Misuse of Drugs Act and was found in possession of a large amount of cash, a mobile phone and a golf-ball sized wrap of white powder. This male was also arrested for PWITS. Search at the address found a number of Valium tablets as well as drug paraphernalia, two other occupants were arrested for possession of Class C and concerned in the supply.

- Forest Heath – Kestrel Team - During mobile patrols in Newmarket, officers stopped a vehicle due to its poor state. Checks conducted revealed male driver was known on police systems for recent drugs offences. As a result, he was detained for a search under Section 23 Misuse of Drugs Act. Search of male was negative but during search of the vehicle 2 knives were located in the driver’s door pocket and another knife was located behind the driver’s seat. Male arrested for possession of a pointed/bladed article. Suspect was charged for offence and given 6 months prison sentence.
- Sudbury -SNT - A male was seen to sit on a park bench alone in an area known for drug use and drug dealing. Officers noticed the male was constantly looking around his surroundings and displaying unusual behaviour. Upon seeing officers, male ran away from officers and out of sight. After conducting an area search within the vicinity, the male was later spotted with two other associates. He was observed by officers to complete a quick hand exchange with one of his associates who had walked away. Male was detained section 23 stop search and found in possession of class A controlled substances, for which he was arrested.

2.6.13 South Suffolk

2.6.14 Stop and Search is monitored locally through the Southern Area performance meeting and tasking meetings and attention is placed on the use of the tactic at team level and positive outcome rates per locality. Inspectors undertake their own reviews of the tactic by individual officers, as part of their monthly performance returns and complete regular reviews of Body Worn Video. The use of Stop Search continues to be intelligence driven, focussing on area priorities, emerging threats and high harm individuals.

2.6.15 The Southern area Kestrel Team, have a strong focus on proactive engagement and visibility within the command area. They will work closely with Neighbourhood Teams and other proactive teams to enhance our response to criminality and tackle neighbourhood crime that most impacts local communities. The Kestrel Team will have a greater focus on public interaction to deter criminal activity and support local communities, building stronger relationships in which to gather intelligence and direct the use of police tactics more effectively and proportionately. This will be enhanced via the deployment of Project Servator, which seeks through a mix of highly visible deployments and public engagement to detect illegal and hostile acts.

2.6.16 Daily management processes are in place to ensure timely dissemination and allocation of intelligence, in which a stop and search may result. This ensures officers are tasked with the most recent intelligence. Officers are required to submit intelligence relating to both positive and negative outcomes for stop searches, to help better inform officers’ reasonable grounds in future interactions.

2.6.17 The availability of Stop Search as a tactic continues to be a valuable tool in response to retail theft, allowing offices to confirm or mitigate the need for arrest where reasonable grounds exist.

2.6.18 Searches under Section 23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act continue to account for the majority of Stop Searches undertaken in the command. This is reflective of the area priorities and continued focus on County Lines. Under the banner of Op Velocity (the southern areas operations to target the supply of Class A drugs) dedicated resources, in the form of a uniform and plain clothes officers in response to current and actionable intelligence regarding county lines and local drug suppliers.

2.6.19 Offensive weapons are often also recovered because of these searches, as well as accounting for the next highest volumes of searches. The Southern area has commissioned Operation Hull, which in part seeks to target those in possession of Offensive weapons, eps. those involved in “gang” relates violence. This seeks to address the offending which creates the highest harm and risk to the community.

2.6.20 Section 60 stop search authority has been used twice in the last six months in response to significant incidents of violence. In these instances, the authority has been overseen by NPCC, with proportionality / use reviewed afterwards and scrutinised. As part of this oversight local community groups are informed and consulted.

2.6.21 Operational Examples:

- Plain clothes officers observed a juvenile male deal to a user in a park. Section 23 MDA search complete. Found with cannabis, burner phone, iPhone and £300 cash. Further 11 wraps of Class A found during strip search. Drugs line phone identified in his possession.
- Intelligence suggesting a group associated with one part of Ipswich were dealing in the “rivals” area. Plain clothes patrols identified and detained a male, who was found in his possession was over £400 and a mobile phone whereby constant calls coming from the known drug line number. Male arrested concerned in Supply of Class A.
- Proactive stop check on a juvenile female who has recently been highlighted as a subject of Child Sexual Exploitation and has links to a local drugs gang. Female was found in the middle of the night with others suspected to be exploiting her. Six stop searches, one detained for PWITS cannabis which included concealed drugs, paraphernalia, scales, cash and a ‘burner’ phone. Ongoing investigation.
- Proactive stop check on a male who was spotted in the early hours of the morning nearby to a cuckooed address. He tried to make off but was ultimately detained and searched under Section 1 PACE. One arrested for possession of a nine inch kitchen knife which was secreted in his waistband. Custodial sentence was given.
- Officer on patrol has seen two juvenile males who were smoking cannabis. Upon being searched a five inch kitchen knife was located in 15 year old’s waistband. Interview completed at home address and referred to Youth Offending Team (YOT).
- Officer has stumbled across a verbal argument outside a hotel which has led to a welfare check being conducted in the room. Drug paraphernalia was seen in the room. Four stop searches leading to two juveniles detained for PWITS cannabis as drugs, cash and phones were found. A Section 18 search at one suspect’s address yielded even more cash, £1k street value of cannabis and a knife in a sheath. Ongoing investigation.
- Suspicious adult male spotted withdrawing cash in the early hours of the morning. An intel check revealed recent drug supply information and further enquiries done at the scene revealed further evidence of such activity. One detained for being concerned in the supply and around £200 street value worth of drugs located in the strip search that was taped to his body. Ongoing investigation.

