

Performance and Resources Scrutiny Programme 2022/23

Report to: the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex

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Author on behalf of Chief Officer:	Dan Youngman 42078817
Date of Approval:	

1.0 **Purpose of Report**

To provide a quarterly update on Essex Police's use of force and stop and search powers.

2.0 **Recommendations**

There are no recommendations. This report is for the board to note.

3.0 **Executive Summary**

Use of Force

There were 5,116 instances of Use of Force recorded in Essex during Q3 2022/23. This is a decrease of 501 (8.9%) forms completed, compared to the same quarter for the 2021/22, and an 8.8% decrease on the previous quarter.

3,458 forms (67.6%) involved the use of either compliant or non-compliant handcuffs.

33 forms showed Firearms as a first tactic, an increase of 24 from last quarter. All Firearms use forms refer to a total of 16 separate incidents (seven more than the previous quarter).

85 uses of Taser were recorded as a first tactic in this quarter (15 fewer than the previous quarter). All Taser use refers to 142 separate incidents (8 fewer than the previous quarter).

81.4% of subjects on Use of Force records were male. 41.0% of all subjects are male and in the 18-34 age range, with the average age being 31 years old.

The proportion of subjects from Ethnic Minorities continues to be higher than the proportion within the population of Essex as a whole. 8.3% of subjects against whom force was used were Black. This is 4.9 percentage points higher than the 3.4% Black resident population proportion in Essex (2021 Census data).

53.3% of reasons for the use of force are to prevent harm to people or property. Alcohol was the highest Impact Factor.

The tactic most likely to cause injury to subjects is Taser being fired which has a 50.0% chance of resulting in a minor injury.

Stop and Search

3,984 stops were recorded in Quarter 3 of 2022/23. This is a decrease of 4.1% (170 records) on the previous quarter and a 6.3% decrease (268 records) on the equivalent quarter last year. The volume of stops will continue at similar levels unless there is an outside influence, such as a large operation or further pandemic restrictions.

94.8% (3,775) of stops in the last quarter were PACE and Misuse of Drugs Stops. There were 161 Section 60 Stops in Q3.

The peak age range for those stopped is 18-24, equating to 1,392 stops in the last quarter (34.9% of subjects) with 86.1% of subjects being male.

There were 2.1 Stops per 1,000 people on individuals from Ethnic Minorities in Essex last quarter; this compares to 1.5 Stops per 1,000 for White individuals. This means that an individual from an Ethnic Minority is 1.4 times more likely to be stopped than a white individual. This disparity varies throughout the districts and is highest in Castle Point/Rochford and lowest in Harlow. The data from the 2021 Census has had a positive impact on Stop/Search disparity, lowering the disparity ratio from 2.5 to 1.35 stops per 1,000 people.

Black individuals are 1.8 times more likely to be stopped than White individuals, Black to White disproportionality is highest in North LPA and lowest in West LPA.

The quarterly EDIC (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Cohesion) Board looks at the position of Essex Police in relation to its Most Similar Group. Essex currently performs favourably when compared to similar forces.

For Q3 2022/23, 27.8% of Essex outcomes were positive; this is 1.9 percentage points lower than the MSG average. During the last quarter Positive outcomes on

individuals from Ethnic Minorities were 2.7 percentage points higher than for White individuals.

4.0 Introduction/Background

This report discusses the Use of Force forms and stop searches submitted for incidents occurring between 1 October and 31 December 2022.

The Use of Force data analysed in this report contains duplicates, as one form should be submitted per officer on every occasion force is used. Therefore, if three officers use force against one subject in relation to the same incident, three forms should be submitted, and the subject would appear three times in the data (for that one incident).

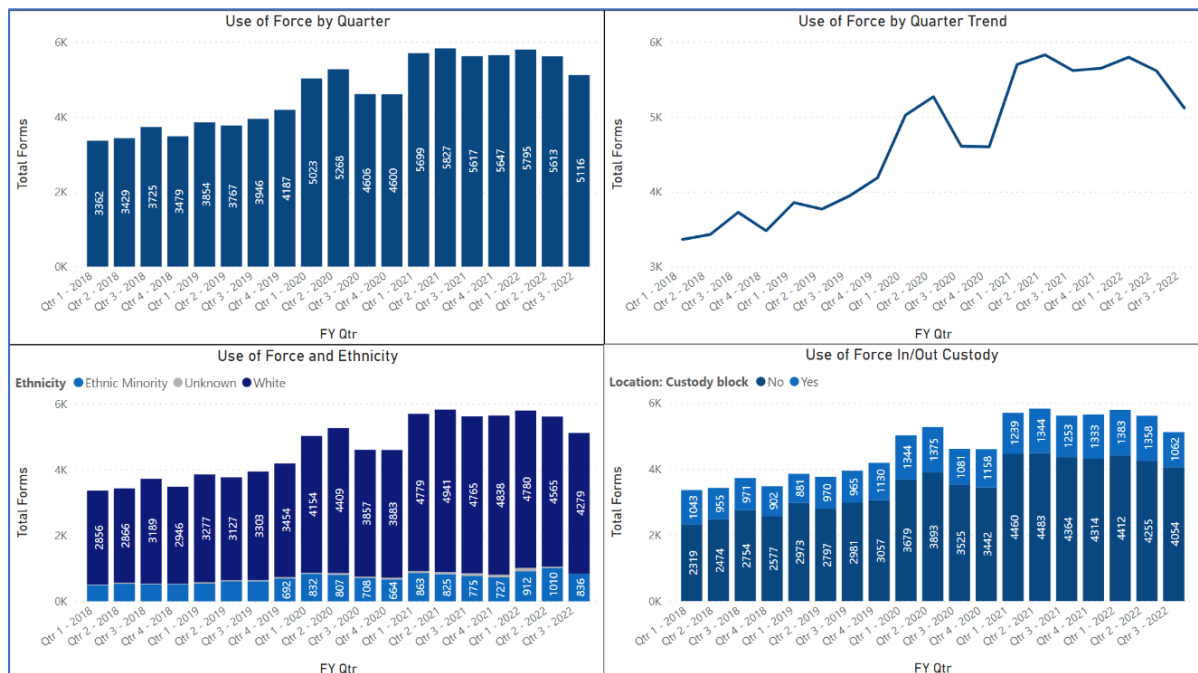
Stop Searches are now recorded on two separate databases: the Stops Database and the MobileFirst system (which is also used for the Use of Force data). Stops Database is now not active and used solely for historic figures.

The Office of National Statistics has now released ethnicity data from the 2021 Census and this has been used in this report whenever populations are discussed.

For the purposes of this report, the term Ethnic Minorities is used to describe all minorities other than White minorities. White minorities are included in White.

5.0 Current Work and Performance

Use of Force



5,116 instances of Use of Force were recorded in Essex during Q3 2022/23. This is a decrease of 501 (8.9%), compared to the same quarter for the 2021/22, and an 8.8% decrease on the previous quarter. The proportion of force being used in custody remains stable. In the last quarter it was 20.8% compared to the 7-quarter average of 23.4%.

The below table details the tactics employed with each Use of Force in Q3 2022/23. It details the first eight tactics employed (not necessarily the most severe); more than one will have been used in most incidents. The MobileFirst app allows for the inputting of up to 20 Tactics for one incident; no forms submitted in this quarter detailed more than seven tactics.

Compliant Handcuffing continues to be the most commonly used tactic both overall and in the first used tactic.

In 79 reports, Tactical Communications (Tac Comms) were the only method employed, suggesting further training on the app may be required, as **a form is not required when Tac Comms are the only method.** This is one report more than the previous quarter.

