



AGENDA NO: 11

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & DIVERSITY COMMITTEE – 30 NOVEMBER 2006

MONITORING OF STOP AND ACCOUNT AND STOPS AND SEARCHES

REPORT BY THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide members with statistics for the period 1 April to 30 September 2006 for the purposes of monitoring 'stop and account' and 'stops and searches' during that period.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Statistics for stop and account and stops and searches appear as a Standing Agenda item at each meeting of this Committee. These statistics, which are supplied to members on a quarterly basis in the format agreed, are designed to enable members to monitor, assess and keep the Force's use of 'stop and account' and 'stop and search' powers under review.
- 1.2 At the meeting of the Committee on 13 July 2006, members were presented with the second quarterly stop and search statistics for the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006.

2. STOP AND SEARCH STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

- 2.1 The statistics for the period 1 April to 30 September 2006 are attached to this report at Appendix A. Overall conclusions appear on page 6 of the report.
- 2.2 At previous meetings of this Committee the Appendix has included a quarterly update from the four territorial divisions detailing significant events and incidents during the quarter, along with a spreadsheet giving a complete breakdown of the stop and search data for the period according to the object of the search. On this occasion, this information is not available owing to staffing resources but I would wish to reassure members that this information will be included in future reports to this Committee as a matter of course.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are asked to note this report.

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Stop and Search Police Authority Report

April 1st – September 30th 2006

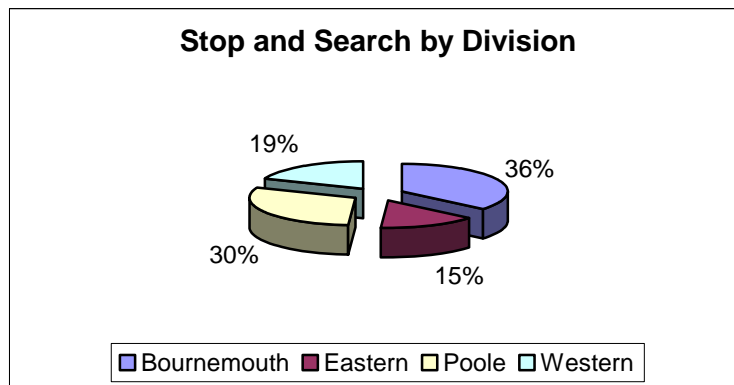


Introduction

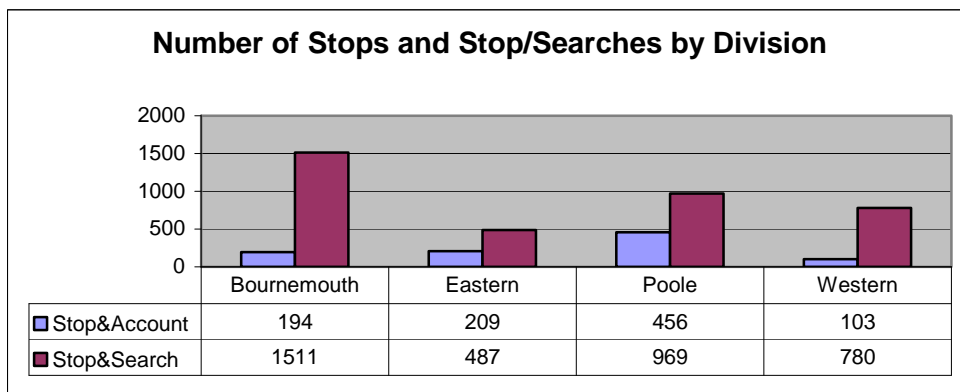
This report has been compiled in order to consider the number of people from minority ethnic groups who have been involved in either a stop and account or a stop and search at a force-wide and divisional level during the last two quarter periods (01/04/2006 – 30/09/2006). These findings will help identify whether any disproportionality appears to be occurring with regards to stop and account or stop and search, which minority ethnic groups are particularly targeted and where (if at all) this is most prominent.