2.7 Operation Velocity

2.7.1 Operation Velocity is an initiative focussing on all drugs use/supply in Suffolk. During the reporting period, 75 stop and searches have been flagged as being linked to these operations

with the South district (Ipswich) reporting 46 (61.3%), West Suffolk reporting 20 (26.7%) and Mid Suffolk and East Suffolk 6 (8.0%) and 3 (4.0%) respectively. In the Ipswich district there were 32 stops of subjects from a white background and 9 on those from a BAME background and in West Suffolk there were 20 stops on subjects from a white background and zero stops on those from a BAME background (there were 4 with an ethnicity listed as ‘other’).

2.7.2 The countywide statistics are shown in the table below:-

District	Total	White	Black	Mixed	Other	Strip Searches	NFA Outcome	Suffolk Resident	Non-Suffolk Resident
Babergh	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
East Suffolk	3 (4.0%)	2 (3.6%)	0 (0%)	1 (50.0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (1.6%)	2 (3.9%)	1 (14.3%)
Ipswich	46 (61.3%)	32 (58.2%)	8 (100.0%)	1 (50.0%)	5 (50.0%)	2 (100.0%)	40 (63.5%)	30 (58.8%)	3 (42.9%)
Mid Suffolk	6 (8.0%)	5 (9.1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (10.0%)	0 (0%)	6 (9.5%)	6 (11.8%)	0 (0%)
West Suffolk	20 (26.7%)	16 (29.1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (40.0%)	0 (0%)	16 (25.4%)	13 (25.5%)	3 (42.9%)
Total	75	55	8	2	10	2	63	51	7

Table 17: Countywide comparisons for Operation Velocity

2.7.3 In respect of postal addresses given by persons stopped in relation to Operation Velocity, 68.0% were Suffolk addresses, 9.3% were addresses outside Suffolk and the address had not been stated in 22.7% of cases. The NFA rate for Operation Velocity is 84.0%.

2.7.3 According to the County Lines Disruptions Log, the following statistics have been recorded between April 2021 and March 2022.

No. disruptions	Quantity of drugs seized	Cash seized
68	204g of Cocaine (2 wraps); Approx 6.5kg Cannabis; and unconfirmed amounts of other class A drugs.	Approx £35,500

Table 18: Countywide Disruptions.

2.7.4 Please note that in the majority of disruptions, amount of cash seized was not provided (marked as blank or no confirmation of amount of cash seized), so the cash seized only relates to disruptions where detail was provided

3. OVERALL TRENDS – USE OF FORCE

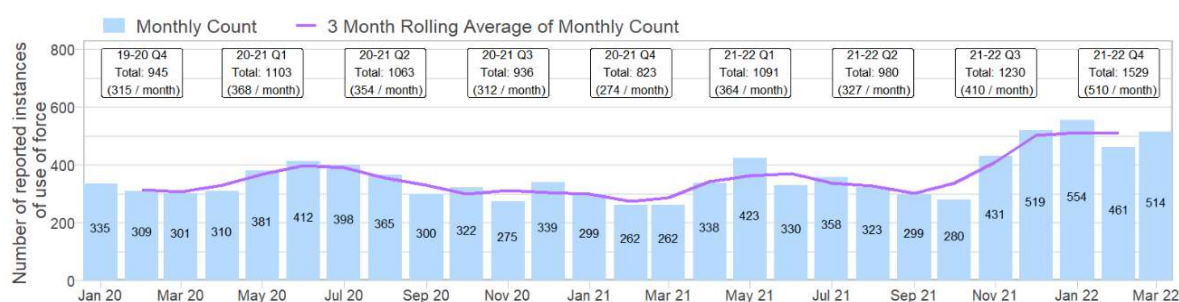


Figure 16: Volume of Use of force instances, 01/01/2020-31/03/2022

3.1 4,830 reported instances of use of force were reported in the current reporting period. This is an increase of 23.1% compared to 3,925 in the 12 months ending March 2021. There has been an upward trend, with Q4 showing the highest volume in the last eight quarters.