Over half (51.5%) of forms did not state that Tac Comms were used as a first tactic. It is unlikely that this is the case. This is 18 percentage points lower than the previous quarter.

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Tactic	Tactic 1	Tactic 2	Tactic 3	Tactic 4	Tactic 5	Tactic 6	Tactic 7	Tactic 8	Tactic Count	%age of Tactics
Compliant Handcuffing	1811	478	63	4	1	0	0	0	2357	26.71%
Tactical Communication	1355	408	98	17	3	3	0	0	1884	21.35%
Unarmed skills	447	463	214	32	11	2	0	0	1169	13.24%
Non-Compliant Handcuffing	530	373	180	11	6	1	0	0	1101	12.47%
Ground Restraint	417	294	175	20	3	0	0	0	909	10.30%
Other / improvised	242	255	142	24	5	2	0	0	670	7.59%
Limb / Body Restraints	126	159	96	21	5	2	0	0	409	4.63%
Taser	85	80	8	0	0	0	0	0	173	1.96%
Spit guard	15	23	27	7	6	0	0	0	78	0.88%
CS PAVA used	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
CS PAVA drawn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Baton drawn	6	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	13	0.15%
Dog Deployed	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0.07%
Shield	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	0.09%
Dog Bite	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.01%
Baton used	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	5	0.06%
AEP aimed	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.05%
Firearms	33	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	0.42%
AEP used	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.02%
AEP drawn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%

3,458 forms (67.6%) involved the use of either compliant or non-compliant handcuffs.

33 forms showed Firearms as a first tactic, an increase of 24 from last quarter. All Firearms use forms refer to a total of 16 separate incidents (seven more than the previous quarter). None of the forms submitted suggests that a firearm was fired in any of the incidents.

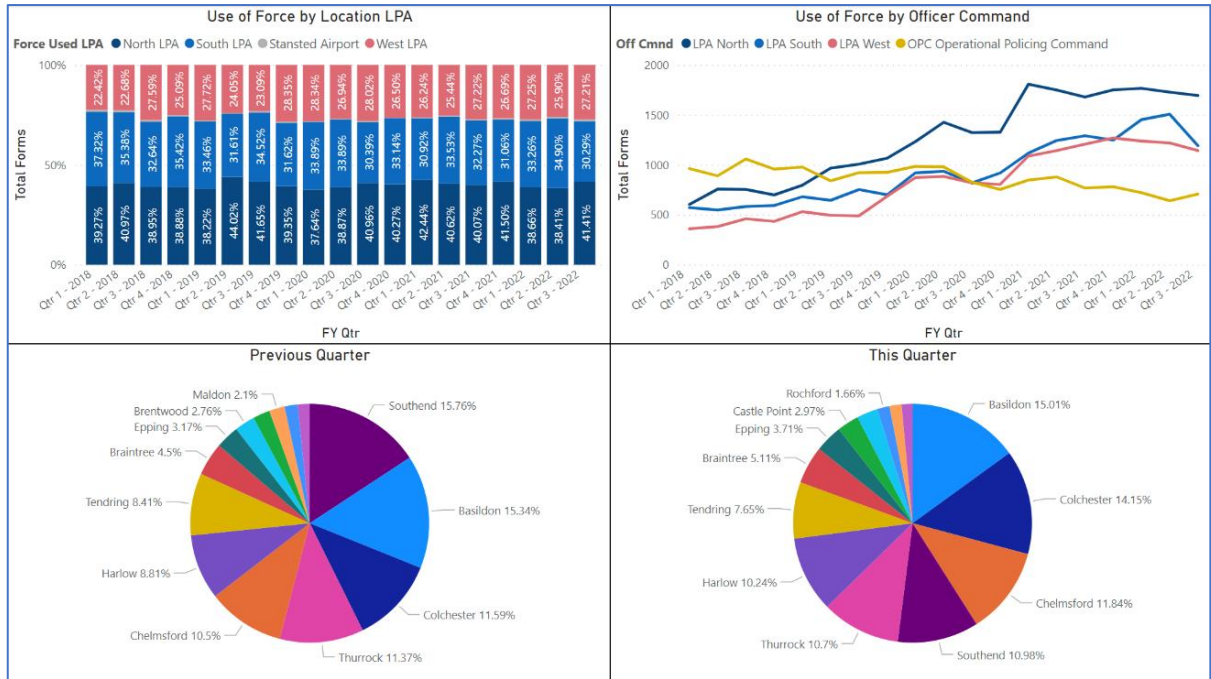
No injuries were recorded in forms that included Firearms as a tactic for the last quarter, although the outcome "Hospitalised" is listed for one form. The incident does not mention anyone upon whom force was used as having needed hospital attention.

85 uses of Taser were recorded as a first tactic in this quarter (15 fewer than the previous quarter). All Taser use refers to 142 separate incidents (8 fewer than the previous quarter).

Tactic Number	Taser Tactics	Total Effective	%age Effectiveness
1	85	80	94.1%
2	80	73	91.3%
3	8	6	75.0%
4	2	2	100.0%
Total	175	161	92.0%

After each Tactic entered on a Use of Force form, the officer records whether the tactic has been effective. Using this data, Taser tactics are 92.0% effective.

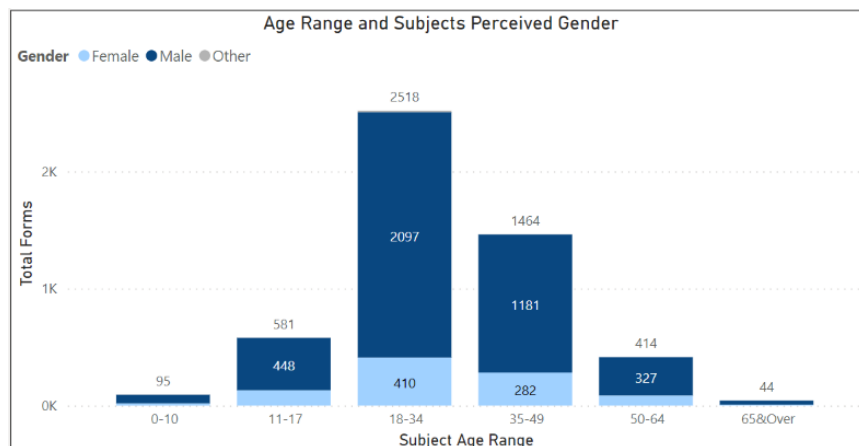
The two uses of AEP do not have Incident Numbers attached to the form. Therefore, further investigation is not possible.



Historically Colchester, Basildon, Southend, Thurrock, Chelmsford, Harlow and Tendring are the districts that account for most use of force. These seven districts accounted for the location of 80.6% of all force used. The proportions of location by LPA remain consistent.

When looking at which Commands use force the most¹, the Local Policing Areas (LPAs) and OPC combined account for 96.1% of all forms recorded in the past quarter. Since the inception of Use of Force forms on Mobile First, all three LPAs have shown an upward trend in the volume of forms submitted by officers; this is a reflection on how technology has improved the ease of reporting in this area and, as a result, improved data quality.

81.4% of those subjected to Use of Force were identified by officers as male. 18.3% were identified as female; this is a slightly lower proportion of Female subjects than the last quarter (21.9%). No subjects were identified as transgender.



¹ In order to do this, the Collar Number is looked up on a snapshot of serving officers taken each month. The caveat here is that all figures are based upon where an officer CURRENTLY serves.