Data

For the three month period 4714 records were found in total for both Stop/Account and Stop/Searches in Dorset, of these: 1705 occurred in Bournemouth, 696 in Eastern Division, 1425 in Poole and 883 in Western Division. The following chart represents this breakdown:

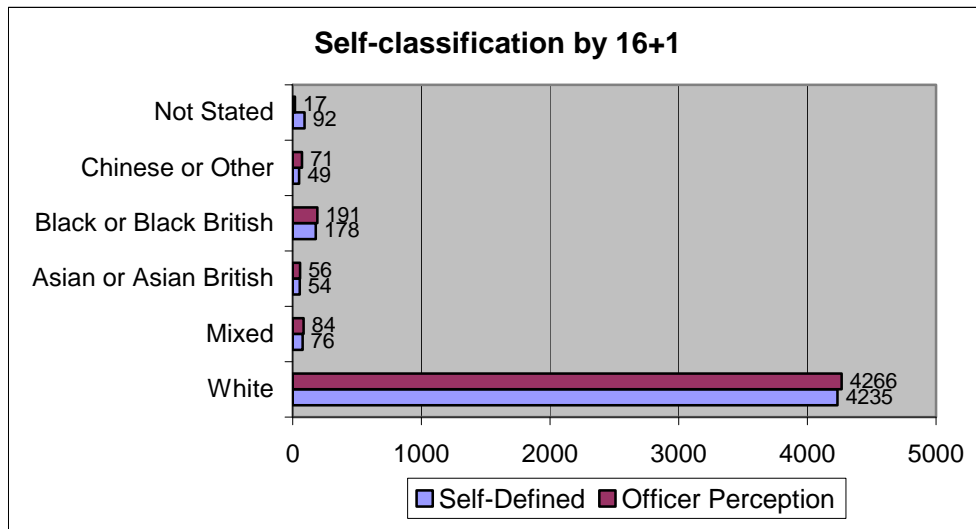


Of the total 4714 records, 963 related to Stop and Account and 3751 to Stop and Search. The records of Stop and Account made up 11.4% of the total in Bournemouth, 30% in Eastern division, 32% in Poole and 11.7% in Western division. The following graph demonstrates the breakdown of data by Stop/Account and Stop/Search:



Of the total 4714 records, only 29 had missing self-defined and officer perception 16+1 data, that's less than 1% with both ethnicity fields incomplete. Of the completed self-defined 16+1 information, 89.8% classified themselves as White British, 1.6% as Mixed, 1.1% as Asian or Asian British, 3.8%

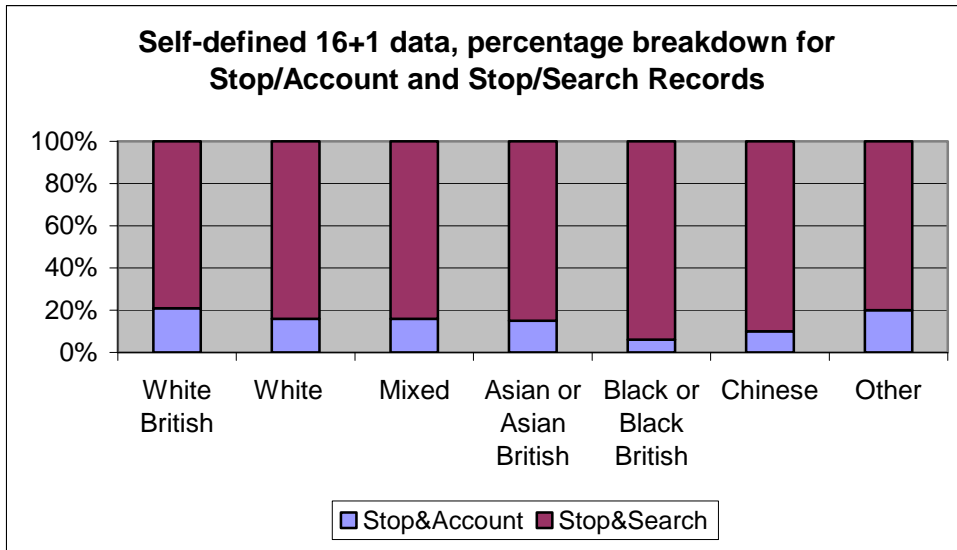
as Black or Black British, 1% as Chinese or Other and 1.9% Not Stated (the further 0.8% are accounted for by blank fields). The Officer perception 16+1 data differed from this slightly; this is demonstrated in the breakdown of the Main Group data, shown in the graph below:



The above information only gives the data in main group categories, the table below provides the 16+1 information breakdown within the main groups, to give the best idea of the ethnicity of those people involved in Stop and Searches for this six month period:

Stop and Search 16+1 Data			
Main Groups	Description	Number of Records	
		Self-Defined	Officer Perception
White	White British	4130	4154
	White Irish	9	5
	Any Other White Background	96	107
Mixed	White and Black Caribbean	32	31
	White and Black African	11	12
	White and Asian	6	9
Asian or Asian British	Any Other Mixed Background	27	32
	Indian	12	11
	Pakistan	4	4
Black or Black British	Bangladeshi	12	12
	Any Other Asian Background	26	29
	Caribbean	97	100
Chinese or Other	African	37	37
	Any Other Black Background	44	54
	Chinese	39	60
Not Stated	Any Other Ethnic Group	10	11
	Called Away	8	5
	Disorder	2	2
	Not Understood	37	5
	Declined	45	5

It may be valuable to consider the self-defined ethnicity of people who were subject to stop and account, compared to those who were stopped and searched. This may provide further understanding about any disproportionality found. The following graph shows the 16+1 Self-defined ethnicity data as a percentage broken down into Stop/Search and Stop/Account records:



Total Number of Records by 16+1 Main Groups		
Main Group	Stop and Account	Stop and Search
White British	867	3263
White	17	88
Mixed	12	64
Asian or Asian British	8	46
Black or Black British	11	167
Chinese	4	35
Other	2	8

The number of people whose self-defined 16+1 ethnicity classification was anything other than “White British” was very small for the Stop/Account records. Of the total number of Stop/Account records which include self-defined 16+1 ethnicity data, 90% self-defined as “White British”. Therefore only 5.6% of Stop and Account records gave non-white British self-definition, compared with 9.86% of Stop and Search records. Therefore, for the purposes of looking at divisional breakdowns in the following section, the data will be combined to look at divisional trends for both Stop/Account and Stop/Search combined.

The gender breakdown during this period for the total number of Stop/Account and Stop/Search records was found to be 87% involving men and only 12% involving women. An additional 51 records reported no gender, so just over 1% of the records have missing gender information. The following table shows the actual number of records created by gender:

Gender	Stop and Account	Stop and Search	Total
Male	835	3249	4084
Female	121	458	579

Therefore, the data for this 6-month period seems to indicate that the majority of people being either subject to stop/account or stop/searched force-wide are those who classify themselves as Male and White British. There is some missing information, but the numbers are very small comparatively, 51 records give no gender and 29 give no 16+1 classification for either self-defined or Officer perception, but these make up a figure of less than 2%.

Work is currently ongoing regarding enabling access to more detailed location and time-specific data; this will allow further scrutiny if any additional information is required as a result of this report. This information, regarding the location of Stop/Account and Stop/Search by Beat and information regarding the time at which the Stops have taken place (which will also relate to location, date range and ethnicity data); will be made available on the Dormis II system.

Comparison with Community Population Percentages

The force-wide percentage breakdown for the data shows that, using 16+1; according to self-definition 9.8% of those people questioned defined themselves as something other than White British; according to Officer perception 10.97% were considered non-White British; compared with 4.4% of the population from the Census data. However, the figure rises when taking into account the number of reports containing "Not Stated" for 16+1 Information, or blank fields.

Having now presented and compared the 16+1 information collected at a force-wide level, the following section will consider the self-defined ethnicity by division and in comparison to the actual believed Community Breakdown within Dorset (using the figures collected in the 2001 Census). The following table compares the 16+1 figures according to their Main Groups by Division:

Main Groups	Stop/Search (including Stop/Account) Data							
	Bournemouth		Eastern		Poole		Western	
White	1425	81%	651	94.2%	1357	95.6%	797	91.9%
Mixed	41	2.41%	8	1.16%	12	0.84%	15	1.73%
Asian or Asian British	31	1.82%	0	0%	15	1.06%	8	0.92%
Black or Black British	151	8.88%	5	0.72%	10	0.70%	12	1.38%
Chinese	16	0.94%	0	0%	9	0.63%	14	1.61%
Other	7	0.41%	0	0%	1	0.07%	2	0.23%
Not Stated	30	1.76%	27	3.9%	16	1.13%	19	2.19%