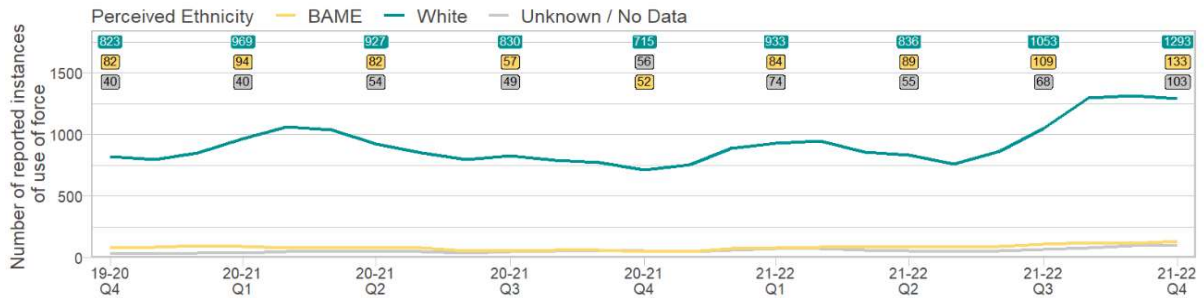


Figure 17: Volume of Use of force instances by ethnicity, 01/01/2020-31/03/2022

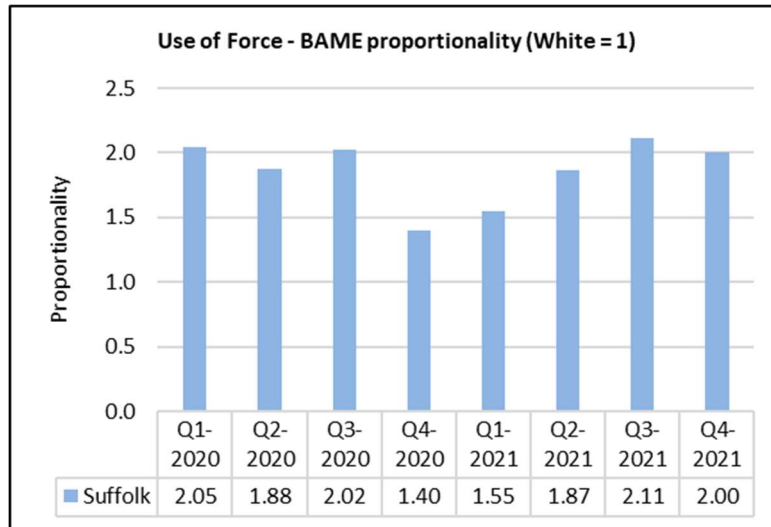


Figure 18: Disproportionality in Use of force instances, 01/01/2020-31/03/2022

3.1.1 There has been an upward trend, with Q4 showing the highest volume in the last eight quarters. The rate of disproportionality for BAME was 2.0 in 21-22 Q4, compared to 2.1 in 21-22 Q3 and 1.4 in 20-21 Q4. The rate of proportionality of 2.0 in 21-22 Q4 was relatively high compared to the eight previous quarters. The percentage of all persons who are BAME spiked in the South, particularly in August and October 2021 and February and March 2022. There were violent offences which resulted in a series of section 60s around these time periods and there were operations commissioned around gang rivalries and youth violence in Q4 2021/22. These factors have likely impacted proportionality in the South.

4. OVERALL TRENDS – CONDUCTED ENERGY DEVICE (C.E.D) – TASER USAGE

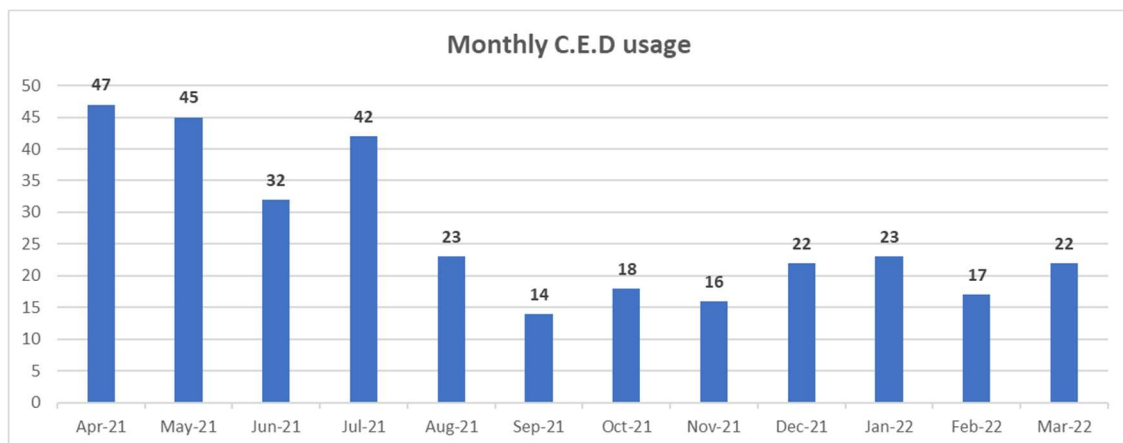


Figure 19 : Monthly Conducted Energy Device (C.E.D) usage

4.1 The use of tasers makes up one element of the police’s use of force tactical options. Over the 12 month reporting period Conducted Energy Device (C.E.D) usage totalled 321, with an average of 27 usages a month. Between April and July ‘21 monthly figures were over 30, however from August onwards they reduced to between 14 and 23 usages per month

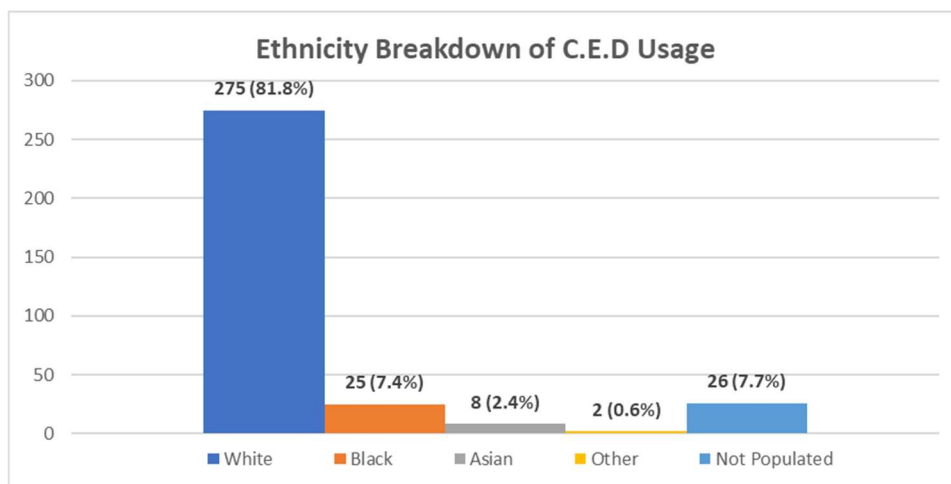


Figure 20: Ethnicity breakdown of C.E.D usage 01/04/21 to 31/03/22

4.1.1 Figure 20 above highlights that 81.8% of the subjects where a C.E.D was used were of white ethnicity, 7.4% were black and 2.4% were Asian.