31 was the average age for subjects (where a date of birth was given/stated); for males the average was 31 and for females the average age was 32. The mode (age most recorded) was 37 for female subjects and 33 for males. Males with a perceived age between 18-34 years were the most common gender and age band in the review period.

Of the 95 forms showing a subject aged 0-10, **90 of these show the Subject’s date of birth was between 2020 - 2022, . This is likely a data quality issue.** The four of the remaining five records involve children with behavioral difficulties being restrained; the fifth does not have a valid incident number for further research.

83.6% of subjects were White. This is 5.2 percentage points lower than the proportion of White residents of Essex.

8.3% of subjects against whom force was used were Black. This is 4.9 percentage points higher than the 3.4% Black resident population proportion in Essex (2021 Census data).

	Use of Force per 1000 population						Ratio to White				
	White	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Mixed	Other Ethnic Group	Total Ethnic Minorities	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Mixed	Other Ethnic Group	Total Ethnic Minorities
LPA North	2.38	1.82	8.90	2.31	5.82	3.96	0.76	3.74	0.97	2.45	1.66
Braintree	1.56	3.12	5.82	0.66	6.13	3.14	2.00	3.73	0.42	3.93	2.01
Chelmsford	3.11	1.56	11.77	2.75	5.90	4.51	0.50	3.78	0.88	1.90	1.45
Colchester	3.57	1.51	8.71	3.57	5.98	4.40	0.42	2.44	1.00	1.68	1.23
Maldon	1.12	4.05	12.71	2.23	9.62	4.80	3.62	11.35	1.99	8.59	4.29
Tendring	2.54	2.23	7.69	2.51	7.41	3.73	0.88	3.03	0.99	2.92	1.47
Uttlesford	0.81	1.74	0.00	0.00	1.66	0.79	2.15	0.00	0.00	2.05	0.98
LPA South	2.63	2.57	7.37	3.22	7.79	4.56	0.98	2.80	1.22	2.96	1.73
Basildon	3.83	1.63	8.41	4.05	8.72	5.20	0.43	2.20	1.06	2.28	1.36
Castle Point	1.55	4.52	0.85	1.38	16.43	3.69	2.92	0.55	0.89	10.60	2.38
Rochford	0.88	1.69	6.32	2.79	3.38	3.10	1.92	7.18	3.17	3.84	3.52
Southend	2.87	3.14	7.18	3.06	5.89	4.29	1.09	2.50	1.07	2.05	1.49
LPA West	2.75	2.30	4.85	1.48	5.00	3.35	0.84	1.76	0.54	1.82	1.22
Brentwood	1.55	1.53	13.74	0.00	8.47	4.18	0.99	8.86	0.00	5.46	2.70
Epping	1.30	1.34	2.80	1.23	2.66	1.77	1.03	2.15	0.95	2.05	1.36
Harlow	5.35	2.70	10.98	2.95	7.12	6.21	0.50	2.05	0.55	1.33	1.16
Thurrock	3.10	3.11	2.78	1.52	5.23	2.88	1.00	0.90	0.49	1.69	0.93
Force	2.59	2.30	6.69	2.31	6.33	4.01	0.89	2.58	0.89	2.44	1.55

A clearer method to show the ethnic disproportionality for Use of Force is looking at the number of Forms per 1,000 population in Essex. This indicates that individuals from Ethnic Minorities are just over one and a half times more likely to have force used upon them than White individuals. This rises to just over two and a half times more likely for Black or Black British individuals when the calculation is based solely on ONS residence data. Since no subject address data is included in the Use of Force form, no comparison can be made between Essex residents and non-residents.

There is no readily available data to compare Essex with similar forces on a regular basis.

Effecting Arrest was the most used reason entered for officers using force, followed by Preventing Harm, Protecting Oneself and Protecting Other Officers. Please note, that more than one reason can be entered when justifying a Use of Force.

Reason for Force	Total	%age Reasons	%age Forms
Effect arrest	3000	14.8%	58.6%
Prevent harm	2773	13.7%	54.2%
Protect self	2740	13.5%	53.6%
Protect other officers	2608	12.9%	51.0%
Prevent escape	2475	12.2%	48.4%
Protect subject	1496	7.4%	29.2%
Prevent offence	1411	7.0%	27.6%
Protect public	1177	5.8%	23.0%
Effect search (Expired value)	559	2.8%	10.9%
Remove handcuffs	455	2.2%	8.9%
Secure evidence	433	2.1%	8.5%
Other	321	1.6%	6.3%
Effect stop and search	315	1.6%	6.2%
Effect search in custody	263	1.3%	5.1%
Effect other search	207	1.0%	4.0%
Method of entry (Expired value)	32	0.2%	0.6%

Combining the reasons that encompass preventing harm as a whole², 53.3% of reasons are to prevent harm.

Impact Factor	Total	%age all Factors	%age Forms
Alcohol	2115	19.2%	41.3%
Size / Gender / Build	1905	17.3%	37.2%
Mental health	1810	16.4%	35.4%
Drugs	1538	13.9%	30.1%
Prior knowledge	1372	12.4%	26.8%
Other	1124	10.2%	22.0%
Possession of a weapon	608	5.5%	11.9%
Crowd	365	3.3%	7.1%
Acute behavioural disturbance	205	1.9%	4.0%

Each Use of Force form can have multiple impact factors. The table above shows the proportion of each impact factor in the total number of forms for the last quarter. Alcohol is the highest impact factor, appearing on 41.3% of forms.

By calculating the number and severity of injuries that have occurred after each tactic type and then dividing that by the total use of each tactic, it is possible to ascertain the likelihood that the use of each tactic will result in either minor or severe injury.

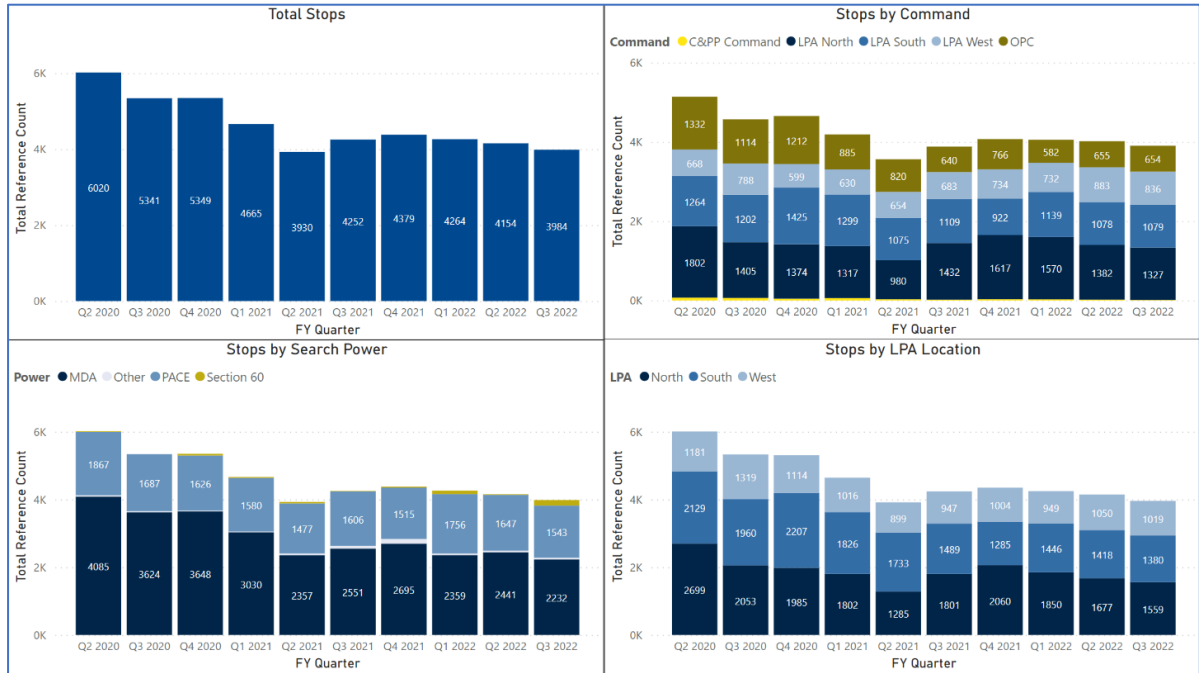
² Protect Self, Prevent Harm, Protect Other Officers, Protect Subject and Protect Public

