

# Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group



## Stop and Search The Way Forward Conference Report



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# Acknowledgements

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Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG), Stop and Search Conference Planning Group  
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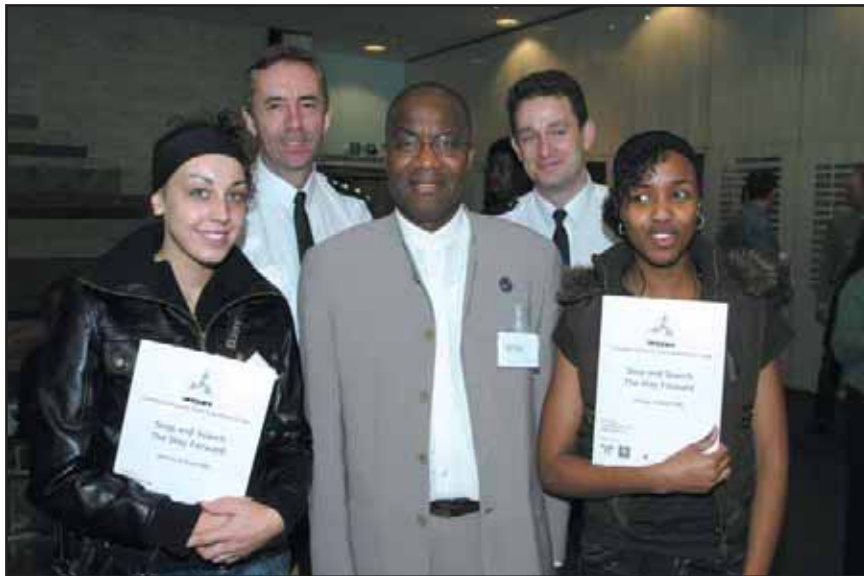
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## **Foreword by the Mayor of Lewisham Sir Steve Bullock**

I have met and worked with many of those engaged in community-police liaison on Stop and Search in Lewisham during the last several years. What you have told me in our discussions has confirmed the great importance of the work carried out by the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Committee Monitoring Group on Stop and Search. The proper use of anti-terrorist investigative powers is vital to our community overall and to our young Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people in particular.

I am happy to endorse and support not only the report from this important conference, but also the specific recommendations made for further action in this area. Alone we can achieve nothing in this, but together we can make Lewisham a place we can all be proud to call home. Things are changing for the better as a result of the positive work being carried forward from the Stop and Search 2006 conference. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone in the LCPCG for their excellent work done in organising and delivering this conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Bullock".

**Sir Steve Bullock  
Mayor of Lewisham**



**Message from Len Duvall, OBE**  
**Chair, Metropolitan Police Authority**  
**MPA Link Member, Lewisham Borough**

The Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group Stop and Search Monitoring Group has been carrying forward very effective work in Lewisham during the last several years. Public trust in the appropriate and responsible use of these powers by the Metropolitan Police Service is vital to our communities in London. On behalf of the Metropolitan Police Authority, I am delighted to support this report from the Stop and Search 2006 Conference in Lewisham and to work with you all to take forward its recommendations for action, particularly in respect of providing training, information and support for positive community-police liaison, and increase trust and good conduct in policing in Lewisham and the wider London area.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Len Duvall".

**Len Duvall, OBE AM**  
**Chair of The Metropolitan Police Authority**  
**MPA Link Member for Lewisham Borough**



## **Preface by David Michael**

### **Chair, Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group**

I am delighted to write the preface for this LCPCG Report on the Stop and Search conference held in March, 2006. In strongly supporting the actions to be taken forward by the LCPCG Stop and Search Group arising from the conference, I would encourage all members of the community and police authorities involved in the conference to join together to implement the action plan on Stop and Search included within this timely report.

The Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group, Stop and Search Conference took place as a direct request from members of the group at one of the main CPCG meetings. This followed presentations by Gordon Glean, Chair of Lewisham CPCG Stop and Search Group and Chief Inspector Simon Davis, Stop and Search lead for Lewisham Police. Thus with the collective efforts of Gordon Glean and then Vice-Chair of the Stop and Search Group, Councillor Jackie Addison, the lead by the Stop and Search Group itself and the Stop and Search Conference Planning Group, resulted in what by all accounts was a very successful conference. Gordon Glean was explicit that this was not a one-off, stand alone conference but one where the outcomes would be harnessed into a living work plan to make a real difference to lives of people in Lewisham. For me, a key area of the success of the Stop and Search Conference was the sheer diversity of the delegates in every sense that truly represented Lewisham. An important aspect was the potent participation and contributions by young people.

Stop and Search has been a contentious area for decades. Contributions to the conference were made by veteran community advocates Sybil Phoenix, MBE and Asquith Gibbes, immediate past Chair of Lewisham CPCG. They lived through the years of the much discredited 'sus laws' where some communities were subjected to crude and unwarranted use of stop and search measures. Lewisham CPCG has a very effective Stop and Search Monitoring Group and it must strive to maintain its edge. This Group is supported well by Lewisham Police in terms of administration, information and materials. But it must maintain its ability for a critical and informed analysis of information and evidence at different levels of abstraction. It must remain vigilant to the possibilities of being socialised into the Police world and culture. In this day and age, it is still the case that some senior Police Officers are still displaying the capacity to respond favourably only to comments of praise whilst too often remain prone to pointedly ignoring without the use of

mature reflection the more robust and challenging representations. It is not good enough for our Police to use the existence of the Stop and Search Monitoring Group and Stop and Search Conference as their insurance policy.

We also need them to evidence at every level of leadership, management and supervision, their own robust quality control measures. The need to reassure the public that training, coaching, mentoring and sanctions where appropriate, are provided for our front line Police Officers is paramount. We need to be vigilant that despite the sometimes challenging operating environments that our Police have to face, like responding to acts of terrorism and violent crime, we do not 'sleep walk' back to the 'sus laws' again. The operating of Section 60 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (1994) and Section 44 of the Terrorism Act (2000) must be applied in a way that our Police can still maintain the trust, confidence, goodwill and support of the majority of law abiding and right thinking people.

We must encourage our communities, our young people, our Police and the Safer Lewisham Partnership to develop a passion for justice, equality and positive action to improve stop and search processes. If we want our communities to be empowered, free, healthy places in which people live together feeling safe, we must ensure that Lewisham's diverse communities work together with our Police. This will lead to a climate of positively looking for mutual solutions to encourage a balanced, fair and reasonable use of the powers of stop and search. I look forward to all of us achieving positive action on stop and search together.



**David Michael**  
**Chair of Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group**



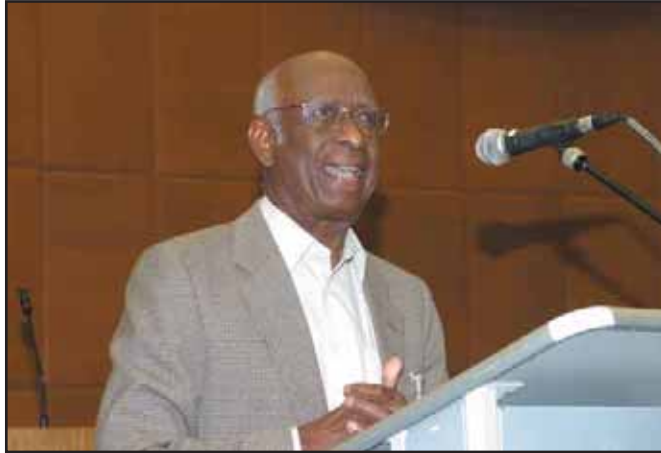


## **Introduction by Gordon Glean**

### **Chair, LCPCG Stop and Search Group**

As Chair of the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Sub-Group on Stop and Search I am pleased to introduce this Report on the successful Stop and Search Conference held at Lewisham Town Hall last year, on 25th March, 2006. The LCPCG Sub-Group has worked hard to ensure that the messages of this important day in Lewisham are carried forward. There is a strong need to promote policing by consent in our communities, and an even stronger need for us to understand policing processes so that we can challenge inappropriate policing practices. We all have a responsibility to ensure this happens, for without such challenges there will be no changes in the way we are governed. We need to inform our communities and especially our young people about their rights around Stop and Search and Recommendation 61 Stop & Account, we need to monitor its usage to ensure that it is used fairly, proportionately and without bias, we need to promote the use of dialogue through Stop & Account where possible and build relationships where we all feel confident that the application of the task is being carried out appropriately. Only then can we start to enjoy a better, safer, happier and more peaceful diverse community in which all of our people feel that they are respected and valued. I will strongly support any action following the conference and I am committed to seeing through the recommendations of this report to promote continuing good practice.

**Gordon Glean**  
**Chair of LCPCG Stop and Search Group**



## Reflections from Asquith Gibbes

### Founder of the Stop and Search Group

As former Chair of the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group and the person responsible for setting up the Stop and Search Group, I am delighted to support the publication of this Report on the successful LCPCG Stop and Search Conference 2006. We need to take strong action now to address the recommendations in this report, so that racially-biased disproportionality in Stop and Search proceedings is reduced and eventually eliminated. We owe it particularly to our young people and the wider community to ensure that Stop and Search is effectively and properly used by Lewisham Police for the benefit of good community-police relations. I am committed to ensure that this takes place.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Asquith Gibbes".