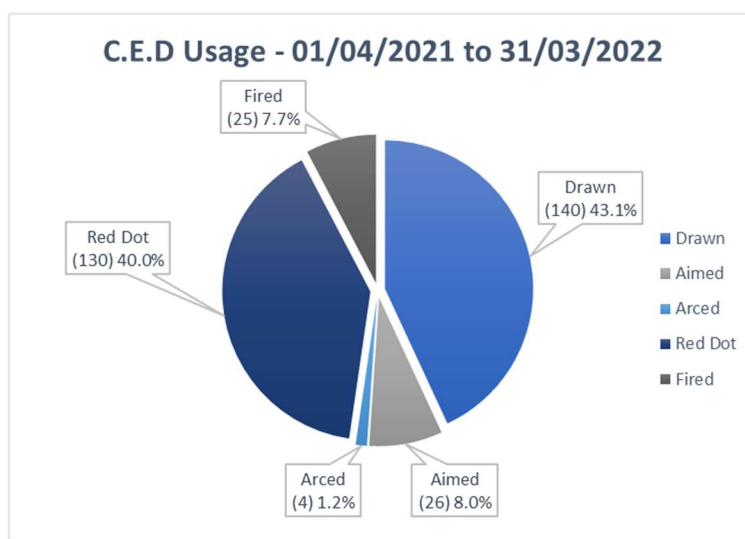


Figure 21: C.E.D usage breakdown

4.1.2 C.E.D usage can be broken down into 5 different elements as shown in Figure 21 above. 7.7% of all usages resulted in the C.E.D being fired. 92.3% of usages resulted in the device not being fired, and likely means the presence of the device and warning from officers’ acted as a deterrent for further escalation of incidents. 40.0% of usages resulted in the red dot being used on the target and 43.1% of usages involved the device simply being drawn by the officer.

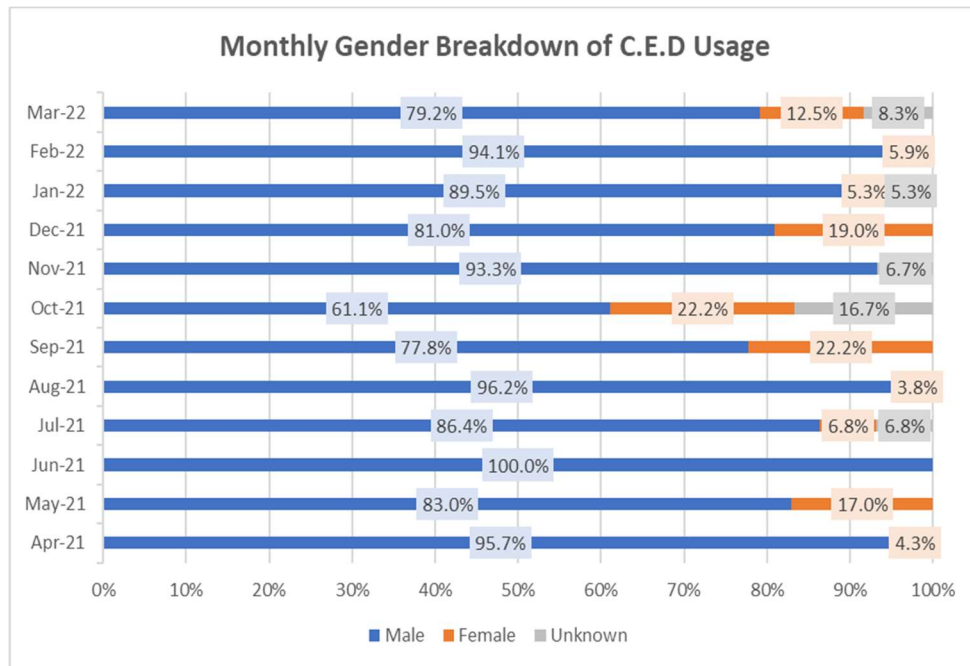


Figure 22: Monthly gender breakdown for C.E.D usage

4.1.3 During the reporting period 88.0% of C.E.D usage occurred on a male subject. Female subjects made up 9.0%.

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

5.1 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.

5.2 Appendix A displays the latest statistics in respect of the Proportionality of Stop and Search Use in Suffolk in respect of BAME and Age, for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

6. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ISCRE ON THEIR WORK TO ADMINISTER THE STOP AND SEARCH REFERENCE GROUP (SSRG)

6.1. A report compiled by ISCRE detailing their work to administer the Stop and Search Reference Group (SSRG) is attached at Appendix B.