This shows that, the percentage of people who have been the subject of either Stop/Account or Stop/Search during the last six months and define themselves within one of the Minority Ethnic Groups, are consistently greater in Bournemouth than in any of the other divisions. This may have been expected, as Bournemouth is believed to have a greater Minority Ethnic population, however, due to a lack of reliability of local census data and the nature of transitory populations, particularly in the large urban areas of Dorset, it is extremely difficult to reliably quantify the level and reason for this apparent disproportionality. However, despite these problems, the data will now be compared with the 2001 Census figures in order to gain some perspective on the findings, for this purpose Eastern and Western division will be combined and their figures compared with the Dorset Unitary Authority Census data:

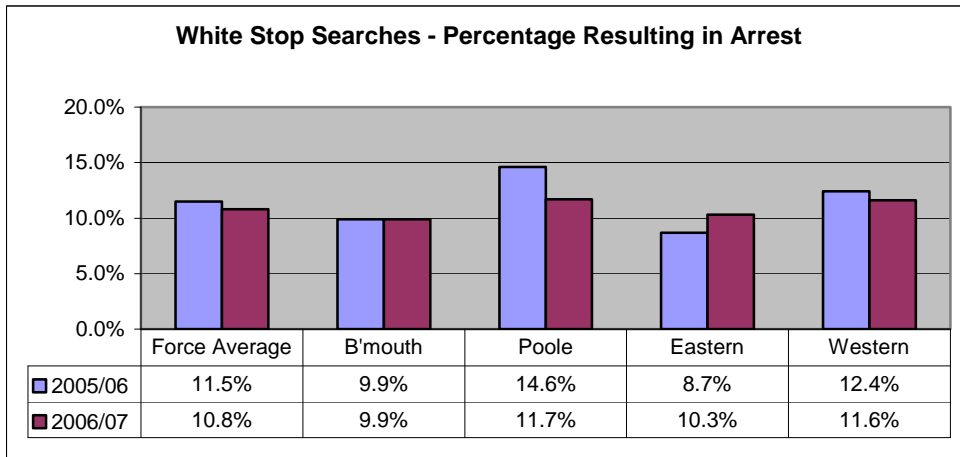
Main Groups	Bournemouth		Poole		Dorset	
	Census	Stops	Census	Stops	Census	Stops
White	96.68%	81%	98.2%	95.6%	98.74%	92.9%
Mixed	1.19%	2.41%	0.67%	0.84%	0.5%	1.48%
Asian or Asian British	0.7%	1.82%	0.52%	1.06%	0.24%	0.51%
Black or Black British	0.42%	8.88%	0.18%	0.70%	0.15%	1.09%
Chinese	0.44%	0.94%	0.25%	0.63%	0.21%	0.9%
Other	0.57%	0.41%	0.18%	0.07%	0.16%	0.13%
Not Stated	0%	1.76%	0%	1.13%	0%	2.95%

This comparison suggests that the number of people defining themselves as Black or Black British by 16+1 classification is disproportionately high across all divisions, but specifically within Bournemouth where the difference seems particularly significant. The search reason reported for the majority of the Black or Black British people during the last nine months has been Drugs, specifically within the Bournemouth division.

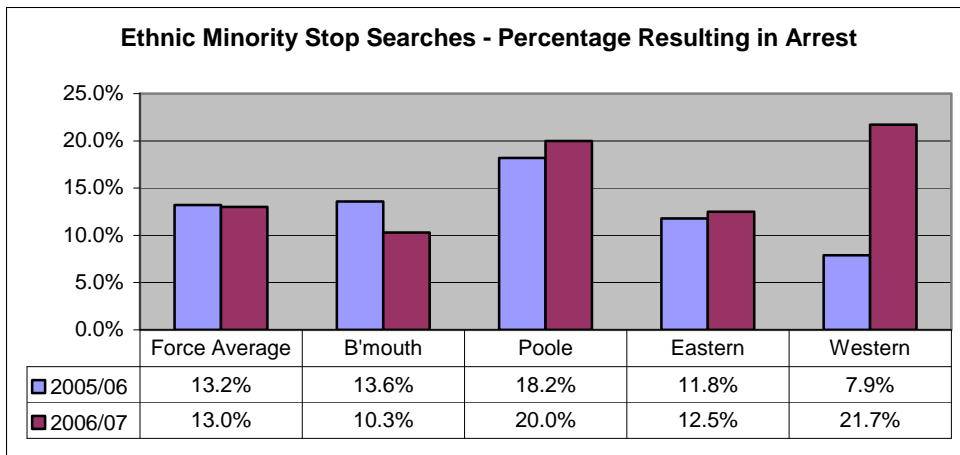
Therefore the findings in this report do show a certain amount of disproportionality at face value, particularly within Bournemouth division. However, because of the lack of reliability of local census data as previously discussed, it is extremely difficult to quantify the level and reason for any perceived disproportionality. Even when taking into account the findings of the "Stop and Account Survey: Bournemouth" which estimates an ethnic population of 10.4% (rather than the 3.32% found by the 2001 Census), the Stop/Account and Stop/Search data showing that 14.46% of those stopped were Non-White continues to appear somewhat disproportionate for this period. The following section will present the proportion of arrests per search broken down by 16+1 Self-defined Ethnicity; this may help to identify which searches contain the most disproportional data.