**Asquith Gibbes**  
**Immediate Past Chair of LCPCG and Founder of Stop and Search Group**

# Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group

## Stop and Search Conference Report

### Executive Summary

On Saturday, 25th March, 2006, a conference on Stop and Search: The Way Forward took place in the Civic Suite at Lewisham Town Hall in London. The conference, organised by the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG), was attended by 125 delegates, of whom 48 gave overwhelmingly positive feedback, with 77% rating the conference as either 'excellent' or 'good'. Key issues emerging from the conference were that the importance and sensitivity of stop and search to local communities was reinforced. Unfair disproportionality in stop and search practices amongst Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities continues to exist. Action must be taken by all parties to reduce this. There is a need for 'good' and fair policing, since it is the 'manner' of the stop that matters, not the stop itself. The 'quality' of the stop and search encounter is vital and needs to rely on respect shown by all parties. Clear accountability of the police and communities in this is essential. Positive demonstration of respect in stop and search is a key issue for people of all ages. The community should encourage this and measure the success of such efforts.

There is a continuing strong need for more education and training: for police officers in the sensitive use of stop and search powers, and for communities around police powers and their rights. There should be more involvement of police officers in events and workshops like those encompassed within the conference. Selection and training of police should also reflect cultural diversity and address issues of prejudice/discrimination, and specific training is needed to achieve more positive relationships between police and young people. More workshops like those at the conference could be held to generate ideas for action.

There is a need to maximise the use of intelligence-led stop and search, to increase confidence and trust in the police amongst the community and to ensure that stop and search is used appropriately and fairly. The significant contribution by the young people of Lewisham to the conference was noted and celebrated. Parental input is vital in working with young people and there should be a stronger role for schools in future initiatives. The importance of football and stop and search was raised in terms of football matches and groups of rival supporters, S60 CJPO usage in that context and searching as a condition of entry to events.

## The Way Forward

- Recommendations arising from the Stop and Search Conference included the need to address the following necessary action in positive ways:
- Good, respectful, fair practice in Stop & Search encounters to be promoted on both sides.
- It is a priority to ensure there are strong grounds for the use of Stop and Search.
- Effective action to reduce unfair disproportionality amongst Black and Minority Ethnic communities in stop and search is strongly needed and should be prioritised.
- The use of focused and intelligence-led Stop and Search should be promoted.
- Ensure the continuance of MPA & LCPCG scrutiny and monitoring of Stop and Search
- Community involvement in the use of Stop and Search should be prioritised.
- Involve young people and police in CPCG training on Stop and Search.
- Further education, training and information on Stop and Search is needed for all parties.
- A range of specific local actions should be taken forward by LCPCG, the Police and the Safer Lewisham Partnership and the Stop and Search Group, as listed in the detailed *Recommendations*.

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## **Chief Inspector Simon Davis**

### **Senior Management Lead on Stop and Search Lewisham Police Partnership Team**

#### **Presentation at Lewisham CPCG 1st March, 2005**

Stop and search is an emotive issue, it has a history. It has been a longstanding area of concern for police and communities, and it is likely to remain so. Stop and search has almost become a household phrase. Sometimes the issues are real and sometimes they are perceived, either way they are fundamental to the concept of policing by consent. Policing is not an exact science. Neither is stop and search. It relies on words like 'reasonable' and 'suspicion', which are open to interpretation and subject to circumstance.

Not everyone thinks the same way about stop and search. Not everyone has the same understanding or perceptions. What is certain is that stop and search is a high-risk event. They are key encounters, which can quickly become critical for any of those involved. For the person being stopped, it is unexpected. Often very public and embarrassing no matter how tactful police may be. No one wants to be arrested. No one wants to be stopped by police either. Arrest or stop and search are experiences that we as individuals do not want to go through. No matter how justified a stop and search, it understandably upsets people to have their liberty and freedom of movement restricted by another. Individuals find themselves in a stop and search scenario, subject to a process about which they have little or no knowledge. When stopped and searched individuals quickly become disconcerted because within a moment they're no longer in total control of their own immediate future. This manifests itself in feelings of intrusion, trepidation even fear and panic, about what might happen next. Individuals often become verbally abusive and violent to try and cope with the situation they find themselves in.

Discussions about stop and search often become polarised. For good reason there is a keen focus on disproportionality. Police stop more young black men than any other particular group. The question is why? Is it institutionalised racism, the transient nature of street populations, the knowledge learnt from intelligence-led policing particularly victim and suspect profiles, the influence of policing priorities – everyone has a particular view. What is certain is the complexity

of the disproportionality debate. What is more certain is that unfair disproportionality cannot be justified. Stop and search is a gateway to the criminal justice system. It is not the only gateway. But any disproportionality in stop and search means its affects become perpetuated into the next stages of the criminal justice system.

Can disproportionality be fully explained and the issue finally resolved? It cannot be beyond our collective wit to unravel the reasons no matter how complex they may be. What is required is a freshness of approach, a new honesty and wider focus for all those involved in the debate. There is no place for platitudes in the stop and search debate.

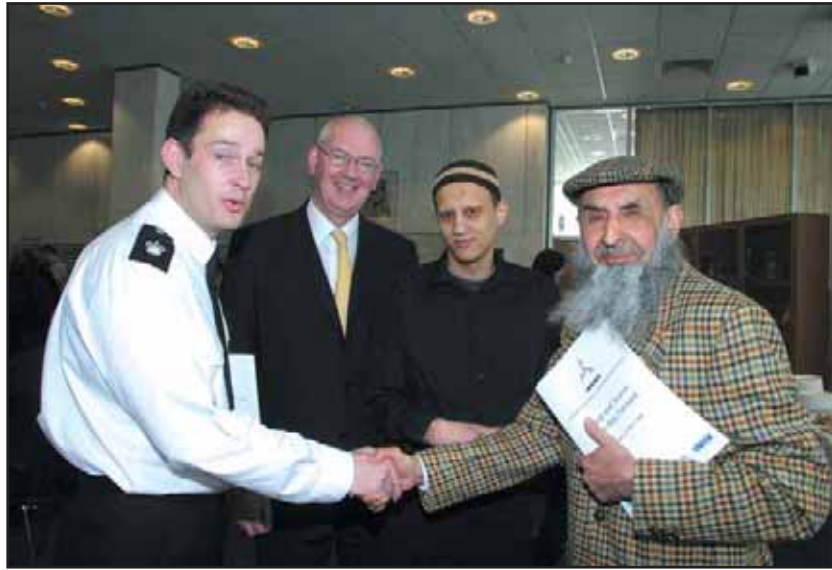
Stereotyping of anyone is unhelpful. Be it the stereotyping of a young black man, someone who obviously follows a particular faith, or the wearer of a police uniform. I hope that in the future we will all look at stop and search more truly as a shield to protect the vulnerable and the weak, and all those who are criminally victimised by the greedy and aggressive. We need new ways of understanding stop and search. We often hear that 'stop and search is a valuable tool in the prevention and detection of crime. Evidence suggests that widespread community support exists for the use of stop and search provided it is carried out properly and with respect for the individual'. This is true but we need to develop the point so that the importance of victims of crime is expanded in our stop and search philosophies.

Policing is about making people safe. Keeping people safe from harm, safe from each other, keeping individuals safe from themselves, keeping officers safe in what we ask them to do on the community's behalf. The total sum of the sheer bravery displayed by officers in keeping the peace, in keeping people safe, is astounding. Whilst it is not pleasant, officers are expected to tolerate certain verbal abuse. This is a sad reflection on society's standards. But most importantly, police are accountable to the community they serve. They are a part of the community not separate from it. Policing is something that should be done with communities not 'to' communities. And so it is with stop and search. Despite stop and search being the exercise of an intrusive power on an individual, it is the greater good of the community that is at stake and a safer place to live is the prize for all. Stop and search is for the sake of the victims.

A lot has been said and done about informing people of their rights. It is vitally important that people understand and exercise their rights. It is crucial the police are held accountable and that communities question the use of police powers. But with rights comes a heavy burden of responsibilities. This includes a responsibility to others in the community who have suffered their property being stolen or have been harmed by the knife or gun.

I commend the work of Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG) and in particular its Stop and Search Group for its innovative work. The LCPCG provides a practical forum for tackling any realities or perceptions in respect of stop and search.

**Chief Inspector Simon Davis**  
**Lewisham Borough Police Partnership Team Chief Inspector**  
**Police Senior Management Team Lead on Stop and Search**





## Conference Presentation by Gordon Glean

### Police Stop and Search and Recommendation 61: delivered at the LCPCG Meeting 1 March 2005

Gordon Glean delivered a presentation on Police Stop and Search and Recommendation 61 (Stop and Account), as follows in slides reproduced from the day. Gordon's presentation at the earlier LCPCG meeting on 1st March, 2005 led to the Conference as an outcome.

