



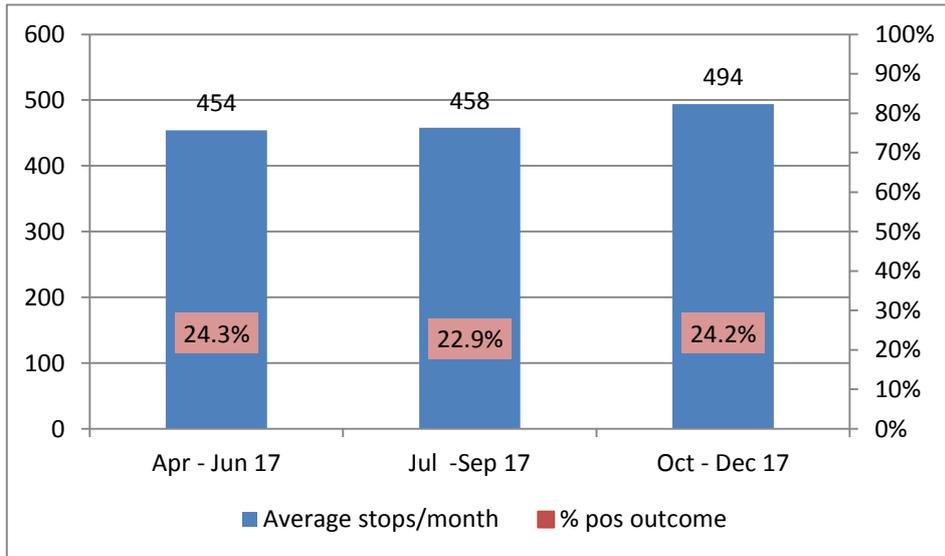
Quarterly Stop and Search Bulletin

October – December 2017

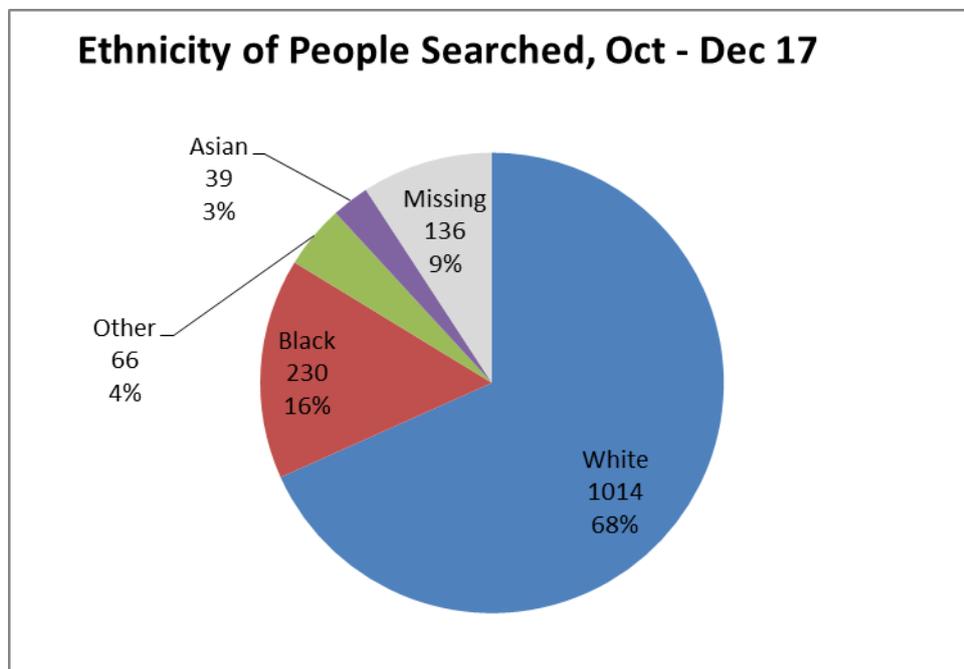
Chief Superintendent Ian Smith

Matthew Scribbins

People searched by quarter since April 2017



The above chart shows the number of searches is rising slightly, to an average of just under 500 searches per month. Summer numbers normally dip due to excessive force wide demand which limits the amount of proactivity officers can achieve. For the last two years positive outcomes have hovered around 25%, with 1 in 4 searches yielding a positive outcome, mostly arrests, voluntary interview, cautions or warnings. Better performing forces are around 30%, with some poorer performing forces just above 20%.



