

Integrity

Professionalism

Fairness

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## Dorset Police

# Stop and Search Performance Pack

**1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018**

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## Introduction

This report is intended to provide some detailed analysis into Stop Searches conducted by Dorset Police.

The report is designed to provide sufficient information to highlight areas of potential concern or interest. It has been developed to support Dorset Police in the delivery of the Equality Standard for the Police Service which provides a system for monitoring performance and assessing progress on how the priorities of the Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Strategy for the Police Service are being delivered.

Rates per 1,000 population and disproportionality ratios for Stop Search are based on 2011 Census data by ethnicity. The population profile of Dorset used in these calculations is shown below.

## Population Profile

	Bournemouth and Poole Division		Dorset County Division		Force	
	2001 Census	2011 Census	2001 Census	2011 Census	2001 Census	2011 Census
White	283,896	289,450	378,380	394,350	662,276	683,800
White Non British	9,915	20,870	7,683	9,967	17,598	30,837
Mixed	2,871	6,107	1,940	3,400	4,811	9,507
Black & Black British	943	2,284	579	924	1,522	3,208
Asian & Asian British	2,932	10,342	1,754	3,833	4,686	14,175
Other Ethnic Group	1,175	2,083	644	431	1,819	2,514
<b>Total</b>	<b>301,732</b>	<b>331,136</b>	<b>390,980</b>	<b>412,905</b>	<b>692,712</b>	<b>744,041</b>
White	283,896	289,450	378,380	394,350	662,276	683,800
BME	17,836	41,686	12,600	18,555	30,436	60,241

	White - British	White - Non British	Mixed	Black & Black British	Asian & Asian British	Other Ethnic Group	Total
Bmth Central	15,505	3,038	672	308	1,302	311	<b>21,136</b>
Bmth East	50,195	6,867	1,420	700	2,447	464	<b>62,093</b>
Bmth North	91,997	5,223	2,152	773	3,362	906	<b>104,413</b>
Bridport	33,071	781	245	47	146	40	<b>34,330</b>
Christchurch	45,414	1,177	505	83	495	78	<b>47,752</b>
Dorchester	56,597	1,393	490	120	753	66	<b>59,419</b>
East Dorset	83,876	1,769	594	106	737	84	<b>87,166</b>
North Dorset	64,936	2,041	552	197	796	61	<b>68,583</b>
Poole North	71,751	2,670	972	262	1,527	180	<b>77,362</b>
Poole South	60,002	3,072	891	241	1,704	222	<b>66,132</b>
Purbeck	43,253	1,087	326	48	231	28	<b>44,973</b>
Weymth & Portland	67,203	1,719	688	323	675	74	<b>70,682</b>
<b>Force</b>	<b>683,800</b>	<b>30,837</b>	<b>9,507</b>	<b>3,208</b>	<b>14,175</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>744,041</b>

## **Delivering the Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

The Police and Crime Commissioner and Dorset Police agree a number of Policing Priorities each year. These are laid out in our Police and Crime Plan, which also sets out how Dorset Police organizes itself and its activity in order to achieve these priorities. The 2017-2021 Police and Crime Plan is a public document and is available from the following link:

<https://dorsetpccpolice.s3.amazonaws.com/PCP%202017-2021.pdf>

### **Our Policing Priorities 2017/18**

- Protecting people at risk of harm
- Working with our communities
- Supporting victims, witnesses and reducing reoffending
- Transforming for the future

## Object of Search

The tables below provide details about the purpose/object of search of those stop searches conducted during 2017/18 and 2016/17. The first table provides the Force level overview, whilst the second table considers the data broken down by the ethnicity of the person searched for the current year only. Due to a small element of data quality discrepancies whereby a person can be listed with more than one ethnicity on the Force's new records management system, some duplication of stop searches results when the data is broken down by the ethnicity of the searched person.