A *Question and Answer* session followed from Gordon's presentation on Stop and Search and Recommendation 61 (Stop & Account). Gordon reinforced the fact that Stop and Search and Stop and Account are different and they significantly affect minority ethnic communities and young people. It is important to both monitor disproportionality and to improve the quality of Stop and Search encounters as well as monitor the arrest rates resulting. Such measures would improve public confidence and also raise awareness of people's rights.

<p style="text-align: center;">GORDON GLEAN</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>POLICE STOP AND SEARCH AND RECOMMENDATION 61 (STOP AND ACCOUNT)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Saturday 25 March 2006</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>INTRODUCTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ WHAT IS THE LPCCG STOP AND SEARCH AND RECOMMENDATION 61 SCRUTINY GROUP?</li> <li>■ TOPICS COVERED BY THE SCRUTINY GROUP</li> <li>■ WHAT IS RECOMMENDATION 61?</li> <li>■ IS STOP AND SEARCH/ACCOUNT FAIR?</li> <li>■ BUILDING PUBLIC TRUST AND CONFIDENCE</li> <li>■ MEETING YOUNG PEOPLE</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Saturday 25 March 2006</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>
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<p><b>WHAT IS THE LPCCG STOP AND SEARCH AND RECOMMENDATION 61 SCRUTINY GROUP?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ WHY WAS IT ESTABLISHED?</li> <li>■ WHAT IS ITS ROLE?</li> <li>■ WHO ARE THE MEMBERS?</li> </ul> <p>5/8/2007 <span style="float: right;">3</span></p>	<p><b>TOPICS COVERED BY THE SCRUTINY GROUP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ MONITORING DISPROPORTIONALITY</li> <li>■ SECTION 60 NOTICES</li> <li>■ IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATION 61 (ie training and publicity)</li> <li>■ OUTREACH MEETINGS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">4</span></p>
<p><b>WHAT IS RECOMMENDATION 61 (STOP AND ACCOUNT)?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ RECOMMENDATION 61 OF THE STEPHEN LAWRENCE INQUIRY REPORT (also known as MacPherson)</li> <li>■ REQUIRES POLICE TO MAKE A WRITTEN RECORD EACH TIME THEY ASK SOMEONE TO ACCOUNT FOR THEMSELVES</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">5</span></p>	<p><b>IS STOP AND SEARCH/ACCOUNT FAIR?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES</li> <li>■ DISPROPORTIONALITY</li> <li>■ YOUNG PEOPLE</li> <li>■ POLICE REASONS FOR STOP AND SEARCH/ACCOUNT</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">6</span></p>
<p><b>BUILDING PUBLIC TRUST &amp; CONFIDENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ RIGHTS AND PUBLIC AWARENESS</li> <li>■ YOUNG PEOPLE</li> <li>■ MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES</li> <li>■ STEPHEN LAWRENCE INQUIRY &amp; MACPHERSON RECOMMENDATIONS</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">7</span></p>	<p><b>MEETING YOUNG PEOPLE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ ILBERTON MOTOR PROJECT</li> <li>■ SECOND WAVE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ART PROJECT</li> <li>■ FOREST HILL SCHOOL</li> <li>■ WOODPECKER YOUTH CENTRE</li> <li>■ CRYPT YOUTH CENTRE</li> <li>■ ST ANDREW'S YOUTH CENTRE</li> <li>■ SCHOOL HOUSE (alternative education establishment)</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">8</span></p>
<p><b>CONCLUSION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ STOP AND SEARCH AND STOP AND ACCOUNT ARE DIFFERENT</li> <li>■ STOP AND SEARCHES/ACCOUNT SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE</li> <li>■ IT IS IMPORTANT TO MONITOR DISPROPORTIONALITY</li> <li>■ NEED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF STOP AND SEARCH</li> <li>■ NEED TO MONITOR ARREST RATES FROM STOP AND SEARCH</li> <li>■ PUBLIC CONFIDENCE COULD BE IMPROVED THROUGH MONITORING AND RAISED AWARENESS OF RIGHTS, POLICE TRAINING</li> <li>■ THE MACPHERSON RECOMMENDATION 61 WILL AFFECT POLICE RECORDING OF STOP AND SEARCHES/ACCOUNT</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">9</span></p>	<p><b>REFERENCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ MUNCIE J, 1999, YOUTH AND CRIME, SAGE PUBLICATIONS</li> <li>■ ELLIOT C &amp; QUINN F, 1996, ENGLISH LEGAL SYSTEM, LONGMAN</li> <li>■ MAGUIRE M, MORGAN R, REINER R, 1997, OXFORD HANDBOOK OF CRIMINOLOGY, 2ND EDITION, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS</li> <li>■ HOME OFFICE BRIEFING NOTE, 2000, POLICE STOP &amp; SEARCH: LESSONS FROM A PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH (MILLER J, QUINTON P, BLAND N)</li> <li>■ MPA KNOW YOUR RIGHTS INFORMATION CARD</li> </ul> <p>Saturday 25 March 2006 <span style="float: right;">10</span></p>

## Stop and Search Conference Report

### Introduction and background

#### 1.1 What was the Stop and Search 2006 Conference?

On Saturday, 25th March, 2006, a conference on Stop and Search: The Way Forward took place in the Civic Suite at Lewisham Town Hall in Catford, London. The event, organised by the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG), ran from 9.30–3.00 pm with 125 confirmed delegates. The proposal to hold a Stop and Search Conference had arisen around six months earlier at a Lewisham CPCG Main Meeting, following presentations by Chief Inspector Simon Davis, Lewisham Police lead on Stop and Search and Gordon Glean, Chair of the LCPCG Stop and Search Group. It was those two presentations and the ensuing discussions from the floor of the CPCG meeting that had prompted members of the group to request further time to address the subject. The Stop and Search Conference was therefore a response to that request by the Lewisham CPCG membership.

The programme included an initial introduction by Grace Rodney conference facilitator for the day, welcome by David Michael, Chair of Lewisham CPCG, official conference opening by Mayor of Lewisham Sir Steve Bullock, remarks by Gordon Glean, Chair of Lewisham CPCG Stop and Search Group, contribution by Wilf Petherbridge, Young Mayor of Lewisham, inspirational words by Asquith Gibbes, Immediate Past Chair, Lewisham CPCG and founder of the Stop and Search Group, with final conference closure by Gordon Glean. The conference also included a speech by Nathalie J. Stewart, Former Chair of Westminster Race Equality Council, and Keynote speech from Bevan Powell, Deputy Chair of the Black Police Association.

Following a series of workshops and buffet lunch, Youth and Adult Open Forums were held, and a Plenary took place, with a response from Chief Superintendent Archie Torrance and Commander Rod Jarman. Questions from the audience were answered by a panel including David Michael, Chair of LCPCG. Feedback from 48 respondents was overwhelmingly positive.



## 1.2 Terms of Reference of the Report

The LCPCG organised this report on the Lewisham 2006 Stop and Search conference in view of the importance of stop and search to both communities and the police of good performance, accountability and scrutiny in the use of Stop and Search powers. Effective community policing requires trust. High levels of disproportionality in the use of Stop and Search of London's Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities have caused tension and distrust which the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) is strongly committed to reduce in ensuring that the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) is held to public account for its performance. LCPCG is working with the MPA effectively to achieve progress in reducing both unfair disproportionality and distrust in Stop and Search use, as is the MPS. Effective practice in community-police relations has been carried out in the LCPCG for some years and there is a strong will to share this good work. The terms of reference of this report are therefore to:

- report on the proceedings of the conference, with recommendations, extracts and examples of presentations, data and analysis of participant feedback;
- support the drawing up of an action plan following the conference for future work to be done on Stop and Search, based on the recommendations of the LCPCG, MPA, the conference delegates and organisers.

## 1.3 Background

At the time of the 2006 conference, the *Report of the MPA Scrutiny on MPS Stop & Search Practice* (MPA, 2004) provided Home Office evidence from UK national statistics<sup>1</sup> that in recent years Black people had been eight times more likely, and Asian people five times more likely, to be stopped and searched than White people. (Home Office, 2004) Ongoing compelling evidence of disproportionality in the use of stop and search powers had then led to widespread public concern, and continues to do so. *The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report* (MacPherson, 1999) had earlier highlighted the importance of promoting trust and confidence in the use of stop and search powers in police/community relations, making a number of important recommendations to ensure that stop and search powers were practised and recorded in order to achieve high levels of

<sup>1</sup> NB. Statistics reported for information only are selective extracts from complex data and can be interpreted in multiple ways. Data reported include recent MPS Stop and Search statistics (see *Appendixes*). It was not within the remit of this

effectiveness in crime reduction, but also to enable Black and Minority Ethnic communities to feel confident and safe about the police use of stop and search powers. It is now ever more crucial to ensure that communities and police are engaged in positive action, information, education and training to ensure that stop and search practices are effectively and appropriately implemented.