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Tactic	Likelihood of Leading to Minor Injury	Likelihood of Leading to Severe Injury
Taser fired	50.0%	10.0%
Spit guard	15.3%	0.0%
CS PAVA drawn	13.4%	0.0%
CS PAVA used	12.3%	0.0%
Ground Restraint	10.3%	0.6%
Non-Compliant Handcuffing	8.7%	0.2%
Baton used	8.3%	0.0%
Limb / Body Restraints	8.1%	0.0%
Taser	7.8%	0.5%
Baton drawn	7.7%	0.0%
Dog Bite	7.7%	0.0%
Unarmed skills	7.3%	0.1%
Other / improvised	7.0%	0.3%
Tactical Communication	6.3%	0.2%
Taser red-dotted	6.3%	0.0%
Compliant Handcuffing	2.4%	0.1%
Dog Deployed	0.0%	0.0%
Shield	0.0%	7.1%
AEP aimed	0.0%	0.0%
Firearms	0.0%	0.0%
AEP used	0.0%	20.0%
AEP drawn	0.0%	0.0%
Taser drawn	0.0%	0.0%
Taser arced	0.0%	0.0%

Very few Dog bites led to any injury in the last quarter (7.7%). The most likely tactic to cause injury being Taser fired. Spit guards have caused a minor injury 15% of the time.

Stop and Search



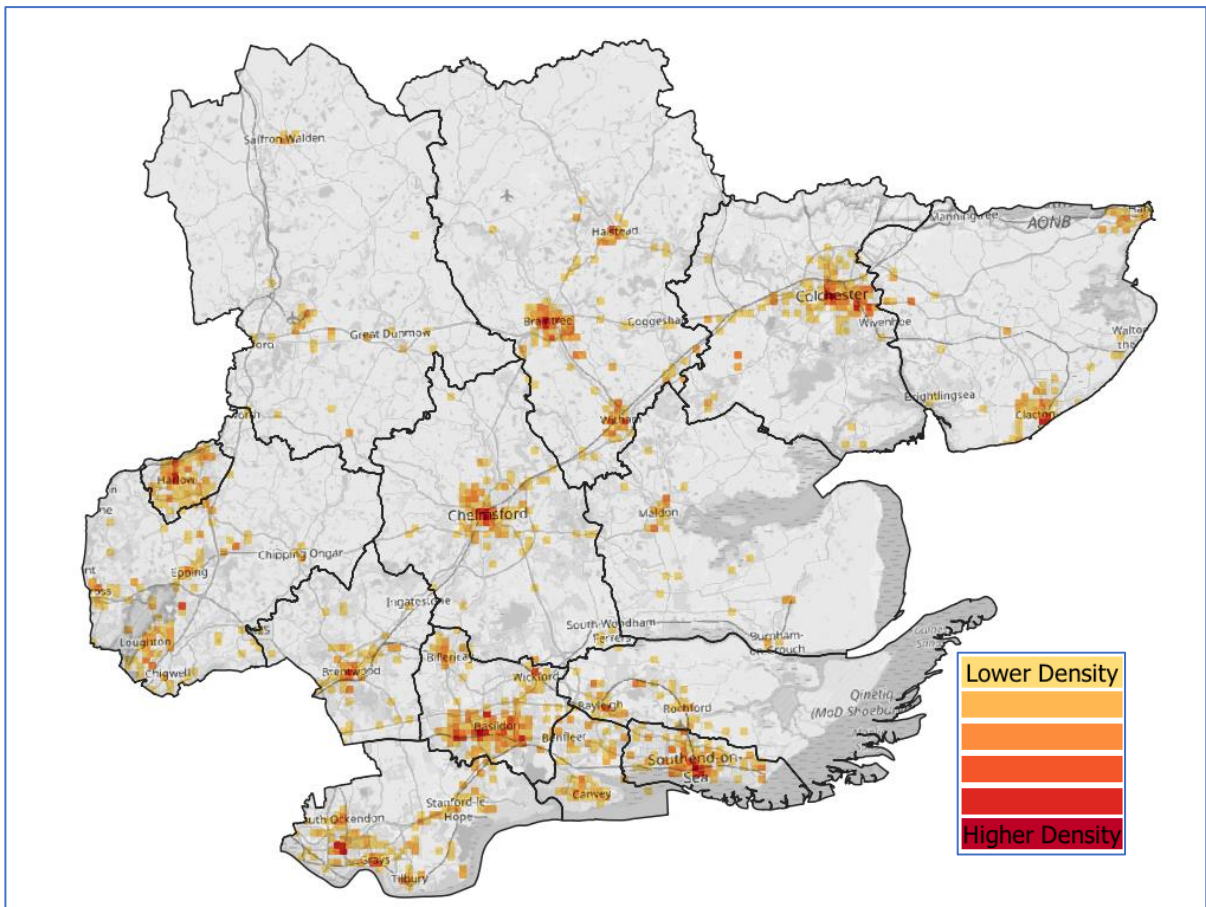
3,984 stops were recorded in Quarter 3 of 2022/23. This is a decrease of 4.1% (170 records) on the previous quarter and a 6.3% decrease (268 records) on the equivalent quarter last year. It seems likely that the volume of stops will continue at similar levels without an outside influence, such as a large operation or further pandemic restrictions, to drive volumes up or down.

94.8% (3,775) of stops in the last quarter were PACE and Misuse of Drugs Stops. There were 161 Section 60 Stops in Q3.

LPA	District Name	2020/21		2021/22				2022/23	
		Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3
North	Chelmsford / Maldon	517	491	321	460	602	553	452	375
	Colchester	671	581	428	520	399	380	402	454
	Tendring	442	429	233	276	353	336	286	228
	Uttlesford / Braintree	355	301	303	545	706	581	537	502
South	Basildon	1223	969	684	833	783	717	631	758
	Castle Point/Rochford	272	264	203	171	185	181	143	218
	Southend	711	593	846	485	317	548	644	404
West	Brentwood / Epping	532	467	302	370	329	310	387	361
	Harlow	228	259	267	274	378	313	307	312
	Thurrock	354	290	330	303	297	326	356	346
	Stansted Airport	43	21	13	15	30	19	9	26