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 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022

Unless stated all numbers exclude subjects with addresses outside Suffolk

Under 18 refers to those aged 10 to 17. A total of 2981 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 327 (10.6%)

Disproportionality by ethnicity for Suffolk

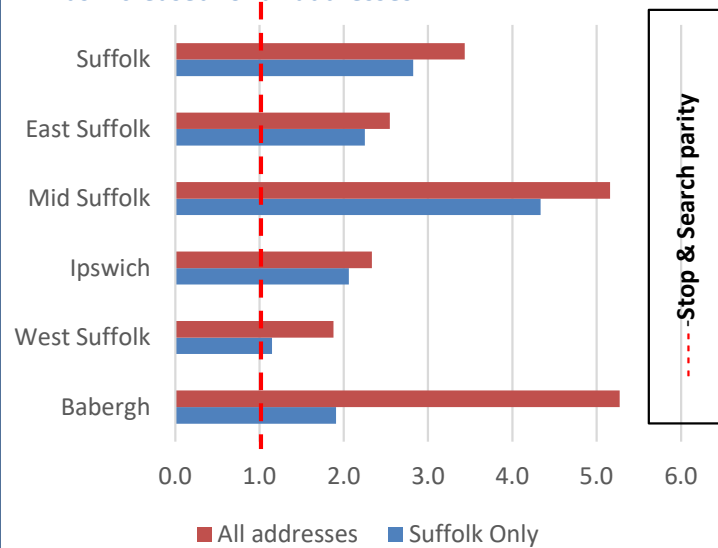
Addresses	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Suffolk addresses	0.8	6.8	1.8	7.3
All addresses	1.1	8.9	1.9	7.7

Since the last reporting period, disproportionality has increased for all addresses and Suffolk only in all ethnicities apart from "Asian" and "Mixed".

See comparison to previous reporting periods in the two charts below:

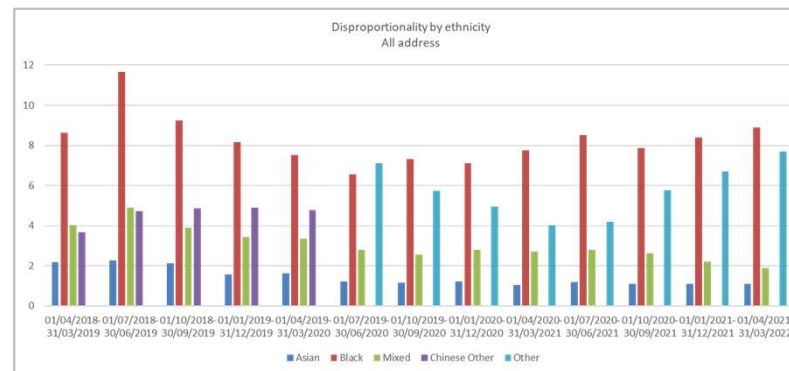
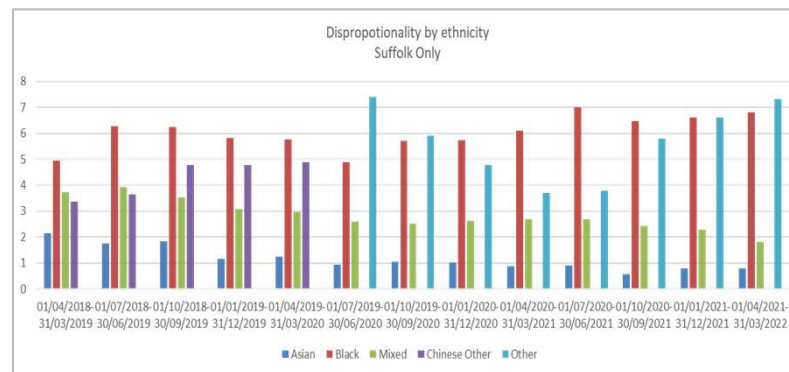
Disproportionality by District

- Excluding subjects with addresses outside Suffolk, the local BME community is just over 2.8 times more likely to be subject of stop/search than white counterparts, increasing to 3.4 times when including all subjects.
- Similar to the previous reporting period, the highest disproportionality was seen in Mid Suffolk for Suffolk only addresses.
- Searches in West Suffolk were the least disproportionate.
- Overall disproportionality for Suffolk only has increased slightly since the last reporting period, and has increased for all addresses.



Disproportionality amongst Under 18s.....

- Of all U18s subject to stop search BME = 10.3%.
- Reviewing the under 18 population, BME subjects 1.8 times more likely to be stop searched than white peers (Suffolk only). This is the same rate as in the last reporting period.

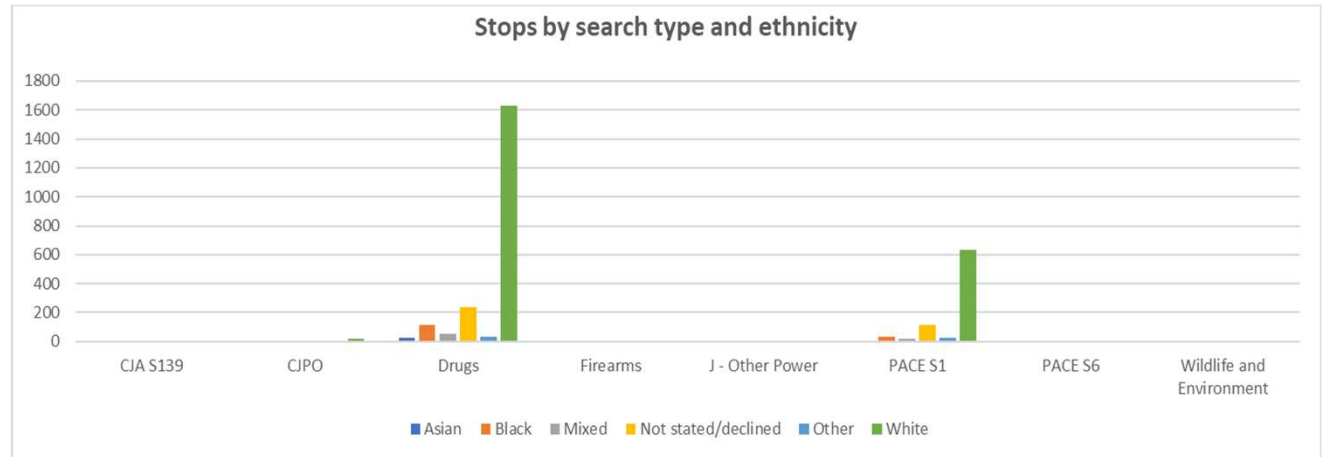
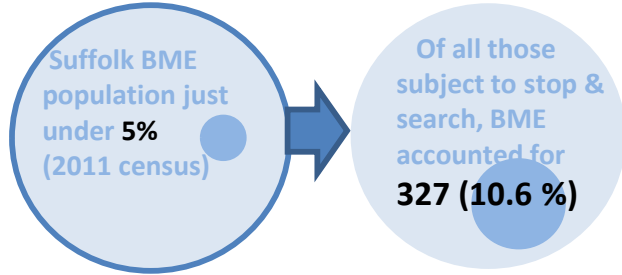


