

# Wiltshire Police Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel

## DRAFT - Terms of Reference 2015



### PURPOSE

1. To ensure that stop and search powers used by officers of Wiltshire Police are lawfully conducted; recognising that these powers are useful in preventing and detecting crime.
2. To improve the trust and confidence of the community in the way police conduct stop/searches by being sensitive to the impact of these powers on individuals.
3. To reduce disproportionality between searches of populations of Wiltshire and where relevant provide appropriate explanation.

### ROLE OF THE STOP & SEARCH SCRUTINY PANEL

- Scrutinise the performance of Wiltshire Police in relation to stop and search of their communities.
- Examine redacted stop and search forms to ensure that the searches have been carried out in accordance with code A of the codes of Practice; the scrutiny panel will select the criteria of stop search forms to be examined i.e. all BME stop/searches etc.
- Contribute to the Wiltshire Police Stop Search Policy and procedure.
- Provide the opportunity to raise issues regarding Race and Diversity that are broadly associated with Stop and Search.
- To conduct lay observations in relation to processes and training delivered and report their findings to the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel.
- To act as a constructive friend to Wiltshire Police and provide advice and guidance to improve its performance around stop and search.

## **PROCEDURE**

The Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel will convene on a twice yearly basis unless it is deemed appropriate to meet in addition to this.

Attendees will be asked to consider the actions taken in relation to anonymous stop and search records which will be randomly selected and provide feedback to Wiltshire Police.

The group will be asked to form after a complaint has been investigated or within 28 days (time allowed for such complaints to be resolved) in the instance a 'community trigger' complaint is made. Detail will be provided on the circumstances presented and the outcome, feedback will be requested from the group in relation to the action/s taken.

**IF INTERESTED IN ASSISTING IN THIS CRUCIAL ROLE OF SCRUTINY PLEASE EMAIL D/SERGEANT CAMPE  
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER -**

[tamara.campe@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:tamara.campe@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)