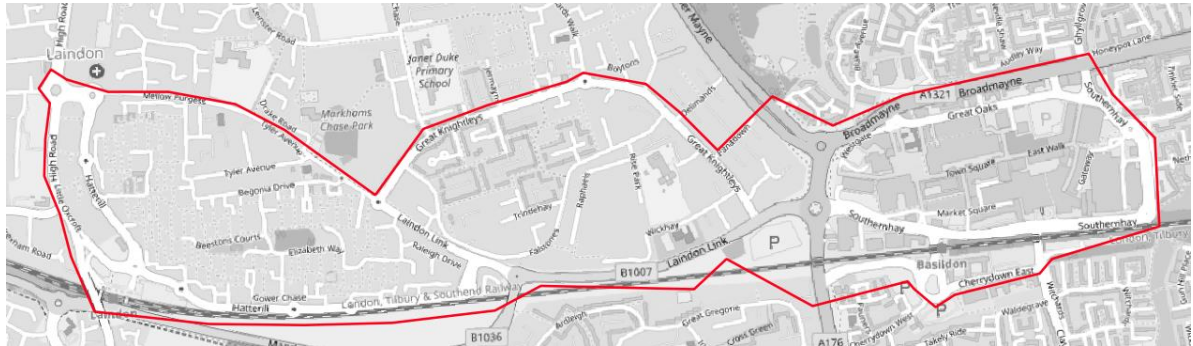
LPA	District Name	2020/21		2021/22				2022/23	
		Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3
North	Chelmsford / Maldon	9.7%	10.5%	8.2%	10.8%	13.7%	13.0%	10.9%	9.4%
	Colchester	12.5%	12.5%	10.9%	12.2%	9.1%	8.9%	9.7%	11.4%
	Tendring	8.3%	9.2%	5.9%	6.5%	8.1%	7.9%	6.9%	5.7%
	Uttlesford / Braintree	6.6%	6.5%	7.7%	12.8%	16.1%	13.6%	12.9%	12.6%
South	Basildon	22.9%	20.8%	17.4%	19.6%	17.9%	16.8%	15.2%	19.0%
	Castle Point/Rochford	5.1%	5.7%	5.2%	4.0%	4.2%	4.2%	3.4%	5.5%
	Southend	13.3%	12.7%	21.5%	11.4%	7.2%	12.9%	15.5%	10.1%
West	Brentwood / Epping	9.9%	10.0%	7.7%	8.7%	7.5%	7.3%	9.3%	9.1%
	Harlow	4.3%	5.6%	6.8%	6.4%	8.6%	7.3%	7.4%	7.8%
	Thurrock	6.6%	6.2%	8.4%	7.1%	6.8%	7.6%	8.6%	8.7%
	Stansted Airport	0.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%

North LPA recorded most stops in the last quarter. Basildon was the district with the highest volume with 758; this was followed by Uttlesford & Braintree with 502.

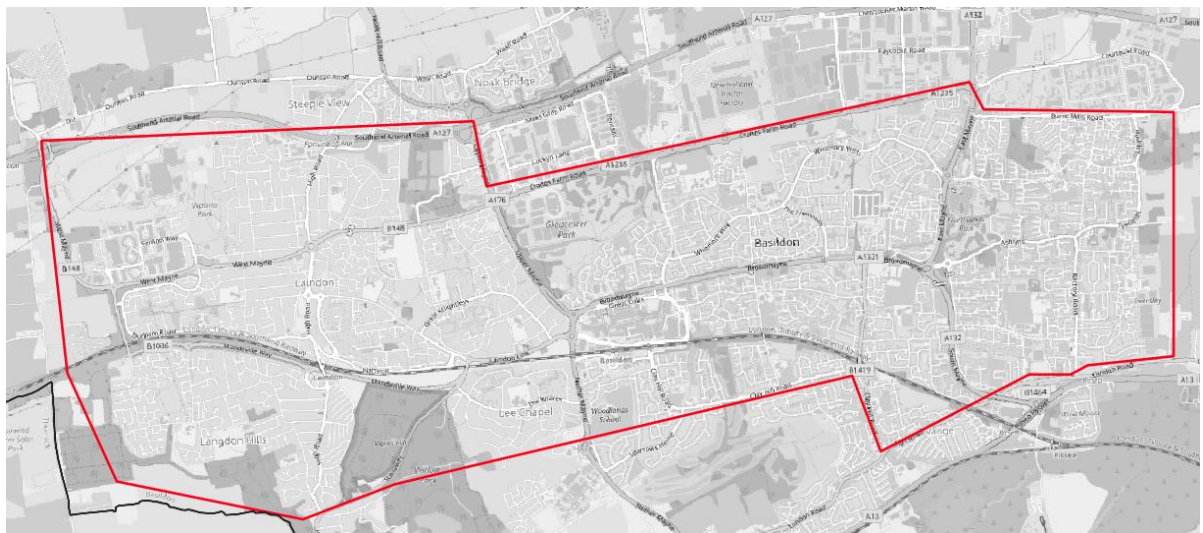


The majority of stops occurred in the main population centres of the county.

In the last quarter, there were three Section 60 authorisations in Essex.



A Sec. 60 in Basildon was put in place on 31 October. This resulted 56 stops. Four of these stops resulted in verbal warnings.

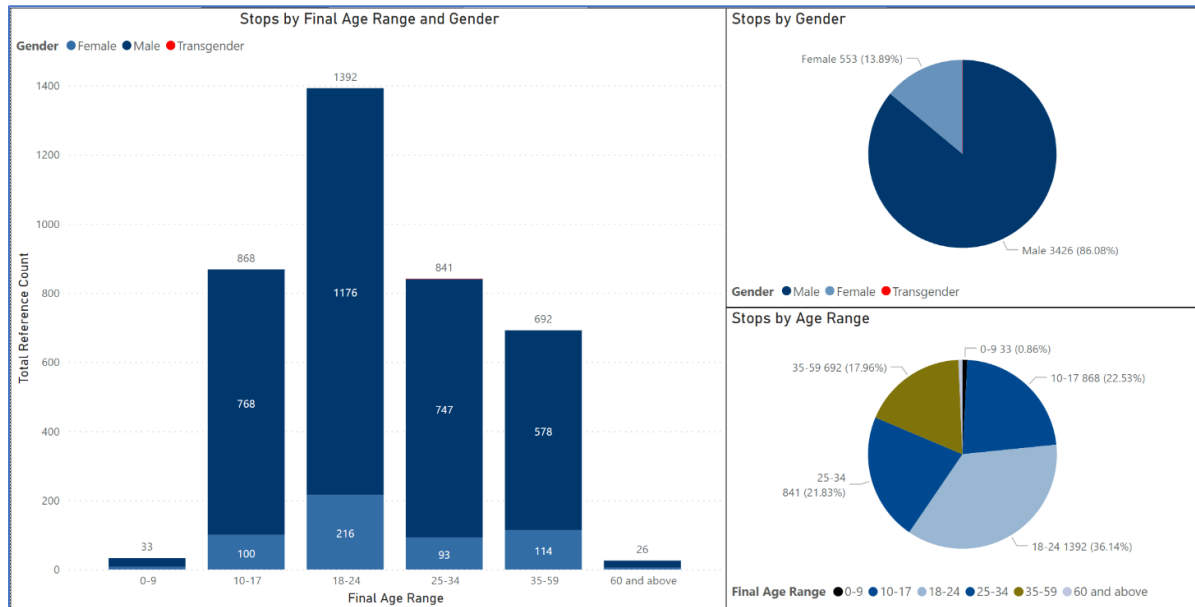


A Sec. 60 was put in place on 18th November. This resulted in 61 stops. Two of these stops resulted in arrests for offensive weapons; two verbal warnings were given and four community resolutions also resulted.



A Sec.60 was put in place in Basildon on 23rd November. This resulted in 44 stops. The outcome of one stop was a voluntary attendance and two further stops resulted in verbal warnings.

81.4% of all stops last quarter were carried out by officers attached to the LPA Commands and a further 16.4% were carried out by officers from Operational Policing Command (OPC).