Further factors leading to the organisation of the 2006 Stop and Search Conference include a recent history of UK-wide increase in the use of stop and search, notably amongst Black and Minority Ethnic communities. In October, 2005, the BBC News reported that police use of stop and search powers had been rising. More people were being regularly stopped and searched by police in England and Wales since the July 7th 2005 London bombings. Under anti-terror laws after the London bombings, there had been public concern about how existing police powers were being operationalised to stop and search people without 'reasonable suspicion' of offences being committed. In recent years, police deployment and increased use of Section 44 had become controversial. This section of the terrorism laws gives officers the power to stop and search people at random provided the area policed is identified by the Home Office as one potentially targeted by terrorists.

In 2005, a BBC research team contacted 43 police forces in England and Wales of which 18 volunteered their own figures collected since 7th July. The BBC News reported that over half of these 18 police forces had stopped more people under Section 44 of the Terrorism Act of 2000 during July-September, 2005 than in the whole of 2004. BBC researchers found that there were wide variations in the use of terrorism powers under Section 44 of the Terrorism Act of 2000. Whereas some police forces like Cumbria or Devon and Cornwall did not use stop and search powers at all in this period, and in Kent there were just 56 stops, others saw massive increases. In Hampshire, for example, there were 8,500 stops and searches in 2001-02 under the Terrorism Act 2002, which increased to 21,500 in 2002-03 and again massively increased in 2003-04 to 29,407. Humberside police force also significantly increased the use of Stop and Search powers during the three months investigated, from just four searches in Humberside in 2003-04, to 1,830 searches (BBC, 2005).

Lord Carlisle, QC, appointed by the government as the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, had earlier expressed concern in 2004 at the way in which anti-terrorist police powers under legislation were being used by some police forces. In 2005, Carlisle reported that although Stop and Search was a valuable power for police, it appeared to be one that was being used too extensively. He observed in his annual 2005 Review of the Terrorism Act that, overall, the use of Section 44 Stop and Search powers 'could be cut by at least 50% without significant risk to the public or detriment to policing'. While Home Office Minister Hazel Blears reiterated government assurances that Stop and Search powers would only be deployed when there was 'a good reason to believe that there is genuinely a terrorist threat', critics remained sceptical, indicating that the latest figures on Section 44 usage highlighted controversial growing concerns that the powers were being misused (BBC, 2005). Commenting on public reactions to Stop and Search, Lord Carlisle said that:

It's unattractive to members of the public because it doesn't involve reasonable suspicion of anything. So one can be searched simply because one happens to be in a particular area. (BBC, 2005)

report to carry out in-depth analysis of statistical data. For more in-depth investigation and analysis of Stop and Search data, the reader is encouraged to visit [www.met.police.uk/stopandsearch](http://www.met.police.uk/stopandsearch).

The BBC also cited Alex Gask, a solicitor, who said that:

Usually there is a restriction on the police's power to stop and search because they need to have a reasonable suspicion that somebody is carrying a stolen item or has a weapon, or something along those lines.... But with this particular power there's absolutely no need for reasonable suspicion at all - so there's nothing restricting the officers' use. (BBC, 2005)

Nevertheless, Rob Beckley of the Association of Chief Police Officers told the BBC that police had worked with the Home Office to increase accountability, saying, 'The one thing we do recognise is the need for confidence in the way we use the powers'. Furthermore, significant efforts have been made during the past several years by the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) to attempt to address the issue of stop and search in responsive, accountable and sensitive ways. (BBC, 2005)

National concerns about stop and search have been reflected regionally across London and locally within Lewisham for some years. More than 50% of the people stopped and searched locally are from Black and Minority Ethnic communities, who are also more likely than whites to be charged if arrested, even in consideration of the potential for case disposal and related options and the investigative criminal justice processes which follow such searches. The population of Lewisham is around 70% white and 30% Black and Minority Ethnic, but despite smaller numbers of BME groups, people from BME communities are significantly more likely to be stopped and searched by police. The fact that there may be racist actions underlying this cannot be discounted, stated an article by Black Britain, in which David Michael recently commented that:

For me it's still profoundly disturbing in 2006, after all the stuff we had with the Scarman Report and more recently the Stephen Lawrence Report...for me what are all those enquiries doing, because we're still having more than 50 per cent of people being stopped and searched in Lewisham .... Black communities must voice their concerns loud and clear.... People are not going to take this seriously until the black community say we are not going to have it. (Gabriel, 2007)

Further information on stop and search activities in Lewisham in comparison with other London boroughs, which was directly relevant at the time of the conference, is provided in *Figure 1: Extract, Report of MPA Scrutiny (MPA, 2004: 20) on Stop & Search in London Boroughs*. The above background information is provided to set the general context in which the community police liaison group in Lewisham called for and organised a conference on *Stop and Search: The Way Forward* in March, 2006. We provide also, by kind permission of the MPS, updated April, 2007 Lewisham Borough Stop and Search Statistics in Appendix 12 a-k.

## **Developments since the conference**

Following the 2006 LCPCG Stop and Search conference, a significant amount of further work has emerged on issues related to stop and search, notably in the recent MPA report (2007) *Counter-Terrorism: The London Debate*, which emphasised the continuing need to develop trust between communities and the police in counter-terrorist community engagement efforts. In this initiative, the MPA investigated the views of over 1,000 London residents and workers from a year long inquiry into the causes and effects of terrorism. The MPA report (2007) noted that "there is profound support, across all communities, for the police's counter-terrorist effort" but also that "there is a real fragility to public trust in the authorities". The report recommended that, "...If the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) is to tackle terrorism effectively, it must harness this support

and recognise this fragility.” (MPA, 2007:3). The executive summary of the MPA report highlighted the following finding regarding stop and search. This is particularly relevant to the proceedings and recommendations from the Lewisham Stop and Search 2006 Conference:

”Anti-terrorism stop and search is doing untold damage to certain communities’ confidence in the police, and its effectiveness in countering terrorism is in serious doubt.” (MPA, 2007:4)

The MPA report also observed that “current community engagement on counterterrorism by the police is sporadic, disjointed and unmeasured” and that “women and young people have been inadequately involved by the police in their counter-terrorist community engagement to date” (MPA, 2007). Speaking at the final hearing for the above MPA report in December, 2006, Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner Andy Hayman queried the value of using stop and search powers for counter-terrorism, noting that it was “very unlikely that a terrorist is going to be carrying bomb-making equipment around with them in the street.” (BBC, 2006)

Assistant Commissioner Hayman reported that although the use of stop and search was “well intended”, the police “have to question the way we use a power that causes so much pain to the community we serve but results in so few arrests or charges.” He asked, “is it worth it?” in consideration of the concerns that some London communities have expressed regarding stop and search, saying that he was “not sure what purpose it serves, especially as it upsets so many people, with some sections of our community feeling unfairly targeted. It seems a big price to pay.” (BBC, 2006). Toby Harris, MPA member with special responsibilities for counter-terrorism, welcomed Assistant Commissioner Hayman’s statement about the investigative hearings held for *Counter-Terrorism: The London Debate* (2007) saying, “the very clear message from Londoners through the MPA counter-terrorism hearings has been that there is real unease over the disproportionate and inconsistent use of this power.” (BBC, 2006)

However, in addition to the above concerns raised about stop and search, it is important to note that the conference delegates generally strongly recognised the importance and value for public safety and well-being of the good and proper use of these regulatory powers. Therefore, while the above concerns about the use of stop and search powers for counter-terrorism raise doubts about their efficacy in relation to some aspects of the criminal justice system, conference delegates overall did *not* dispute the value and purpose of responsible, fair, proportionate and justifiable use of stop and search powers. In this regard, most conference delegates echoed the views of criminology researchers Delsol and Shiner (2006) and those of other academic researchers on stop and search who have recognised the useful contribution to the criminal justice system of appropriate use of these powers:

Although frequently used, stop and search does not ordinarily lead to arrest, doing so in only 13% of cases in 2003/2004 (Home Office 2005). Such an apparently low arrest rate has given rise to some doubts about the effectiveness of these powers, but stop and search does make a considerable contribution to the detection and prevention of certain types of crime such as possession of an offensive weapon (FitzGerald, 1999). Its role in crime prevention has also been highlighted by some commentators (Miller et al. 2000a; Havis and Best 2004). (Delsol and Shiner, 2006:243-4).

The message from the conference overall was that stop and search powers are important and valuable for both the Police and the community if properly, fairly and proportionately used in relevant contexts. A focus on *the way* in which the ‘critical encounter’ of a stop and search is

carried out was a key theme emerging in the conference. This crucial emphasis on process and good practice has also been recognised in the Home Office *Stop and Search Action Team Interim Guidance* (2004c) which notes:

3.12 The way that officers carry out stops and searches has an important effect on community confidence. In 'Police Complaints Authority – Stop and Search Complaints' (Siobhan Harris and Dr David Best, published 23 March 2004), most complaints looked at in the study were about how the officers carried out the stop or the stop and search. (Stop and Search Action Team, 2004c: 8)

Guidance on and training linked to good practice in stop and search is therefore critically important, as is also recognised in the Home Office *Stop and Search Manual* (2005: 79-84), including *Annex G: Stop and search template (Good practice guide)*. An example of good practice in community engagement from the Home Office manual is included in *Appendix Figure A10: Good Practice in Stop & Search Community Engagement and External Accountability*, with an extract from PACE (Police and Criminal Evidence Act, 1984) in *Figure A11*. It is important to note developments since the 2006 conference such as the monitoring work done by the MPA Stops and Searches Review Board (SSRB), the availability of regular information on stop and search at [www.met.police.uk/stopandsearch](http://www.met.police.uk/stopandsearch) and the setting up by the MPS Stops and Searches Team of *MPS Operation Pennant*, introduced in October, 2006.