	Article for use in criminal damage	Article for use in theft	Drugs	Firearms	Not Recorded	Offensive weapons	Other **	Stolen goods	Total Stop Searches	Total Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Positive Search Rate
<b>Qtr 1-4 17/18</b>	39	232	1,723	19	4	177	69	136	2,399	254	10.6%	683	28.5%
<b>Qtr 1-4 16/17</b>	51	242	2,382	14	37	167	81	283	3,257	505	15.5%	1,422	43.7%

Between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018 there were a total of 2,399 stop searches recorded within Dorset; the majority of which have been undertaken with the purpose of finding controlled drugs (72% of the total). This is a reduction in the volume of stop searches conducted in the comparable quarter the previous year - 858 fewer stop searches equating to a 26.3% decrease on 2016/17. The focus on controlled drugs has also reduced slightly from 73% of the total stop searches to 72% in the current year to date. The arrest rate has also reduced to 10.6% (206 arrests) with a positive search rate of 28.5% compared to 43.7% the previous year. Although an arrest was not always made, the search can still be positive as it resulted in some further action, e.g. a community resolution or penalty notice of disorder was issued. There were just 4 stop searches in the year to date where the object of search was not recorded. These are provided at the end of the report.

\*\* Other includes where the object of search has been recorded as either Sus crime/disorder/ASB, Terrorism or Other.

Quarter 1-4 2017/18	Article for use in criminal damage	Article for use in theft	Drugs	Firearms	Not Recorded	Offensive weapons	Other **	Stolen goods	Total Stop Searches
<b>White British</b>	33	189	1,281	14	3	129	58	104	<b>1,811</b>
<b>White Non-British</b>	-	12	44	1	1	3	1	8	<b>70</b>
<b>Mixed</b>	-	2	29	1	-	5	-	4	<b>41</b>
<b>Black</b>	2	7	117	1	-	9	-	6	<b>142</b>
<b>Asian</b>	-	1	31	-	-	3	-	2	<b>37</b>
<b>Other *</b>	1	1	8	-	-	2	-	1	<b>13</b>
<b>Not stated</b>	3	21	219	2	-	26	10	12	<b>293</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>2,407</b>

As the table above shows, the majority of people stop searched during 2017/18 were of White British ethnicity, accounting for 75% of total stop searches over the reporting period. Those of Black ethnicity were the largest non-White group to be stop searched, accounting for 6% of total stop searches. Any disproportionality this may indicate is discussed further on in the report under the Ethnicity section. Whilst 72% of total stop searches were completed for the purpose of finding controlled drugs, this proportion increases to 82% for searches of Black people.

\*\* Other includes where the object of search has been recorded as either Sus crime/disorder/ASB, Terrorism or Other. \* Other includes where the persons ethnicity has been recorded as either Chinese or Other ethnic group.

## Object of Search

	Quarter 1			Quarter 2			Quarter 3			Quarter 4			Total Arrest Rate
	Stop Search Volume	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Stop Search Volume	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Stop Search Volume	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Stop Search Volume	Arrests	Arrest Rate	
Article for use in criminal damage	10	-	-	10	-	-	17	2	11.8%	2	1	50.0%	7.7%
Article for use in theft	81	5	6.2%	57	13	22.8%	59	13	22.0%	35	7	20.0%	16.4%
Drugs	533	59	11.1%	421	43	10.2%	415	37	8.9%	354	30	8.5%	9.8%
Firearms	2	-	-	9	1	11.1%	6	1	16.7%	2	-	-	10.5%
Not Recorded	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Offensive weapons	51	8	15.7%	58	6	10.3%	27	2	7.4%	41	4	9.8%	11.3%
Other **	27	-	-	16	1	6.3%	17	-	-	9	-	-	1.4%
Stolen goods	42	5	11.9%	34	3	8.8%	40	11	27.5%	20	2	10.0%	15.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>

As the table above shows, the arrest rate in the year to date is highest at 16.4% for stop searches where the object being searched for was articles for use in theft.. The arrest rate was also below the 10.5% stop search average for searches where the purpose was drugs and articles for use in criminal damage as well as 'other' reason and for those searches where the purpose of the search was not recorded.