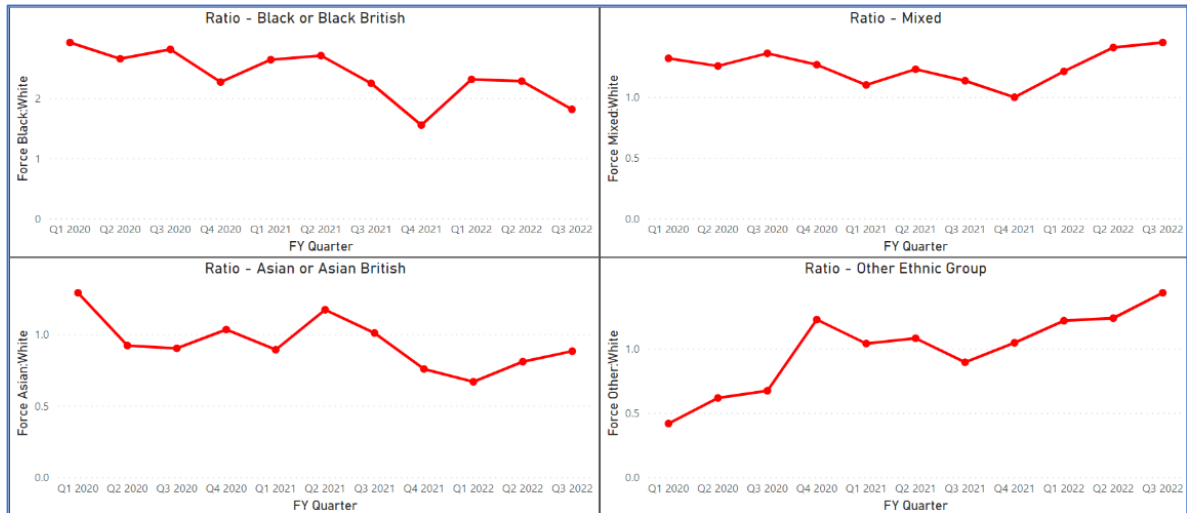
During Quarter 3 of 2022/23 and where age and gender data are recorded, 86.1% of subjects stopped were male. 18 – 24 was the most prevalent age group for both male and female subjects. The Modal age for male subjects is 17 and 18 for female subjects.

	Stops per 1000 population						Ratio to White				
	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other Ethnic Group	Total Ethnic Minorities	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other Ethnic Group	Total Ethnic Minorities
LPA North	1.35	1.77	0.91	3.43	1.64	1.79	1.31	0.67	2.54	1.21	1.33
Chelmsford/Maldon	0.85	1.78	0.77	2.40	1.58	1.44	2.09	0.91	2.82	1.86	1.69
Colchester	1.64	2.86	1.01	2.85	1.05	1.92	1.74	0.62	1.74	0.64	1.17
Tendring	1.23	0.00	0.56	12.09	1.85	2.31	0.00	0.46	9.83	1.50	1.88
Uttlesford/Braintree	1.62	1.39	1.17	3.85	2.82	1.95	0.86	0.72	2.38	1.74	1.20
LPA South	1.89	3.67	1.85	3.97	4.81	3.15	1.94	0.98	2.10	2.54	1.67
Basildon	3.16	7.29	2.13	4.94	5.61	4.52	2.31	0.67	1.56	1.78	1.43
Castle Point/Rochford	0.93	1.74	1.83	1.66	2.77	1.84	1.87	1.97	1.78	2.98	1.98
Southend	1.58	1.44	1.62	3.10	4.91	2.21	0.91	1.03	1.96	3.11	1.40
LPA West	1.36	1.35	1.31	1.79	1.22	1.49	0.99	0.96	1.32	0.90	1.10
Brentwood/Epping	1.02	1.10	1.18	3.52	0.78	1.55	1.08	1.16	3.45	0.76	1.52
Harlow	2.20	1.97	1.08	1.37	1.19	1.36	0.90	0.49	0.62	0.54	0.62
Thurrock	1.34	1.33	1.56	1.44	1.87	1.49	0.99	1.16	1.07	1.40	1.11
Force	1.52	2.21	1.34	2.76	2.18	2.05	1.45	0.88	1.82	1.43	1.35
Force (Essex Residents)	0.80	0.99	0.50	1.04	0.88	0.81	1.24	0.63	1.30	1.10	1.01
Force (Essex Non-Residents)	0.11	0.23	0.36	0.52	0.42	0.38	2.09	3.27	4.73	3.82	3.45

Looking at the ethnic breakdown of Stop Searches for Q3 2022/23, an individual from an Ethnic Minority is 1.3 times more likely to be stopped than a White individual, this is an improvement on the last quarter (1.4 times more likely. This has been adjusted for 2021 Census results as the previous report, based on 2019 estimates had the figure of 2.2 times more likely). The above table shows a breakdown of stops per 1,000 population and of the ratio of various ethnicities to White across the force. Black to White disproportionality is highest in the South LPA and lowest in the West

LPA. In Harlow an ethnic minority individual is less likely to be stopped than a White individual. However, the proportion of records that do not detail ethnicity in Harlow was much higher than in other districts (38.4% for Q3).

When the subject is an Essex resident³, the disproportionality ratios fall by an average of 24.1%. An Essex Resident from an Ethnic Minority is 1.01 times more likely to be stopped than a White Resident compared to 1.3 times for all individuals stopped.



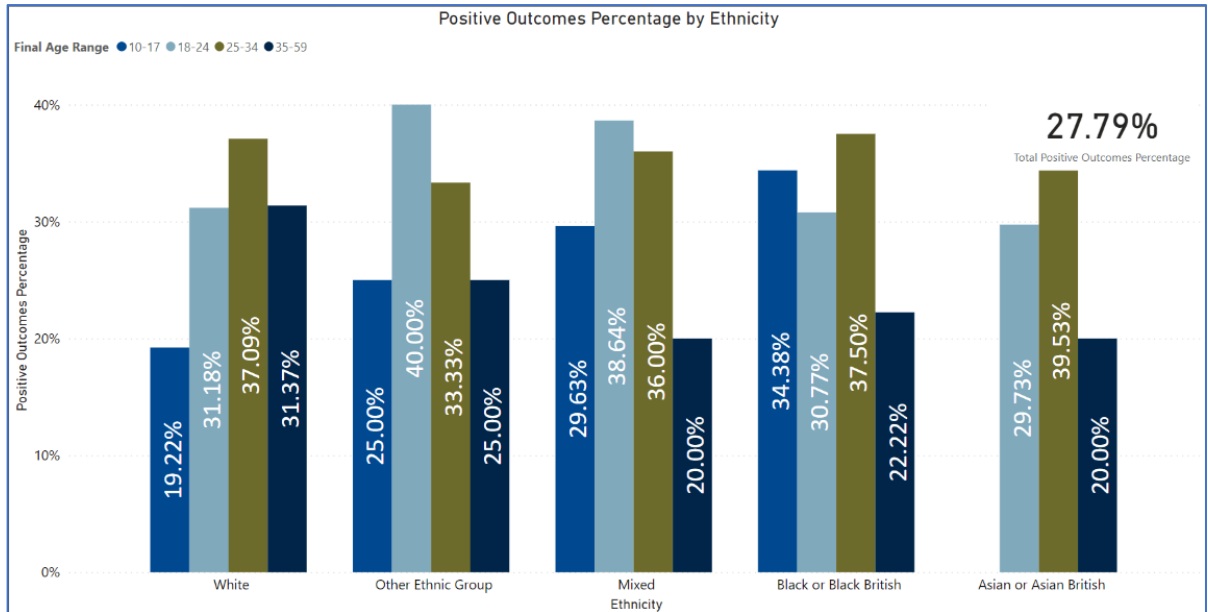
The Ethnicity to White ratio can be tracked over time. The ratios for Black and Asian ethnicities show a downward trend over past two years, the ratio for Mixed ethnicities shows a stable trend.