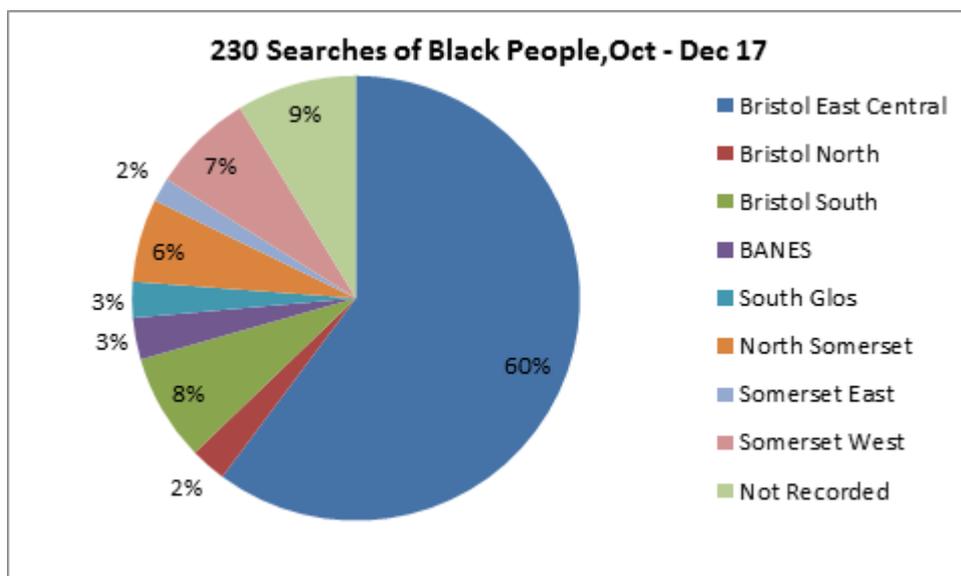
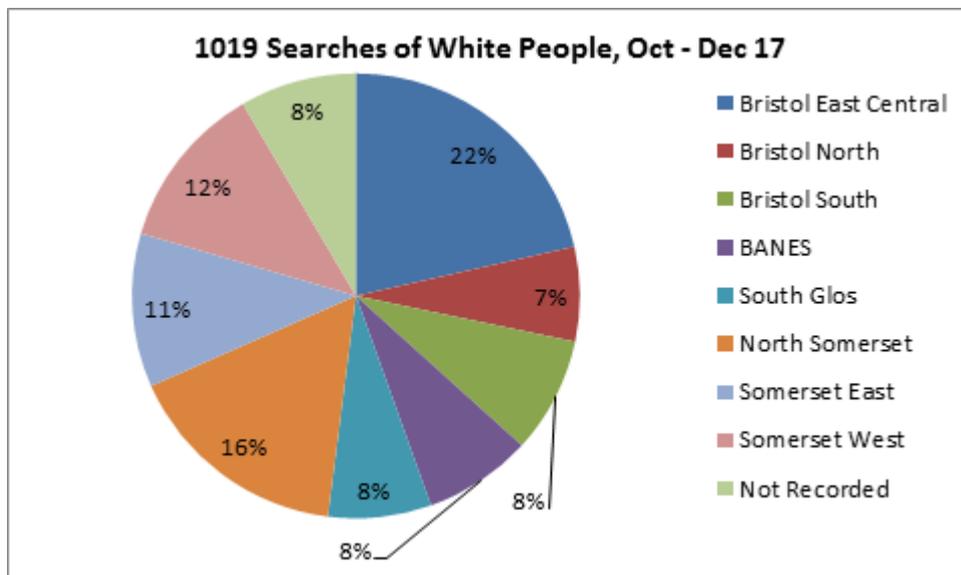
The above chart shows that 68% of people searched are white, 16% black, 4% other and 3% Asian. 9% of records are missing ethnicity data, which is being corrected via the new officer Qlik app, and dip sampling this figure shows the vast majority of missing data will be of white persons. This chart is force wide data and the following

two charts begin to break this data down into locality using the two larger groups searched, white and black persons.

Location of Searches by Ethnicity (Oct – Dec 17)

The below charts demonstrate that the overall spread of searches between the north of the force (52% combined), versus 40% in Somerset is fairly proportionate. Again the data is frustrated by 8% of locations not recorded.

The pattern of white persons searched is spread across the policing areas, with larger activity in Bristol East and also North Somerset, both being drug offence hot spot areas. With black person searches the data clearly shows the vast majority taking place in Bristol East, with a relatively much smaller percentage in Somerset (16%).