\*\* Other includes where the object of search has been recorded as either Sus crime/disorder/ASB, Terrorism or Other.

## Outcome of search linked to object of search?

The table below shows whether an item was found as a result of the stop search conducted, and if an object was found, whether it was the object being searched for.

	No - no object(s) found	Yes - object other than that searched for	Yes - the object(s) searched for	Total searches resulting in an object being found	No object found rate	Total Stop searches where an outcome was recorded
Article for use in criminal damage	32	4	3	7	82.1%	39
Article for use in theft	160	35	37	72	69.0%	232
Drugs	1,107	153	463	616	64.2%	1,723
Firearms	9	5	5	10	47.4%	19
Not Recorded	-	-	1	1	-	1
Offensive weapons	137	16	24	40	77.4%	177
Other **	43	4	22	26	62.3%	69
Stolen goods	90	16	29	45	66.7%	135
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,578</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>65.9%</b>	<b>2,395</b>

As the table above shows, of the total stop searches conducted over the reporting period, 34.1% resulted in an object being found. For 584 of these searches (70%), the outcome of the search was linked to the object of search. The outcome was not linked to the object of search in 30% of cases.

\*\* Other includes where the object of search has been recorded as either Sus crime/disorder/ASB, Terrorism or Other.

## Drug Searches

As the most common reason for an officer to complete a stop search, the tables below explore the drugs stop searches in more detail, looking at the volume of stop searches for cannabis/khat searches compared with searches for other drugs, as well as including information on arrests and positive searches. Please note that more than one purpose can be selected for a stop search, so there may be a small number of records where both types of drug have been selected as the object of search.

Purpose of Search	Cannabis or Khat					Purpose of Search	Drugs - Other				
	Volume of stop searches	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Rate of positive searches		Volume of stop searches	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Rate of positive searches
White British	614	47	7.7%	267	43.5%	White British	667	75	11.2%	127	19.0%
White Non-British	26	1	3.8%	10	38.5%	White Non-British	18	-	-	2	11.1%
Mixed	16	2	12.5%	5	31.3%	Mixed	13	1	7.7%	1	7.7%
Black	56	8	14.3%	18	32.1%	Black	61	10	16.4%	12	19.7%
Asian	18	2	11.1%	5	27.8%	Asian	13	3	23.1%	4	30.8%
Other *	6	-	-	3	50.0%	Other *	2	1	50.0%	1	50.0%
Not stated	122	10	8.2%	50	41.0%	Not stated	97	9	9.3%	13	13.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>41.9%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>18.4%</b>

In terms of the drugs being searched for, cannabis/khat has been the purpose of the search in 50% of drugs stop searches during 2017/18. The rate of positive searches is at 41.9% for cannabis/khat, with a higher rate of 43.5% for those of White British ethnicity. The arrest rate for cannabis/khat searches is notably higher for both Black individuals (14%) and those of Mixed ethnicity (12.5%) than the Force average during 2017/18 which stands at 8%. Arrest rates for 'Drugs-other' are higher overall than for Cannabis - an average of 11% which increases to 23.1% for those of Asian ethnicity and is above average at 16% for those of Black ethnicity. The positive search rate for drugs other is less than half that for Cannabis/Khat at 18% in the current year to date.

\* Other includes where the persons ethnicity has been recorded as either Chinese or Other ethnic group.