District	All addresses		Suffolk addresses	
	BME	White	BME	White
All	538	3106	327	2295
East Suffolk	48	627	32	473
Mid Suffolk	18	160	12	127
Ipswich	350	1202	236	919
West Suffolk	95	885	40	610
Babergh	48	232	7	166

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

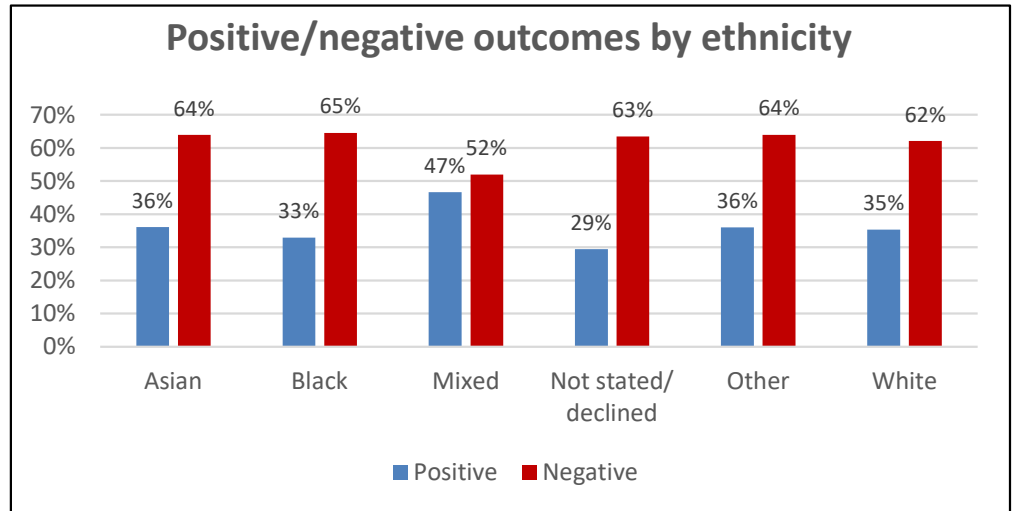
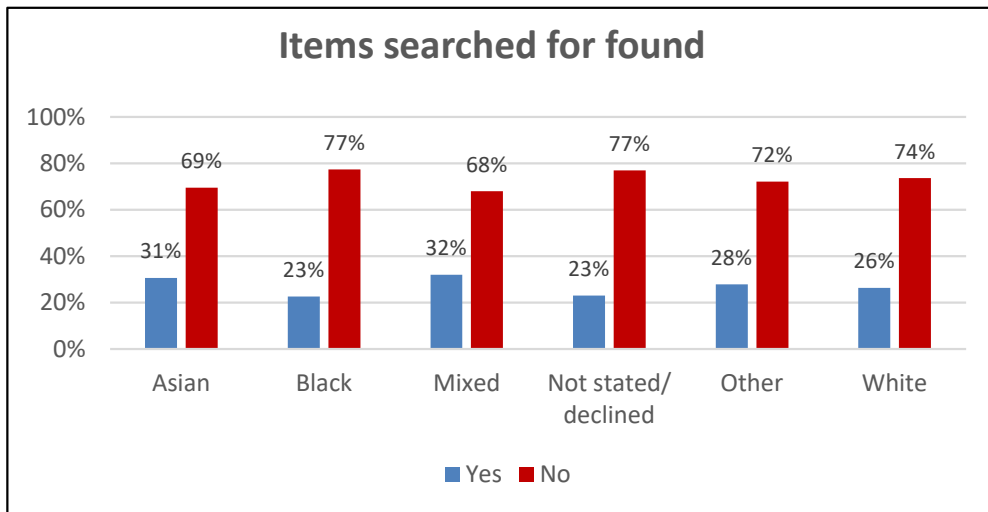
PROPORTIONALITY OF STOP & SEARCH USE IN SUFFOLK – BME

Date Range 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022



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 by 1p.p for all searches (26%) and find rates have only decreased for Asian, 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 has increased by approximately 2.5p.p since last reporting period and is 34.8%.

PROPORTIONALITY OF STOP & SEARCH USE IN SUFFOLK - AGE

Date Range 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022

Unless stated all numbers exclude subjects with addresses outside Suffolk

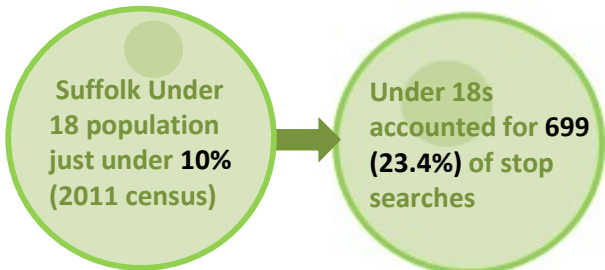
Under 18 refers to those aged 10 to 17. A total of 2981 stop searches were recorded during the reporting period.