County	Ratio Ethnic Minority:White (White =1)	County	Ratio Black:White (White =1)
Derbyshire	3.62	Sussex	10.19
Sussex	3.12	Hampshire	7.37
Staffordshire	2.81	Derbyshire	7.19
Hertfordshire	2.57	Hertfordshire	5.00
Hampshire	2.36	Staffordshire	4.72
Essex	2.36	Leicestershire	4.55
Avon & Somerset	2.32	Avon & Somerset	4.19
Leicestershire	1.56	Essex	3.82

Data from Police.uk can be used to compare Essex Police to its Most Similar Group of forces. This data is based on a six-month period June 2022 – November 2022⁴. Essex has the third lowest Ethnic Minority to White ratio and the lowest Black to White ratio. **It should be noted that Police.uk have not yet moved to the 2021 Census data and are still using 2011 data.**

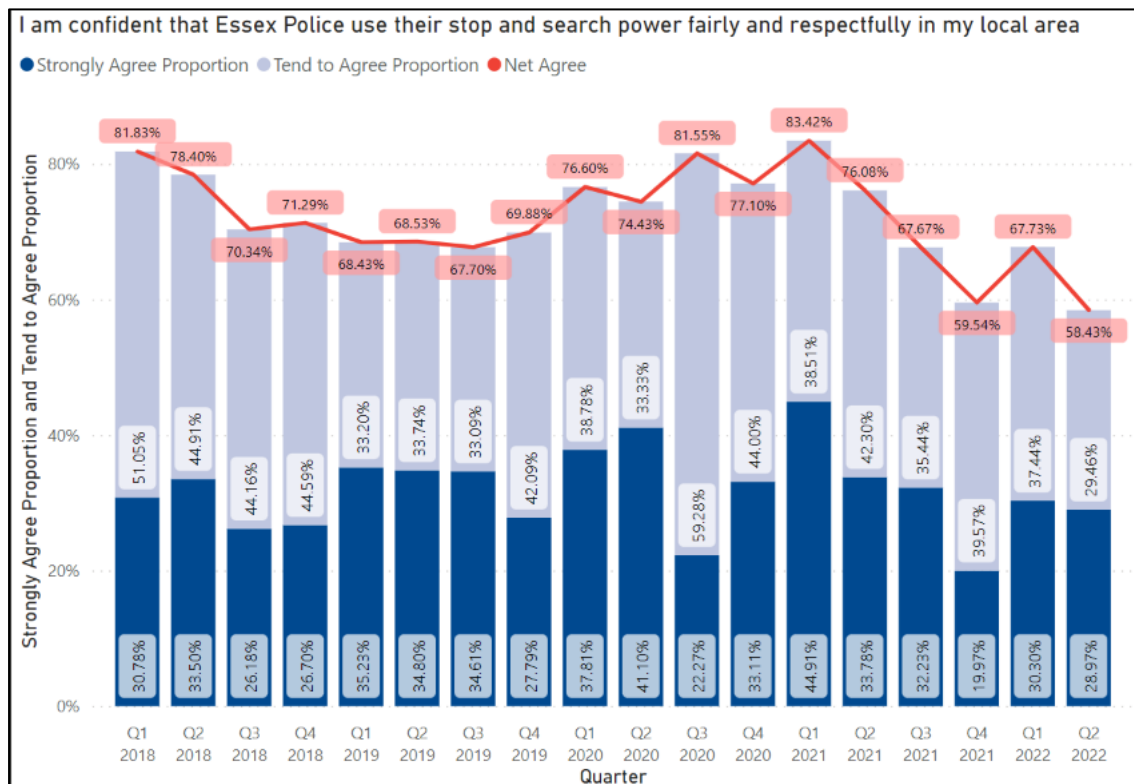
³ This is done by matching the town of residence or postcode with lists of towns and postcodes in Essex. Whilst the quality of the data is not perfect and subject to input errors, it is unlikely that the error is significant.

⁴ Avon and Somerset have only submitted Jun & July 2022.



Whilst there is no country-wide definition as to what counts as a Positive outcome for Stop Search, Police.uk uses all outcomes apart from “A no further action disposal⁵.” The above chart shows data for Q3 broken down by ethnicity and age group.

For Q3 2022/23, 27.8% of Essex outcomes were positive. This is higher than the previous quarter (25.6%). The Most Similar Group of Forces average positive outcome rate is 29.7%. During the last quarter Positive outcomes on individuals from Ethnic Minorities were 2.7 percentage point higher than for White individuals.



⁵ This now includes the outcomes “Other”, “Verbal Warning” and “Article found - detailed outcome unavailable”

SMSR have not yet released Q3 data from the Public Confidence survey. Therefore the following section refers to Q2 only.

Data from SMSR shows another sharp drop in confidence that Essex Police use Stop and Search fairly. The net agreement proportion of 58.4% in Q2 is significantly lower than the previous quarter 67.7% and below the 76.1% of the same quarter last year. Results for respondents from Ethnic Minorities shows a small rise to 56.0% agreement (from 52.6% last quarter). The proportion of Ethnic Minority respondents who actively disagree with the statement remained stable at 15.0%.

In the last quarter, 32 searches involved the removal of more than just outer garments or the exposure of the intimate parts of the subject (colloquially known as Strip Searches). This is seven fewer than the previous quarter.

Outcome	Male					Grand Total
	0-9	10-17	18-24	25-34	35-59	
Arrest	1		4	1	2	8
Community resolution			2	1		3
No further action	1	2	5	3	5	16
Other action				1		1
Seizure of property	1	1	1	1		4
Grand Total	3	3	12	7	7	32

The above table shows these searches broken down by gender, age and outcome. The positive outcome rate for these searches was 46.9%. Three searches were apparently carried out on an individual under the age of 10 – further investigation shows data entry issues as all three subjects were entered as having a date of birth in 2022 (two of these with a day of the stop date). The three searches conducted on subjects under the age of 18 were as follows –

Reference	Grounds for search	Age	Search Carried Out Location
S-4207961320221218005829	Subject had been searched earlier in the day, however there had been recent updates from an informant that the subject had been concealing cannabis within his underwear. Subject stated that he used cannabis and there was a smell of it coming from from him. There was Intel that the subject had been drug dealing.	15	Police Premises
S-4207896820221208151330	Whilst on proactive patrols, [Subject] was stopped and due to time of day, his location and intel with involved supply of drugs he was searched looking for said drugs.	14	Parent's Address
S-4208029620221118211957	Smell of cannabis and suspect made off from police when approached When PNC complete suspect was found with males who were arrested for PWITS in May	16	Home Address

The Independent Stop and Search BWV Panel consists of a diverse group of committed IAGs members from around the county and has been meeting bi-monthly since July 2021. The next panel has for the first time youth representation which will be built on. The Panel review non-redacted BWV footage of Essex Police officers stop and search interactions, scoring them against a Procedural Justice framework so that the effectiveness and fairness of search activity can be monitored. The feedback from the Panel is shared with individual officers and organisational learning

is captured through the Learning the Lessons Board via the Stop and Search Tactical Board. Any concerns regarding the conduct of the officers involved is assessed by the respective Appropriate Authority (Departmental Superintendent) to ensure a consistent approach between reflective practice and misconduct.