## Ethnicity of Person Stop Searched

	Total Stop Searches	Stop Searches per 1,000 popn (2011 Census)	Disproportionality Ratio	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Rate of positive searches
<b>White British</b>	1,811	2.65		197	10.9%	532	29.4%
<b>White Non-British</b>	70	2.27	0.86	3	4.3%	16	22.9%
<b>Mixed</b>	41	4.31	1.63	5	12.2%	9	22.0%
<b>Black</b>	142	44.26	16.71	21	14.8%	34	23.9%
<b>Asian</b>	37	2.61	0.99	5	13.5%	10	27.0%
<b>Other *</b>	13			1	7.7%	4	30.8%
<b>Not stated</b>	293			22	7.5%	79	27.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,407</b>			<b>254</b>		<b>684</b>	

As the table above identifies, the lowest rate of stop searches per 1,000 resident population is for those of White Non-British ethnicity, with 2.27 people searched for every 1,000 White Non-British people resident in Dorset. With a disproportionality ratio of less than 1, this means that a person of White British ethnicity is more likely to be stop searched than a person of White Non-British ethnicity. The ratio of Black to White British searches in 2017/18 is 17:1, meaning that for every White British person searched, there will be 17 Black people searched. This ratio has remained stable when compared to quarter 1-3 where it was 16:1.

The arrest rate for persons of White British ethnicity is 11% for 2017/18, but this increases to 12.2% for individuals of Mixed ethnicity, 14.8% for Black individuals and 13.5% for Asian individuals stop searched.

It is worth being aware that proposals to reduce searches for Cannabis would have the effect of worsening Dorset's disproportionality for those of Black ethnicity. The reason for this is that proportionately, a far greater percentage of White British searches are on the grounds of cannabis than for Black people, for whom drug searches tend to be for Other drugs (although this trend has not been seen in 2017/18), so you remove proportionately more White British stop searches from the calculation, pushing the disproportionality up further.

\* Other includes where the persons ethnicity has been recorded as either Chinese or Other ethnic group.



## Ethnicity of Person Stop Searched

Black Stop Searches	Total Stop Searches	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Rate of positive searches
Bmth Central	19	3	15.8%	4	21.1%
Bmth East	47	6	12.8%	9	19.1%
Bmth North	13	1	7.7%	2	15.4%
Bridport	4	-	-	-	-
Christchurch	1	-	-	-	-
Dorchester	6	2	33.3%	3	50.0%
Dorset County Marine	-	-	-	-	-
East Dorset	4	1	25.0%	1	25.0%
North Dorset	-	-	-	-	-
Poole North	4	-	-	-	-
Poole South	9	-	-	4	44.4%
Purbeck	1	-	-	-	-
Unknown	3	-	-	1	33.3%
Weymth & Portland	31	8	25.8%	10	32.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>23.9%</b>

The table above shows that the majority of Black Stop Searches during 2017/18 took place in one of three locations within Dorset; Bournemouth East at 33%, Bournemouth Central accounting for 13% and Weymouth and Portland at 22%. It is of note that whilst arrest rates and positive searches for Black nominals are above average for Black stop searches in Weymouth & Portland, arrest rates and positive searches within Bournemouth Central and East in the year to date are below average. It is recommended that the Black Stop Search records within Bournemouth Central and East are reviewed to ensure that there are no ethical concerns regarding these stop searches.

\* Unknown is where the location of search has not been linked to a Section.

## Age of Person Stop Searched

Age group of person stop searched (years)	Total Stop Searches	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Rate of positive searches
10-13	33	1	3.0%	11	33.3%
14-16	284	17	6.0%	83	29.2%
17	135	10	7.4%	44	32.6%
18-24	688	78	11.3%	254	36.9%
25-34	549	57	10.4%	131	23.9%
35-44	419	58	13.8%	97	23.2%
45-54	244	30	12.3%	54	22.1%
55-64	32	2	6.3%	7	21.9%
65-74	4	1	25.0%	2	50.0%
Unknown	11	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,399</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>28.5%</b>

The table above shows that 18-24 year olds accounted for the largest group of people stop searched in Dorset during 2017/18; 688 stop searches equating to 28.7% of the total stop searches conducted over this period - a similar picture to the 2016/17 year-end proportion. This group is closely followed by those aged 25-34 years old who account for a further 23% of the total. The arrest rate among the 18-24 year olds is slightly above average with the positive search rate among 18-24 year olds also being above average. 35-44 year olds have one of the highest arrest rates at 13.8% whilst their positive search rate is slightly below the Force average. Youths aged 17 years and under were subject to a total of 452 searches during 2017/18; 19% of the total conducted, which is an increase on the 17% recorded for the 2016/17 year end. Any searches against those aged 10-13 years old are routinely reviewed to ensure that the search was reasonable. Whilst arrest rates are below average among youths, the positive search rates are generally above the Force average.