Stop and Searches Resulting in Arrest

For the six-month period a total of 407 arrests were recorded as a result of Stop and Searches forcewide. Of these: 127 occurred in Bournemouth, 48 in Eastern Division, 110 in Poole and 83 in Western Division. The overall arrest rate for people defining themselves as "White" by 16+1 was 10.8% which compares to an 11.5% arrest rate for the comparable quarter period in 2005/06. The following chart represents this arrest-rate breakdown across the four divisions:



The overall arrest rate for people defining themselves within a minority ethnic group by 16+1 was 13.0% which compares to a 13.2% arrest rate for the comparable quarter period in 2005/06. The following chart represents this arrest-rate breakdown across the four divisions:



Due to the relatively small number of ethnic minority people stopped and searched the percentage arrest rate can appear significantly affected by only a small change in the actual figures.

Overall, at Force level, the arrest rate for both White and Minority Ethnic Stop Searches is similar, showing just over 2% variance.

Conclusions

- Overall there have been 4714 stop/account and stop/search recorded during this six-month period (between April 1st and September 30th 2006). Bournemouth division accounts for 36% with Poole and Western divisions 30% and 19% respectively and Eastern division recording only 15%.
- Overall approximately 11% of the 4714 recorded total were accounted for by the new legislation relating to Stop and Account.
- Overall 89.8% of recorded stop/account and stop/search records related to people who defined themselves at White British 16+1 classification.
- The number of people defining themselves within an ethnic group other than "White British" has increased from 8.4% during April-September 2005/06 to 9.8% during the same period 2006/07. Therefore it appears that disproportionality in general towards the minority groups appears to have increased, although some searches continue to record an apparently disproportionate number of people belonging to minority ethnic groups.
- During the last six months there were a relatively high percentage of people who define themselves as Black or Black British by 16+1 who have been stopped in relation to Drugs Offences. For this period, 6.45% of those stopped and searched in relation to Drugs offences categorised themselves within this minority ethnic group and 12.5% of these were arrested.
- The overall arrest rate during this six-month period was 10.8% for "White" stop searches and 13.0% for minority ethnic records. Both have decreased slightly on the comparable quarter last year.

Self-defined 16+1 Data by Arrests and Object of Search

		Object of Search											
16+1 Information		Criminal Damage		Drugs		Firearms		Going Equipped		Offensive Weapons		Stolen Property	
Main Groups	Description	Arrested	Not Arrested	Arrested	Not Arrested	Arrested	Not Arrested	Arrested	Not Arrested	Arrested	Not Arrested	Arrested	Not Arrested
White	White British	16	194	179	1515	9	53	28	273	31	237	89	639
	White Irish	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	Any other White Background	0	4	3	33	0	1	1	6	2	4	4	24
Mixed	White and Black Caribbean	1	1	3	11	0	0	0	3	1	3	1	2
	White and Black African	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	White and Asian	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Any other Mixed Background	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	6
Asian or Asian British	Indian	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
	Pakistani	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
	Bangladeshi	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Any other Asian Background	0	1	2	12	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	4
Black or Black British	Caribbean	0	0	8	62	0	0	0	6	2	4	1	7
	African	0	0	5	23	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
	Any other Black Background	0	2	3	27	0	4	0	2	0	1	2	2
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	Chinese	0	0	1	24	0	0	0	5	0	1	1	3
	Any other Ethnic Group	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Not Stated	Called Away	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Disorder	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Not Understood	0	1	0	4	0	1	0	3	1	5	1	4
	Declined	0	1	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	3
Blanks		0	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	20
Total (including Blanks):		17	204	209	1774	11	59	29	307	40	270	107	724