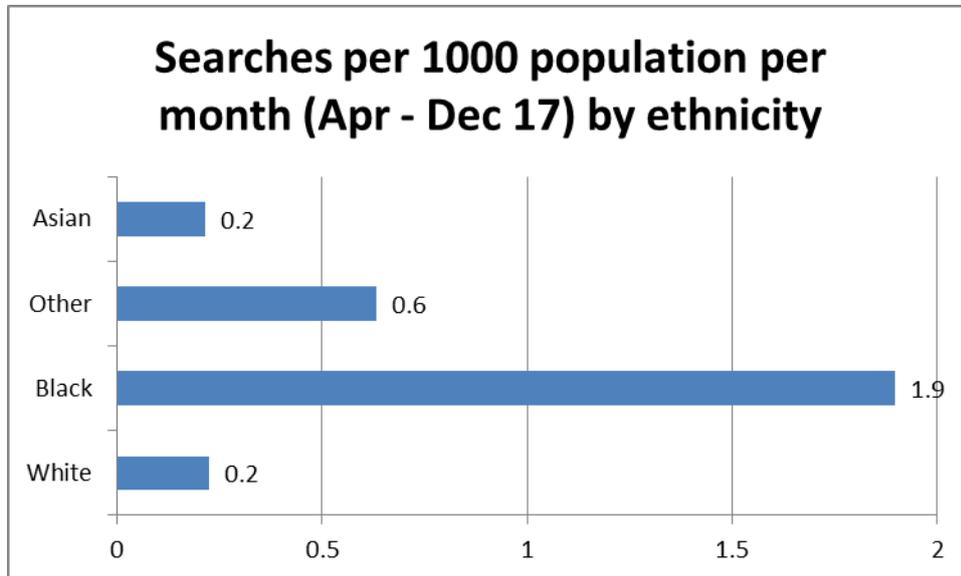
For the next quarterly report it is has been requested that for all searches there is an intelligence flag linked to any person searched, clarifying whether individuals are subject to intelligence, and also whether the intelligence was concerning the location where they were searched. Ultimately, we need to understand the context of searches by ethnicity and location more. HMIC were staisfied that over 98% of all grounds in their recent inspection were reasonable, and yet we still see disproportionality in ethnicity. The breakdown of intelligence and a greater understanding of that picture should help us to understand that context more.

An exmple of such context is provided in the below table that shows BME persons who have been stop and searched 4 times or more in the year 2017, a full 12 month period. 6 persons fall into this category and the below table shows their links to Intelligence and crime. The work will be extended to the 12 BME individuals who have been stopped 3 times and the 43 individuals who have been stopped twice in the same period.

A similar exercise is planned to understand multiple stops of white persons to ensure that it is intelligence led, proportionate and fair.

Gender	DOB	stop searches in 2017	Niche Warnings	Niche Occs
Male 1	20/01/1999	5	1	32
Male 2	05/12/1994	5	0	27
Male 3	18/10/1994	5	7	330
Male 4	11/10/1998	4	1	153
Male 5	30/01/1995	4	0	181
Male 6	20/10/1997	4	3	54

Purely statistically, this below force wide chart shows an average of 1.9 black people are stopped of every 1000 black population in Avon and Somerset, compared to 0.2 white people per 1000 white population. These figures on their own can appear stark and of concern, and as before, need to be set against, and understood within an intelligence picture and more localised demographic picture. Moving forwards these quarterly reports should be able to provide that context.



Wider Issues to Report This Quarter

How many drugs stops are “smell alone” - A recent audit of six months' worth of drugs searches found only 21 searches whose grounds were effectively 'smell of cannabis alone'. So between 3 and 4 stops a month are based on these grounds (which is against the APP guidance). This figure equates to less than 1% of our drug searches and is being recognised as good performance amongst forces that have taken this stance on cannabis.

Training - New Stop & Search training is being planned for 2018 which will focus on the perceptions of Stop and Search within communities and the impact on individuals stopped, as well as officers asked to carry out this tactic. This training will be rolled out using operational staff to deliver it and will commence at Trinity Road as a pilot in April.

Body Worn Cameras - It is widely accepted that too many stop searches have not been recorded by officers, or not saved at the end of a shift for later use by the Scrutiny Panel, not understanding the wider importance of retaining non evidential footage. Further messaging and explanation has been sent force wide by the Stop and Search lead as well as the Chief Constable in a recent blog. The blog also contained two good examples of recordings of stop & search which helped to explain its importance with legitimacy in the use of police powers.

