

Oversight Board Meeting 21 April 2022 – Linking Handcuffing and Stop and Search Data

Action 5 – MPS to advise DMPC/MOPAC when it can provide MOPAC with the outcome of linking the handcuffing data and stop and search data, and when it would be made publicly available.

The MPS has provided the following response:

Update:

- Since April 2022, two important changes have been made to the E5090 electronic Stop and Search form. All officers undertaking a Stop and Search are required to be familiar with the new requirements.
- As per MOPAC request, we mandated that a summary record of a Stop & Search is to be offered to the person concerned via email. This applies to anyone stopped and searched.
- This new service is in addition to an individual's existing rights to a copy of their stop & search that can be obtained via a front counter. It is entirely optional for the person concerned.
- The E5090 now contains new fields for inputting the email address. These fields are not mandatory.
- If force, including handcuffing, is used during a Stop & Search, officers are obliged to complete a Use of Force Form. To make this easier, the E5090 will now automatically open a Use of Force form in the background and can be completed after the E5090.
- This is new data. We would like to check the veracity of the data before considering publication, and in consultation with the MPS Stop and Search lead / Use of Force lead before publication. For example, we want to ensure that the data is cleansed to prevent a single incident being over-reported as multiple encounters. However in the interim, we will work with MOPAC Evidence & Insight to understand more about what this data tells us – and to discuss the merit of cleansing the data retrospectively instead of focussing on future data publication.
- In addition, we are working through the implications of the shift to CONNECT; the E5090 functionality and the UoF population from the Stop & Search app is not currently in scope for the first few drops of CONNECT, meaning the functionality will be lost. We are working to resolve this issue with through the Transformation Directorate.

Backdating data pre-new E5090

- Following the Oversight Board in July 2020, the MPS Data Office was asked by the Use of Force lead to make changes to the Use of Force form.
- While we have challenges in linking datasets across corporate systems, we were able to add a field of "was this encounter a stop & search", thereby potentially linking handcuffing with a stop and search. This went live on 27 July 2020, and is currently being shared internally only as it is not mandated by Home Office data requirements.
- We think that there are about 66,000 records since August 2020 that would need to be checked and cleared before any publication. We would note that the way in which data is recorded for UoF and the design of the current form means the data is open to misinterpretation, and we would want to ensure that this is rectified or clarified before any publication.

20 May 2022