## Stop and Searches

Borough	% Change in numbers between 2000/01 and 2001/02			% Change in numbers between Apr-Sep 2001 and Apr-Sep 2002		
	White People	Black People	Asian People	White People	Black People	Asian People
Barking & Dagenham	+ 8%	+15%	+2%	+201%	+183%	+126%
Barnet	+ 17%	+55%	+28%	+4%	+27%	-38%
Bexley	-16%	+20%	-36%	-25%	-48%	+45%
Brent	+3%	+13%	+20%	-11%	-23%	-10%
Bromley	+6%	+47%	+22%	+36%	+6%	-58%
Camden	+34%	+53%	+28%	+54%	+66%	+23%
Croydon	+23%	+36%	+4%	+41%	+111%	+68%
Ealing	+3%	+41%	+14%	+19%	+61%	+77%
Enfield	+10%	+29%	+21%	+17%	-4%	+2%
Greenwich	-24%	+8%	-7%	+11%	+45%	+4%
Hackney	+6%	+33%	+25%	+60%	+70%	+98%
Hammersmith & Fulham	+18%	+22%	+61%	-4%	-10%	+15%
Haringey	+20%	+13%	-16%	+97%	+53%	+97%
Harrow	-25%	-32%	-25%	-23%	-23%	-13%
Havering	+17%	+105%	+275%	-5%	-46%	-40%
Heathrow Airport	+56%	+13%	+58%	+109%	+41%	+64%
Hillingdon	-13%	+19%	-12%	+38%	+72%	+77%
Hounslow	+15%	+29%	+17%	+7%	+24%	-4%
Islington	+8%	+2%	+47%	+41%	+53%	+13%
Kensington & Chelsea	+29%	+31%	+23%	+60%	+20%	+102%
Kingston Upon Thames	-17%	-15%	-27%	-33%	-23%	+23%
Lambeth	-10%	+26%	-11%	+116%	+89%	+111%
Lewisham	-5%	+7%	+29%	+57%	+123%	+115%
Merton	+16%	+93%	+58%	-19%	-16%	-17%
Newham	+64%	+78%	+87%	+39%	+39%	+40%
Redridge	-11%	-4%	+4%	+35%	-13%	+36%
Richmond upon Thames	+53%	+99%	+72%	-10%	+4%	-6%
Southwark	-13%	+24%	+16%	-3%	+18%	+22%
Sutton	-36%	-35%	-40%	-28%	+18%	+77%
Tower Hamlets	+94%	+114%	+122%	+64%	+28%	+66%
Waltham Forest	-6%	+0%	-1%	+4%	+41%	-0%
Wandsworth	+15%	+44%	+9%	+76%	+78%	+81%
Westminster	+14%	+42%	+91%	+60%	+46%	+96%
<b>MPS</b>	<b>+8%</b>	<b>+30%</b>	<b>+41%</b>	<b>+32%</b>	<b>+43%</b>	<b>+45%</b>

Figure 1: Extract, Report of MPA Scrutiny (MPA, 2004: 20) on Stop & Search in London

*Operation Pennant* is an MPS performance framework for all 32 London boroughs (Westminster being divided into five boroughs) to measure stop and search issues and activity against six performance indicators, including volume of searches, overall arrest rate and difference in ethnic arrest rates (MPA, 2007). These developments are welcomed.



## 1.5 The Issue of Disproportionality

At the time the 2006 conference was proposed, the MPA Scrutiny Report (MPA, 2004) had noted Home Office evidence indicating that Black and Minority Ethnic people in London were significantly more likely than White people to experience stops and searches by police. Home Office national statistics were cited in the MPA Report for London overall in 2004, to report that Black people were eight times, and Asian people were five times more likely to be stopped and searched than White people (2004). A more recent report from the office of the Mayor of London (2007) has given a further comprehensive analysis of Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Stop & Search data in April 1999 - March 2006, examining the evidence for disproportionality in the use of stop and search powers against Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups by MPS officers in London. The report focused on the use of the three main powers for which police need to record details of stop and search, including Section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, 1984, Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act, 1994 and Section 44 of the Terrorism Act, 2000. In its Executive Summary, the 2007 report from the office of the Mayor noted that:

The statistical evidence contained in the report, regarding MPS use of stop & search powers appear to be consistent with the contention that there is ethnic and arbitrary disproportionality in their exercise and that overall this is having a detrimental effect on community relations, despite the plethora of stop and search structures that have developed since the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry. It is hoped that information contained within the report will stimulate debate amongst stakeholders with a view to continuing the development and refinement of strategies aimed at reducing stop & search disparities in the future. (Mayor of London, 2007: 5)

Important findings from this report from the Mayor of London included the following regarding the evidence of ethnic disproportionality in the use of stop and search powers:

significant and alarming evidence of ethnic disproportionality in each of the three main powers of stop & search (i.e. under PACE ; s60 CJPA and s44 of the Terrorism Act).

during 2004/05 the Metropolitan Police conducted 28% of all stop and searches in England and Wales (237,104 of 839,977).

by 2004/05, the rate of stop and searches of BAME people increased faster than for white people to the extent that they recorded a greater annual total.

if the number of stop and searches continue at the rate they have between 2000-01 and 2005-06 then, by 2008-09, the number relating to BAME groups would be approaching 180,000 and 150,000 for white people. (Mayor of London, 2007: 5-6)

The issue of persistent and widespread disproportionality within stop and search rates impacts on trust and confidence in public perceptions of the police force amongst the diverse communities of London. According to Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) data, police stop and search rates of Black people in London increased by 30% between the years 2000/01 and 2001/02; for Asian people by 41%, while for White people stop and search rates increased only by 8%. The Mayor's report (2007) notes and makes specific recommendations regarding this disturbing trend (see also the extract from the Mayor's Report, in the *Appendices*).

The report (*ibid.*) records that rates of disproportionality in the usage of stop and search increased dramatically during 2000-06. Ongoing public concern regarding disproportionality in the police

use of stop and search led to the establishment of the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) Scrutiny Panel by the MPA to examine and monitor the performance and practice of the MPS in stop and search and to help secure effective, efficient and fair police services for London's communities, in view of the MPA's statutory duty to ensure that the MPS is publicly held accountable for the performance of police forces. The MPA Scrutiny Panel proposes means by which stop and search practices can be improved.

## 1.6 Stop and Search a Litmus Test

In 2004, Cecile Wright, Chair of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Board for the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) Scrutiny Panel, wrote in her Foreword to the *Report of the MPA Scrutiny on MPS Stop and Search Practice* that 'Stop and search practice has become the litmus test for determining the state of community police relations'. *The Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) Monitoring Report on Stop and Search for Lewisham* (Sept, 2006)

Within this context, the conference organised in Lewisham was informed by a passion for justice and equality for fair and proportional procedures and conduct of stop and search activities to be promoted, while at the same time the community-police liaison group also recognised the important need for good policing. A passion for mutual respect and tolerance, for peace and harmony in the communities of Lewisham has been a feature of the conference planning and delivery, in order that young people, the general public and the police feel safer and trust each other more. This emerged during several presentations made on the day of the conference, as related below:

How do young people get connected with the Police? The passion needs to hit everyone in here and when the passion reaches and hits everyone in the communities then we can have an indication of building up relationships. (Response from David Michael to Q4).

Guiding this passion is also a sense of accountability and a desire to protect and support the community in taking forward further action on stop and search:

We all have a responsibility, not only the Police. We need to get out on the streets and inform our young people about Stop and Search. Also, the implications of Stop and Account and we need to also take this forward and monitor it carefully. (Response from Gordon Glean to Q4).

The following sections explain the role and remit of the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group, its Stop and Search Group, and the basis for the LCPCG Stop and Search Conference. The history of planning the conference was also strongly informed by the discussion arising in meetings of LCPCG, the LCPCG Stop and Search Group, the Conference Planning Group and the events occurring in London in July, 2005, as reported in the articles included from the *News Shopper* and *Mercury* newspapers in the *Appendices*. A summary of the main stop and search powers and procedures used by police officers to stop and search people and vehicles are illustrated for information in Figure 2. Further information on Stop and Search is provided in the *Appendices*.

## Summary of the main stop and search powers

The general power for police officers to stop and search people and vehicles comes from PACE. Both the powers to stop and search under PACE and those authorised by most other statutes must be carried out in accordance with the Codes of Practice. Code A.