Disproportionality by ethnicity for Suffolk for Under 18s

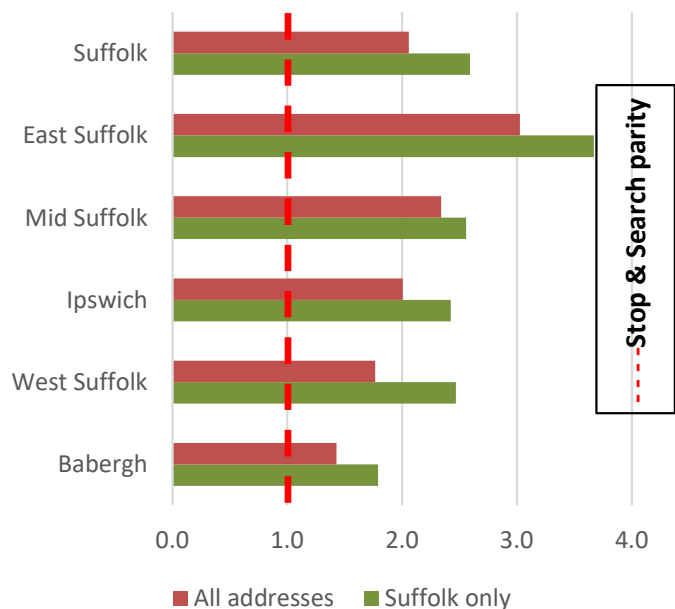
Under 18s	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Suffolk addresses	0.4	7.8	0.8	5.0
All addresses	0.5	9.8	0.8	6.0

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

For Suffolk only and all addresses disproportionality for U18s has decreased for all ethnicities, except for Black ethnicities from Suffolk only which has increased slightly.



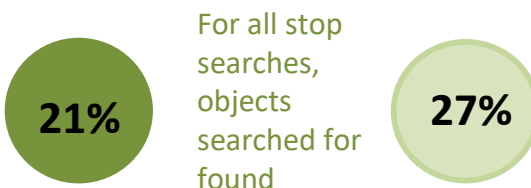
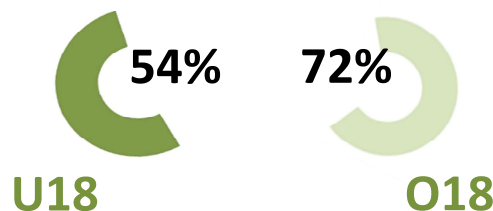
Disproportionality by District



- The Suffolk U18 community is just under **2.6** times more likely to be subject of stop/search than over 18 counterparts, decreasing to **2.1** times when including all subjects indicating that the majority of external subjects are aged over 18.
- Disproportionality has increased for all subjects and Suffolk addresses only since the last reporting period, with only West Suffolk decreasing for all addresses.

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.



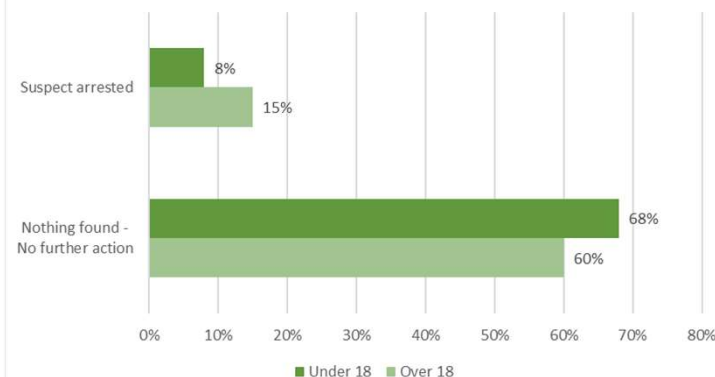
For all stop searches, objects searched for found

The percentage of objects searched for found has increased by 1p.p for U18s and O18s compared to last reporting period.

Under 18 disproportionality amongst BME.....

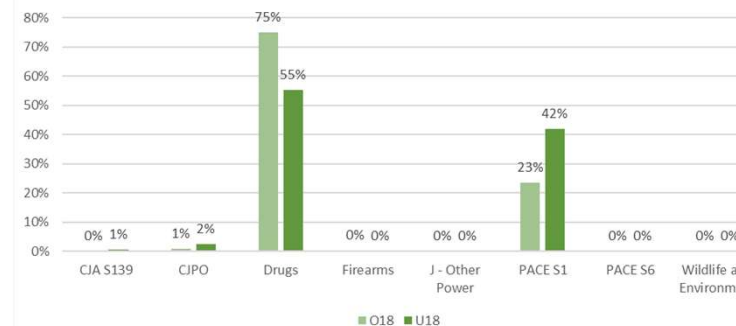
Looking at Suffolk's BME communities, under 18s are more likely to be subject of stop and search than over 18s at a rate of **1.36**. This has increased since the last reporting period.

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 search type and age



Drugs and Pace S1 are the most common reason for stop searches and this has remained relatively stable since last reporting period.



ISCRE's Police Accountability and Performance Report – January to May 2022

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.