## Object of Search by Age of person searched

	Article for use in criminal damage	Article for use in theft	Drugs	Firearms	Not Recorded	Offensive weapons	Other **	Stolen goods
10-13	3	9	11	-	-	6	2	2
14-16	16	52	149	2	-	24	24	17
17	1	7	115	2	1	4	4	1
18-24	7	43	550	6	-	54	14	14
25-34	6	57	389	6	1	39	17	34
35-44	5	41	314	-	1	23	-	35
45-54	1	19	168	2	1	20	3	30
55-64	-	3	20	1	-	2	5	1
65-74	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1
Unknown	-	-	7	-	-	3	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>136</b>

The table above shows that controlled drugs are the most searched for item across all age groups. The 'other' category which is also prevalent in relation to 14-16 year olds mainly relates to underage smoking or drinking. Those aged 25-34 years old account for the majority of searches conducted with the purpose of finding stolen goods.

\*\* Other includes where the object of search has been recorded as either Sus crime/disorder/ASB, Terrorism or Other.

## Stop Search Powers

The table below shows the legal powers under which the stop searches have been conducted over the reporting period.

Legal Power	Total stop searches
Firearms Act 1968 (s47)	15
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (s23)	1,734
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (s23);PACE 1984 (s1)	3
PACE 1984 (32)	2
PACE 1984 (s1)	608
Poaching Prevention Act 1862 (s2)	18
Police Reform Act 2002 (sch4)	16
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (s19)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,399</b>

The majority of searches are conducted under Section 23 of the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act (72% of the total). No searches have been made under the Terrorism Act.

## Stop Search Locations

The table below shows the location of the Stop Searches during the reporting period, broken down by Police Section. The corresponding arrests and positive search information is also included in the table below.

	Total Stop Searches	Arrests	Arrest Rate	Positive Searches	Rate of positive searches
<b>Bmth Central</b>	191	34	17.8%	71	37.2%
<b>Bmth East</b>	319	31	9.7%	74	23.2%
<b>Bmth North</b>	201	12	6.0%	43	21.4%
<b>Bridport</b>	135	9	6.7%	36	26.7%
<b>Christchurch</b>	112	8	7.1%	37	33.0%
<b>Dorchester</b>	107	11	10.3%	32	29.9%
<b>Dorset County Marine</b>	1	-	-	-	-
<b>East Dorset</b>	135	12	8.9%	55	40.7%
<b>North Dorset</b>	103	6	5.8%	36	35.0%
<b>Poole North</b>	136	15	11.0%	34	25.0%
<b>Poole South</b>	319	29	9.1%	91	28.5%
<b>Purbeck</b>	46	5	10.9%	15	32.6%
<b>Weymth &amp; Portland</b>	527	80	15.2%	147	27.9%
<b>Unknown</b>	67	2	3.0%	12	17.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,399</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>28.5%</b>

During 2017/18, location details were not fully completed for 67 Stop Searches (2.8%) and therefore cannot be assigned to a specific Police Section. Where a location was specified, Weymouth & Portland Section completed the most stop searches (22% of the total, 527 searches), followed closely by 13% of stop searches taking place in Poole South and Bournemouth East. In terms of Section level exceptions, Bournemouth North has an abnormally low arrest rate and positive search rate compared to the Force average, as does Bridport. Whilst some of the other Sections also have arrest rates that are notably below average, their positive search rate is closer to, or in excess of the Force average.

\* Unknown is where the location of search has not been linked to a Section.