Power	Object of search	Extent of search	Where exercisable
Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 Section 1	Stolen goods articles for the use in certain Theft Act Offensive weapons, including blades or sharply-pointed articles (except folding pocket knives with a bladed cutting edge not exceeding 3 inches)	Persons and vehicles	Where there is public access
Firearms Act 1968 Section 47	Firearms	Persons and vehicles	A public place or anywhere in the case of reasonable suspicion of offences of carrying firearms with criminal intent or trespassing with firearms.
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, Section 23	Controlled drugs	Persons and vehicles	Anywhere
Aviation Security Act 1982, Section 27 (1)	Stolen or unlawfully obtained goods	Airport employees and vehicles carrying airport employees or any vehicle in a cargo area whether or not carrying an employee	Any designated airport
Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc) Act 1985, Section 7	Intoxicating liquor	Persons, coaches and trains	Designated sports grounds or coaches and trains travelling to or from a designated sporting event
Crossbows Act 1987, Section 4	Crossbows or parts of crossbows (except crossbows with a draw weight of less than 1.4kgs.)	Persons and Vehicles	Anywhere except dwellings

## Powers that do not require reasonable grounds

Section 44 (I) of The Terrorism Act 2000	Articles that can be used for a purpose connected with the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism	vehicles, drivers and passengers	Anywhere within the area or locality authorised
Section 44 (II) of The Terrorism Act 2000	Articles that can be used for a purpose connected with the mission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism	Pedestrians	Anywhere within the area or locality authorised
Section 60 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, as amended by Section 8 of the Knives Act 1997	Offensive weapons or dangerous instruments to prevent incidents of serious violence or to deal with the carrying of such items	Persons and Vehicles	Anywhere within a locality authorised

Figure 2: Summary of the Main Stop and Search Powers from MPA Scrutiny Report, 2004: 20

The following sections explain the role and remit of the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group, its Stop and Search Group, and the basis for the LCPCG Stop and Search Conference.

The history of planning the conference was also strongly informed by the discussion arising in meetings of LCPCG, the LCPCG Stop and Search Group, the Conference Planning Group and the events occurring in London in July, 2005, as reported in the articles included from the *News Shopper* and *Mercury* newspapers in the *Appendices*. A summary of the main stop and search powers and procedures used by police officers to stop and search people and vehicles are illustrated for information in *Figure 2*. Further information on Stop and Search is provided in the *Appendices*.

### **1.7 Role of the LCPCG and Stop and Search Group**

The Lewisham Community/Police Consultative Group (LPCCG) liaises between the police and the community in the borough of Lewisham. LCPCG is an Independent Community Forum which discusses aspects of policing, community safety and related issues which matter to the communities of Lewisham. Lewisham Borough Police and the Council's Crime Reduction Service are key partners within the Group. They regularly inform the Group of developments in their respective areas and where they work in partnership, especially matters with implications for the community. The Police and the Crime Reduction Service seek to consult, involve and engage with members of the LCPCG Group. Members of the Group raise local issues and concerns regarding, crime prevention, community safety, anti-social behaviour, particular crimes, safer neighbourhoods and other topical issues. There are four full CPCG meetings during the year and an AGM is held annually in early December. Other outreach meetings and conferences agreed by the Group are published through the Co-ordinator. The Group includes Members of Parliament for Deptford, Lewisham East and Lewisham West, up to five police officers, up to five borough councillors, and representatives from any bona fide, formally constituted community organisation. LCPCG meetings are open to all residents of the borough, members of the public and the press.

### **1.8 The Basis for the LCPCG Stop and Search Conference**

As noted in 1.1, the call for a special Stop and Search meeting emanated from a Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG) meeting in 2005, when Gordon Glean, Chair of the LCPCG Stop and Search Group, and Simon Davis, Chief Inspector of Lewisham Borough Police Partnership Team, made presentations on stop and search. That was a vibrant meeting with much interaction, interest and a lively discussion in which young people from Second Wave Youth Arts in Deptford were present and participated. Phil Turner of Second Wave had already put on the table the possibility of working with LCPCG on some work with young people to achieve greater participation, involvement of and information to LCPCG on their perspectives on Policing and Community Safety. Proposals included discussion about stop and search and the making of an interactive video. The community expressed their desire for a special meeting to discuss and explore the matter further. As a result, a Stop and Search Conference Planning Group was set up to take the matter forward and organise a conference in spring of 2006. A broad range of partners and interest groups in this planning group agreed a draft conference framework that was finalised to achieve the conference agenda.

## 1.9 Police Stop and Search and Recommendation 61

Recommendation 61 of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence requires that a record should be made each time a police officer stops someone and should include the reason for the stop, the outcome, and the self-defined ethnic identity of the person stopped. A copy of the record should be given to the person stopped. Previously a written record was only required if someone was stopped and searched. In view of this recommendation, police officers now need to provide a written record of any time they have stopped someone and asked them to account for themselves. The written record will assist in the monitoring of disproportionality and give those people stopped information about their rights and how they can complain. The Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG) held a public meeting, chaired by David Michael, on

1 March, 2005 at 7pm in the Civic Suite to inform people of these changes. Presentations were given by the Metropolitan Police Service and LPCCG, following which there was a question and answer session and a presentation on broader policing issues in the borough of Lewisham.

### **Recommendation 61 of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report states**

'That the Home Secretary, in consultation with Police Services, should ensure that a record is made by police officers of all "stops and searches" made under any legislative provision (not just the Police and Criminal Evidence Act). Non-statutory or so called "voluntary" stops must also be recorded. The record to include the reason for the stop, the outcome, and the self-defined ethnic identity of the person stopped. A copy of the record shall be given to the person stopped'.

(MacPherson, 1999)

## 1.10 News Shopper Article: Police searches under scrutiny

On Tuesday 26th April 2005, following expressed concerns about the use of stop and search powers in Lewisham and the need for young people to know their rights, an article appeared in the *News Shopper* which alerted the general public to the organisation of the conference on stop and search (see *Appendices Figure A3*). The article reported that Lewisham Community Network Equality Officer Tracey Jarrett had welcomed the news that action was in progress to ensure young people were better informed of their rights and more involved in community police liaison. She said: "We need to empower people to take action and ask the right questions. We have to raise awareness about institutional racism. And I still believe there is room for improvement." The article also reported that the Chair of LPCCG, David Michael, had said: "It is all about community empowerment, understanding rights, young people playing their part with the police to look for solutions to prevent any misunderstandings and having a balance where police do not abuse their powers."

## 1.11 Mercury Newspaper Article

On 27th July, 2005, following concerns in the aftermath of the July 7th terrorist atrocities in London, a specially convened Lewisham Police/Community Consultative Group meeting was called at Lewisham Communities Together event at the Laban Dance Centre in Deptford. Following the meeting, an article in the Mercury newspaper by Keely Sherbird highlighted the problems of 'heavy-handed' stop and search police tactics being made on Muslims (see *Appendices*). The article published a plea from the Lewisham Police/Community Consultative Group to police officers to avoid the use of such heavy-handed approaches. Faith leaders thanked the police for their work in combating terrorism and requested that stop and search methods should be used 'with thoughtfulness and respect'.





## **Your Views for a Change:**

### **Presented by Tricia Campbell Former Hyde Housing Manager and Evelyn Neighbourhood Management**

Tricia Campbell, former Hyde Housing Manager and Evelyn Neighbourhood Management, was an active supporter in the planning and organisation of the Stop and Search conference. The following proposal outlines the extensive work done by Tricia in preparation for the conference.

#### **Stop and Search Focus Work Proposal: Purpose**

The focus groups form part of the preparatory work for the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG) Stop and Search Conference. The conference will result in:

- Police understanding of public perspectives on what is done well, what could be improved and how people feel that they are policed with regard to Stop and Search
- Beginning to draw up recommendations for improving and developing Stop and Search practice

The focus groups are therefore to give rise to:

- Lively and interesting presentation of local people's views
- Views being presented in a manner that assists public/police relations and contributes to action and change

Views that assist with addressing key conference themes:

- Training
- Monitoring
- Information sharing
- Public participation

The focus groups should complement previous Magpie stop & search survey & outreach work

Previous Magpie stop and search work (that focus groups will build on)

During summer/autumn 2005, Magpie surveyed a random sample of 103 people on the streets & in community venues in Deptford (Evelyn Ward) & New Cross (New Cross Ward) to find out:

- Their understanding of why the police use stop and search
- If they had ever experienced stop and/or search
- How they had experienced interaction with the police and how this made them feel (in general and during stop and/or search activity)
- Questions they would like answered about stop and search and/or ideas for improving stop and search practice

This research was conducted for Evelyn Neighbourhood Management as part of the Community Safety Inquiry (CSI) to better understand public opinion of stop and search. Views were to contribute to the development of the LCPCG Stop and Search Conference. The research was conducted in the Evelyn Neighbourhood Management area. The research built upon previous community safety enquiry street work conducted by Magpie in summer 2005 that had revealed local people had many useful points to make on stop and search <sup>2</sup>.