During the reporting period under review, we held the following engagements:

- 26 January – SSRG (cancelled due to staff sickness)
- 27 January – Meeting with the DCC & ACC
- 14 March - SLA Monitoring Meeting
- 30 March – SSRG
- 8 April – Meeting with the DCC & ACC
- 6 May – Meeting with SEPA
- 6 May – West Suffolk College Stop and Search Engagement
- 23 May – HMICFRS Super complaint meeting
- 25 May - SSRG

For the **30th March 2022** meeting, we received a total of 652 stop and search forms, and out of those we selected the following to audit:

- W1 – 48 out of 483 forms
- BAME – 21 out of 64 forms
- White Other – 35 out of 105 forms

Meeting notes available here >> <http://www.iscre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/SSRG-Minutes-30th-March-2022.pdf>

For the **25th May 2022** meeting, we received a total of 683 stop and search forms. We sampled and audited as follows:

- BAME: 28 out of 85

- White British: 46 out of 460
- White Other: 19 out of 57
- Not Stated: 27 out of 81

Main issues arising:

The lack of data on the prevalence of drug related stops and searches was consistently raised by the SSRG participants. The community is concerned that 'cannabis possession appears to be the object of the majority of the searches contrary to the suggestion that focus will be on drugs supply and knife crime. It was emphasised that whilst the meeting is not condoning use of cannabis, evidence shows that such focus leads to disproportionality in the use of stop and search (A report in May 2021 revealed that Black people are 12 times more likely to be prosecuted for cannabis possession than white people - <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/black-people-cannabis-prosecutions-b1853669.html>).

While the community commended Suffolk for having the lowest for possession only searches with 48%, it was felt that more needs to be done to try to improve that situation.

The community applauded the council and the police for obtaining the Save the Streets funds for Ipswich's Westgate Ward area and highlighted that such initiatives will work more effectively when done in collaboration with communities who are facing challenges resulting from crime.

Concern was raised by participants about instances when police from Norfolk, who are not part of our scrutiny processes, have to cross the border into Suffolk to conduct stop and search. As there is no mechanism of holding them to account, this could negatively impact the good work that is being done with Suffolk Constabulary. A representative from Norfolk Constabulary attended the SSRG meeting on 25 May 2022 and they were impressed by how we conduct public scrutiny of stop and search. We offered to attend theirs and give advice.

While the community understands that the police cannot always share intelligence with the SSRG, it was noted that the use of the terms, 'search based on intelligence' is not enough justification for a stop and search and that officers can better articulate their reasons without revealing sensitive information. Officers were also encouraged to use plain speech as oppose to policing language that an average person would not understand.

There were discussions about strip searching of minors by Suffolk Police, and this was prompted by evidence of prevalence of such elsewhere and media reporting around this.

The meeting requested to be kept informed of any disproportionate use of these powers and the reasons for such.

A number of good forms continue to be identified as part of the scrutiny process. The group has requested that these not only be shared with the individual officers but be used to share best practice with the rest of the police.

The recent announcement by the Home Secretary of the removal of restrictions on Section 60 authorisations has caused concern that there might be a spike in the use of these powers, which evidence has shown that there are more likely to adversely impact on people from diverse backgrounds.

Dates for remaining 2022 SSRG meetings:

27 July - West Suffolk College (TBC)

28 September - Suffolk New College (TBC)

30 November – Online

Super Complaint Response

The reference group met and made representations to the HMICFRS who are investigating a super-complaint by the Criminal Justice Alliance about the police's use of suspicion-less stop and search and the scrutiny of all stop and search powers >>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/police-super-complaints-police-use-of-stop-and-search-powers>

West Suffolk College and Suffolk One

The SSRG engaged with Suffolk One and West Suffolk College students, alongside the Honorable Stuart Lawrence, as part of an ongoing campaign to embed black history into the curriculum of West Suffolk College and across the Eastern Colleges Group all year round >>

<https://www.wsc.ac.uk/about-the-college/news/10001-hon-stuart-lawrence-visits-college-as-part-of-ongoing-equality-campaign>

Support to Suffolk Police

ISCRE met with the DCC and ACC to explore support needed around discrimination concerns amongst staff and how ISCRE can support with the endeavor to create a fairer and anti-racist Suffolk Constabulary. >> <https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/crime/suffolk-officer-on-new-racism-plan-8992020>

The ISCRE team also met with Suffolk Ethnic Police Association to discuss collaboration on how to embed anti-discrimination practices into their work.

Complaints against police

We have started to see most clients now at the Law Centre with a pre-booked face-to-face appointment.

From October 2021 to March 2022, 17 cases regarding possible police complaints have been dealt with as follows:

- 1 case from Norfolk
- 16 cases from Suffolk
 - 7 complainants have been supported to make a police complaint to PSD, all from Suffolk.
 - 3 of the 7 cases involve discrimination arising from disability, all 3 cases involve mental ill health issues.
 - 4 of the 7 cases involve race discrimination.
 - 2 appeals/reviews to the OPCC
 - 2 appeals/reviews to the IOPC.
 - 2 cases involve excessive use of force.
 - 4 cases involve failing to act.

Policy review

Some of the policies and consultations reviewed include:

- Consultation Response Form (Intelligence Interviews)
- Consultation on New Joint Policy - Appreciation to Members of the Public
- Consultation on New Policy - Clear Wall, Monitor, Desk and Surface & Video Conferencing (and associated procedures)
- Consultation on Reviewed Policy - Acceptable Use of Information Systems and Assets (and associated procedures)
- Consultation on Reviewed Policy - Police Support Volunteers
- Consultation Response Form - Review, Retention and Disposal of Crime Related Information Policy

Phanuel Mutumburi

ISCRE