6.0 Implications (Issues)

Although the disproportionality between White and Ethnic Minorities that are subject to stop and search is a concern, the gap has narrowed over the past 12 months despite a rise this quarter. It is important that Essex Police understands and can articulate the reasons behind this data.

6.1 Links to Police and Crime Plan Priorities

The use of force is a cross-cutting issue that impacts on many areas in the Police and Crime Plan.

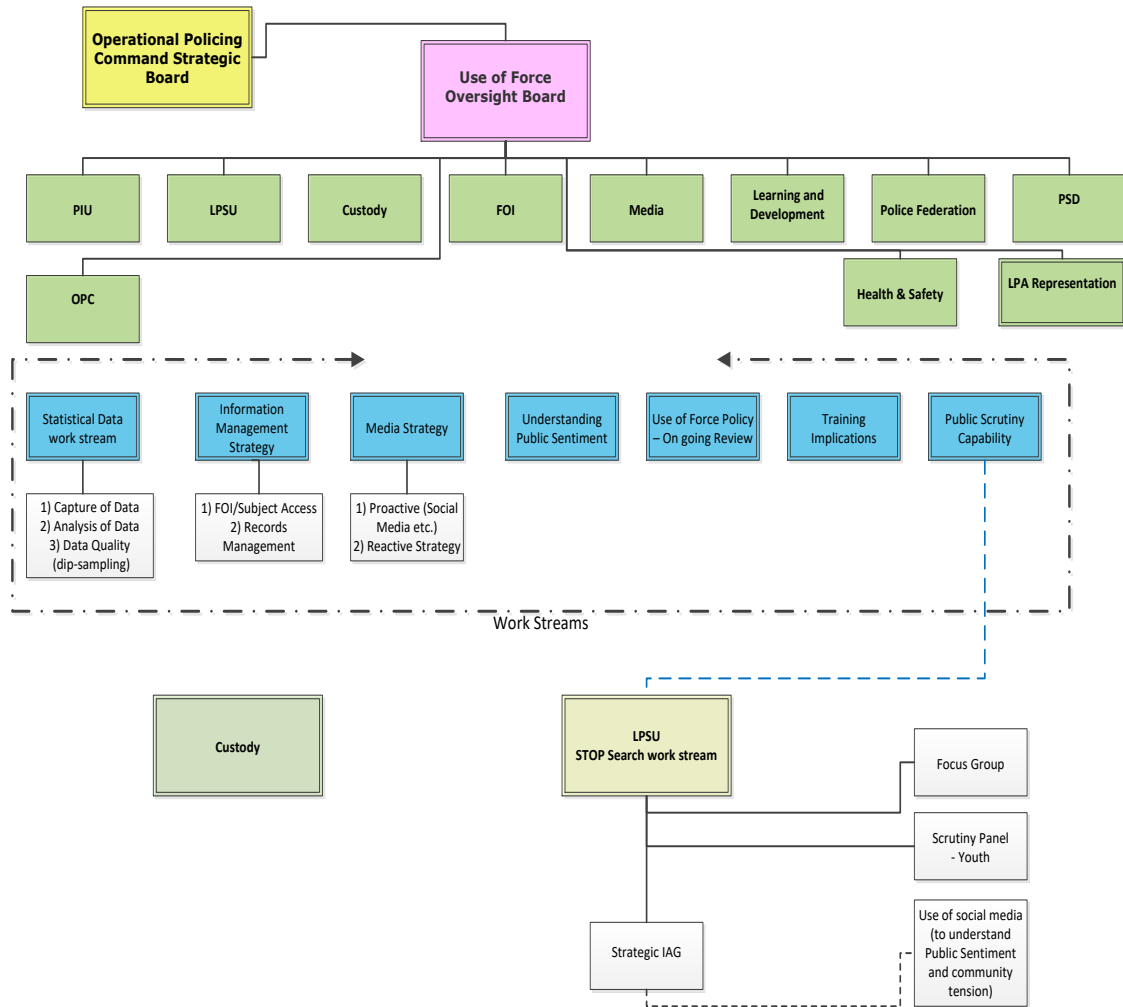
6.2 Demand

The trends in volumes of use of force and stop & search have been described throughout the paper.

6.3 Risks/Mitigation

Use of force is monitored by the 'Use of Force Board' chaired by T/ACC Glen Pavelin. These meetings are held on a quarterly basis. This group is a force-wide focus group facilitated and organised by the Operational Policing Command (OPC) and is intended to provide formal scrutiny and consultative feedback on the use of force and all its associated issues. The Use of Force Board focuses on enabling the force to examine and improve on statistical data-gathering and its analysis, and transparency with the public in order to improve confidence and trust in Essex Police.

Representation within the Use of Force Board comprises a number of disciplines, as detailed in the below structure:



6.4 Equality and/or Human Rights Implications

The above analysis indicates an ethnic disparity in both Use of Force and Stop Search. Recently, ONS have released 2021 Census data and this has reduced the previous disparity, especially in the area of Stop/Search.

Subjects from Ethnic Minorities are 1.4 times more likely to be stopped than White subjects.

Essex Police has established a Stop and Search / Use of Force Review Panel made up of members of the public representing a number of diverse communities. This Panel reviews Body Worn Video (BWV) footage of Stop and Searches as well as incidents where force is used. Feedback from the Panel is provided to the officers and their line managers.

Each of the Local Policing Areas and Operational Policing Command review BWV footage of their officers carrying out Stop and Searches and / or Use of Force.

6.5 Health and Safety Implications

The appropriate use of force and the level of threat faced by operational officers and staff have health and safety implication for those involved including subjects, the

police and the public. Any patterns or concerns are discussed and acted upon at the Use of Force Board.

7.0 Consultation/Engagement

Nothing to note beyond the fact that the force continues to share and discuss use of force and stop and search data with the various IAGs around the county.

8.0 Actions for Improvement

- The Essex Police Refreshed Approach to Stop and Search training has been delivered to all LPT officers across the force during the 2022 FLEX training and this is designed to improve the communication skills of our officers when conducting stop and search; treating people fairly, with respect and ensuring each stop and search interaction is closed in a positive manner.
- Stop and Search policy and procedure is being updated to reflect Authorised Professional Practice (APP) around the use of Exposure of Intimate Part (EIP) searches (strip searches) and the searching of/by Transgender individuals. The update will also seek to simplify the document as it is too long. It will also provide clear guidance around strip searching juveniles and others in terms of authorities and suitable locations.

9.0 Future Work/Development

- External media campaign to be used to increase the confidence of the public in our use of stop and search powers. This campaign will not only highlight why and how we use our powers but also the work of the Independent BWV Review Panel which provides community scrutiny and feedback on officers stop and search activity. There have been some delays to the progress of this campaign, at this time officers are scoping different members of the community to identify the target audience and understand how best to reach them. A review is also being completed into what can be shared under the current media strategy.
- The Procedural Justice Framework is delivered to Student Officers as part of the stop and search training however a more bespoke package is being developed to roll out to all officers as the recent trial showed it has a positive impact on stop and search interactions. Procedural Justice is about making fair decisions and treating people with respect which dovetails with our Refreshed Approach to Stop and Search training.
- The Essex Police Professional Standards Department are updating the stop and search section of the Essex Police website to include case study examples where Essex Police have captured learning from complaints relating to stop and search and use of force and used this learning to develop our working practices.