## Those reached

The survey reached 56% females and 46% males. Of these 52% described themselves as being either Black African, Black British, Black Caribbean or Black 'other', 41% White British, Irish or White 'other', 3% Asian, 4% mixed White/Black Caribbean and 1% refused to answer. Just over one fifth of those contacted were 16-22, 31% were over 22 and under 40, 36% were over 40 and under 60 and 8% were 60 plus.

## Rate of being stopped and/or searched

31 (30%) people reported being stopped and/or searched by the police. These were of a variety of ages and some reported the incidence as being 'years ago'. Of these over half (53%) reported the experience having happened more than twice with some citing six incidences or more. Given that respondents were not asked how long ago the incident was, or what age they were when they experienced it, the survey did not yield any information on whether certain age groups are more liable to be stopped or searched (although a considerable number of respondents freely offered up the opinion that young people are more likely to be targeted). Of the 31, 20 (65%) reported being stopped and searched and the remaining 11 reported being stopped only.

<sup>2</sup>Magpie survey of 57 local people in Deptford and Newcross, Summer 2005.



## Who was stopped and/or searched

Those reported as having been stopped and/or searched fell into a variety of age bands. More males (22) than females (9) reported the experience. 25% of females describing themselves as Black African, Black British, Black Caribbean or Black 'other', and 57% of males describing themselves in the same way, reported experiencing stop and/or search. 29% of males describing themselves as White, White British or White Irish and 7% of females describing themselves as such reported experiencing stop and/or search.

Of the people surveyed, black males and females had more direct experience of stop and search and therefore comments made about interactions with the police are likely to more strongly contain the views of this group

## Understanding of why the police stop and/or search

The top reasons were cited as being:

Reason for stop and search	Number of respondents commenting
Police are suspicious, think someone is acting suspiciously, or looks suspicious	31
Prevent terrorism/security	17
Racism	16
Abuse power/harass	14
Locate drugs	12
Locate weapons	12
Identify criminals/prevent crime	12
Suspicious of young people	10
Don't know	6
Find illegal objects	4

Suspicion was often mentioned in terms of stop and/or search being about stopping people that are behaving suspiciously or present as suspicious to the police by gravis of previous contact/clothes worn. It is likely that terrorism was much mentioned because of the recent terrorist attack that had occurred. Racism and targeting 'black' people was a recurrent theme throughout respondents' survey answers.

Whilst the main reasons for stop and/or search were, in general, understood, respondents also expressed that they felt the practice was sometimes unfairly targeted and some stated that they felt it was not always intelligence-based. The above views were expressed by those who had direct experience of stop and/or search and those that did not.

## Interaction with police

36 respondents made comments on the nature of interactions with the police (some people had interacted with them beyond stop and/or search situations). Of these, 4 spoke positively of their interaction and 6 made neutral comments. Twenty two felt their experiences had been negative. Four said that they had experienced a 'good cop/bad cop' scenario. When asked how these incidents had made them feel the most common responses were 'intimidated' (or its equivalent), 'embarrassed and humiliated' and 'angry and disgruntled' and 'frightened'. Other emotions were also expressed including 'hurt', and 'shock'. A few respondents reported that they felt 'OK' because the police were 'fair'. A stop and/or search experience is unlikely to be pleasant but the range and strength of negative emotions by those surveyed was notable.

## Questions and suggestions on stop and search

Respondents made many useful comments and had many intelligent questions about stop and/or search. The main categories of these are below.

<b>Questions or topic on which more information is required</b>	Number of respondents stating
Why are certain groups targeted? (young people and black people)	20
Why is it not intelligence led and where does stop and search information go/what are the outcomes of stop and/or search?	16
What are our rights and responsibilities?	10
Why do the police have the attitude that they have?	7
Why is there not more discussion and community involvement?	4

- What are the criteria of who is stopped and searched ....what happens to the information they take from a person?
- Have they stopped as many white people as they have black people?
- Section 61 is good for monitoring, but how is this information used?
- It should be intelligence led.....not by emotion.
- How effective has stop and search been?
- Give people a good reason for why they are being stopped and searched.

## Follow-up focus work: Rational

This will build on the above findings. Metropolitan police stop and search pilots and stop and search research has discovered that:

- In stop and search pilot areas young males (median age) 21 or 22 are most likely to be stopped and/or searched<sup>3</sup>
- Identifying [the issue] in ethnic terms may get it taken more seriously....but it may also mean that fundamental causes or relationships are obscured...the part is taken for the whole..... (Lusgarten commenting on Scarman report)<sup>4</sup>
- Involving young people in determining how stop and search information should be presented and distributed is useful<sup>5</sup>
- Knowing rights and responsibilities is important to young people <sup>6</sup>

Given the above, the focus work will therefore be conducted with a majority of young people (aged 11 to 25), ensuring good representation from young black and Asian (not well-represented in previous survey) males. We will aim to reach 20 young people, of which a good number should have experienced being stopped and/or searched. In order to compare adult (25 plus) and young people's views, one focus session will be held with adults. Good representation from black and ethnic minority adults will be sought.

As there has been much research on how local people view stop and search which has concluded that dialogue and participation are necessary<sup>7</sup>, the workshops will be recruited for, and conducted, in a manner that contributes to the commencement of a constructive 'stop and search' dialogue between local people and the police. The Magpie research has revealed that issues around rights a responsibilities, understanding how stop and search is applied, knowing what happens to stop and search information, gaining feedback on stop and search data and police attitude is important to local people. These issues fit comfortably with the conference themes mentioned on page one and will be teased out via focus work.

## Workshop aims

- A better understanding of how young people and adults feel that police and local people could work together
- Ideas for this
- Identifying the types of information young people and adults would like on stop and search
- Identifying the types of feedback young people and adults would like on stop and search  
Ideas for working towards this

<sup>3</sup> Marian Fitzgerald, Final Report into Stop and Search, Metropolitan Police, 2004, Section - Background to Report

<sup>4</sup> Fitzgerald, 2004 (ibid) Section - setting PACE searches in context

<sup>5</sup> Fitzgerald, 2004 (ibid)

<sup>6</sup> Fitzgerald, 2004 (ibid)

<sup>7</sup> As above, plus MPA, Recruit of the Scrutiny on MPS Stop and Search Practice (recommendations) and evidenced in Home Office, Stop and Search Manual.

## Recruitment and feedback

Recruitment will be conducted at youth centres, on the streets, in schools and community venues in the chosen locations. During the course of recruitment workers will be asked their opinions on the focus group themes and content (and if necessary, they will be tweaked accordingly). Potential participants will be given a flyer that explains the purpose, contents, time etc of the focus groups. Participants will be given the option of receiving a thank you letter for taking part (it would be good if this was from the police) as well as written feedback from the session. Attendance will be monitored in terms of age, gender, ethnicity and parental status. The participant form will also leave space to let us know about previous police encounters (as victim of crime and/or being stopped/searched/arrested plus any other information participants are prepared to disclose) – obviously we will state that this is optional and completely confidential. Focus group monitoring will permit us to assess whether particular groups have a tendency towards certain views. It would be excellent were there an appropriate police representative in attendance at the sessions (must be user-friendly and not in uniform). It would be good were this representative to be in attendance at the conference and take part in feedback from the sessions.

## Focus group content

The focus groups will be 2 hours in length and include:

<sup>1</sup>One hour exercise that permits participants to:

- Discuss how they perceive the dynamics of police/community relationships  
Identify possible steps towards a new dynamic and whether participants want it and believe it is possible
- What makes a good cop and a bad cop – stickers on visual of police
- What makes the good cop and bad cop mad – stickers on visuals of young person/participant
- What these interactions/perceptions are all about and help and hinder (discussion)
- Points for change (police and community), rating of how likely they feel it is to happen
- with opportunities and limiting factors identified (group work with scoring system)

### **Idea for Conference**

A comparable exercise could be conducted at the conference with conference attendees' doing the same. After they have completed the exercise, they could compare their perspective with focus group participants' views (as presented by visuals and report).

Alternatively, conference attendees could put themselves 'in the shoes' of local people, do the above exercise from the community perspective and then compare their perceptions of local people's view with the actual views revealed from focus work.

#### *2. Half hour exercise that explores questions around stop and search*

Devise a police interview script in groups. It asks six key questions they would like the police and conference participants to address and answer

These questions could be used for a conference workshop on actions that could result from questions raised

#### *3. Ten minute exploration of ideas for participation and feedback*

Brainstorm around ways in which police could better reach local people to involve them in developing practice, solving crime and letting them know the effectiveness of stop and search (and other measures)

#### *4. Check-out potential involvement and inform about feedback*

See if anyone would like to participate in above or conference.

Let participants know about conference and other feedback mechanisms.

### **Timescale**

Recruitment will be conducted February

Focus groups will be February/early March

Final report and materials will be presented mid/end-March

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## 2. Conference Programme

### Morning

- 09.30 Registration and Refreshments
- 10.00 Introduction – Grace Rodney (Facilitator)  
Welcome from David Michael, Chair of LCPCG  
Conference Opening by The Mayor of Lewisham,  
Sir Steve Bullock
- 10.05 Introduction by Gordon Glean, Chair of Stop and Search Group
- 10.10 Welcome from Wilf Petheridge, Young Mayor of Lewisham
- 10.20 Asquith Gibbes, Founder of Stop and Search Group
- 10.30 Natalie J. Stewart – Former Chair of Westminster Race Equality Council
- 10.40 Key Speaker – Bevan Powell, MBE, Deputy Chair, Black Police Association
- 11.00 Audio-Visual Message from John Roberts, Independent Member, MPA
- 11.05 Workshops (including refreshments)
- 12.10 Lunch



### Afternoon

- 1.00 Youth and Adult Open Forums:  
- Youth Forum (Council Chamber)  
- Adult Forum (Committee Rooms 1 and 2)
- 1.45 Plenary and Feedback
- 2.15 Response: Chief Superintendent Archie Torrance and Commander Rod Jarman
- 2.35 Questions to the Panel
- 2.50 Closing Remarks - Gordon Glean, Chair, Stop and Search Group
- 3.00 Close



### 3. Conference Presentations



**Grace Rodney**

#### **Introduction by the Conference Facilitator**

Grace Rodney, Conference Facilitator and Organisational and Development Training Manager, Community Services, Lewisham Council, welcomed delegates to the Civic Suite of Lewisham Town Hall and outlined the programme for the conference. She noted the details of timing for the day ahead and introduced David Michael, Chair of Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG), for the overall welcome to all conference participants. Grace facilitated all main conference presentations, discussions and panel sessions throughout the morning and afternoon, reminding people where to go for the workshops and breaks.

**Grace Rodney**  
**Organisational and Development Training Manager**  
**Community Services, Lewisham Council**



## **David Michael**

### **Welcome from the Chair**

## **Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group**

David Michael, Chair of Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group (LCPCG), welcomed conference delegates to the day's programme on Stop and Search: The Way Forward at Lewisham Town Hall Civic Suite. David briefly outlined the background to the conference and the importance of positive community-police liaison work on Stop and Search for the community in Lewisham. David thanked the Stop and Search Monitoring Group and Stop and Search Conference Planning Group, who were drawn from a wide range of community groups and partners, for their work in organising the conference. The partners had worked hard to plan the conference for many months. David said that he was delighted to welcome delegates for a productive day ahead, introducing the Mayor of Lewisham, Steve Bullock, to formally open the conference.

**David Michael**  
**Chair of Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group**





## **Sir Steve Bullock**

### **Conference Opening from the Mayor of Lewisham**

Steve Bullock, Mayor of Lewisham, formally opened the conference and welcomed everyone to participate fully during the day in the presentations, discussions and workshops to be held on Stop and Search: The Way Forward. Local residents in Lewisham have often told Steve how important issues of crime are to the community. Residents regularly put the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour at the top of their list of concerns when they talk to him. Responses to these concerns are not just a matter for the police or for Lewisham Council. Steve emphasised that everyone needed to work together to make progress in Stop and Search. He welcomed the vital role that Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group plays in this. Steve thanked the members of the LCPCG, the Stop and Search Group and Conference Planning Group for their work in setting up the 2006 conference and invited delegates to look forward to a productive day ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Bullock".

**Sir Steve Bullock**  
**The Mayor of Lewisham**



## **Nathalie J. Stewart, Guest Speaker**

### **Former Chair of Westminster Race Equality Council**

I am delighted to have been asked to address this conference today, and to be able to speak to you. I am not politically correct, not do I want to be, therefore, some of things I say to you today, hopefully, are quite politically incorrect!

Unfortunately, Stop and Search is a part of our everyday life. However, Stop and Search is for everyone, not just for the black community. There is unfortunately, evidence that black people are eight times more likely to be stopped than whites. For the Asian community, this is now running even higher, at around 38% (Asian stops as opposed to White stops).

The Metropolitan Police Service, Police Officer that stops you has a duty of care to inform you why he or she is stopping you. The officer cannot just stop you without an explanation. There are a number of reasons why you can be stopped. In fact, in the Stop and Search leaflet which is available from the Metropolitan Police Authority, it shows very clearly the seven reasons for which an officer must advise you why you are being stopped, and or stopped and searched. This is not optional to the Police. It is their duty of care. Should an officer not do so, you would have the right to take that officers badge number and report the incident.

When an officer stops you, and or stops and reaches you - you ask him or her, if they are doing so under Recommendation 61. This recommendation came about as a result of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report and recommendations. You could also ask the officer if he or she is stopping you under Section 44 of the Terrorism Act. How many of you know about Section 44? I didn't think so.....

I want you all to co-operate with officers when you are stopped and searched. Don't big up. Ask the officer about the reasons and mention Recommendation 61 or Section 44. We will see how many less Stops and Searches there are when the Police become aware that you are fully aware of your rights. The Police cannot just stop and search someone because of the colour of his/her skin. That is unacceptable. That is not going to continue. If an officer continues to do so, then it is for the community or organisations to ensure that that officer is subject to some sanction ..... exercise your rights. Knowledge is power. You must empower yourself with what is rightfully yours.

Unfortunately, as we now live in an age where we are dealing with a serious terror threats daily, we all need to co-operate. However, the disproportionality regarding blacks being stopped and searched must change. What is unacceptable is the fact that the stops and searches produce very little. What happens when a person is stopped several times and repeatedly nothing is found? What happens to the officer that keeps doing this? Is there a system in place for checking why that officer, and why that particular person is being stopped by that officer constantly? We need to address these issues.

Co-operate with the police. But under no circumstances, give up your right to know why you are being stopped and searched. But do it in a manner that does not allow an officer to get what they were looking for in the first place ... an excuse as opposed to a good reason for their Stop and Search.

**Nathalie J. Stewart**  
**Former Chair of Westminster Race Equality Council**



*Nathalie Stewart held up examples of the Stop and Search Know Your Rights Leaflet (see Appendices), drawing attention to these free leaflets and encouraging young people to be aware of the laws affecting them in relation to Stop and Search encounters.*





## **Bevan Powell MBE, Key Speaker**

### **Deputy Chair, Metropolitan Black Police Association**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, and a very warm to all the young people who have taken time to be here. My name is Bevan Powell, Deputy Chair of the Metropolitan Black Police Association and Director of our Youth engagement programme, VOYAGE: Voice Of the Youth and Genuine Empowerment. Before getting into the detail of my presentation, I would like to thank and congratulate the Lewisham Community and Police Consultative Group for putting together today's event, an event that will address one of the most contentious issues on the streets of London, that of Stop and Search.

For those of you who have heard about the work of the BPA, you would probably know more about our support network. This is where we support black staff involved in workplace disputes or times that we challenge the MPS ... ..But you probably won't have heard about our community engagement strategy and or the work we do with young people. Our aim in the BPA is to ensure that young people are empowered to make the changes that they wish to see in society. To ensure that young people are seen as part of the solution and not as the media would have us believe..... hoody wearing thugs. Through this programme we hope to create a platform were the voices of the young are heard and listened to. We do this through our Youth Engagement Strategy VOYAGE (Voice of the youth and genuine empowerment).

The central aim of the VOYAGE programme is to develop young people with a greater sense of social responsibility and to increase their leadership capacity. The young people are referred to as 'Young Leaders' and throughout the programme they are asked to analyse and problem solve issues that have a direct impact and them and their peers. The young leaders leave the programme

having developed not just personal skills but also the strategic links to engage at a senior level with local statutory agencies. The Programme is delivered in partnership with MPS Safer Neighbourhoods unit and the local schools. The programme includes:

- Leadership Programme (3 month programme or residential)
- Know Your Rights Seminar (explores the contentious issues of Stop & Search)
- Peace Pledge (Young people signing up to a life of non violence by September: this resource will be made available to all schools across London)
- School and College workshops
- Pizza Evening (face to face with policy makers and decision makers)
- Parent Forum (your chance to further support your child on the programme but an opportunity for you to have your say with the local police or borough council).

The Metropolitan Black Police Association is committed to empower and work with London's young people. I would like to take the opportunity to present a very short film which looks at the issues of stop and search. It explores some of the origins of mistrust and lack of confidence between the black community and the police. You don't have to be a police officer to prevent crime, you don't have to be a teacher to be an educator and you don't have to be a nurse to heal, but with vision, passion and determination we can all help to reduce crime, we all have something to offer as educators of Life. Today is your opportunity to contribute to the debate surrounding stop and search and your opportunity to impact on the issues as they impact Lewisham. I always say you don't have to be a police officer to solve crime, or an academic to teach...we all have a role to play and today is your opportunity to make a difference....Your opportunity to be the change you wish to see in your community and Lewisham...Thank you.

**Bevan Powell, MBE**  
**Deputy Chair of the Metropolitan Black Police Association**

*Bevan Powell is also Director of the Metropolitan Black Police Association's Youth and Community Engagement Programme and one of the founder members of the National Black Police Association.*



**John Roberts, Independent Member  
of the Metropolitan Police Authority  
Transcription of DVD Conference Message**

Hello my name is John Roberts, and I'm a Member of the Metropolitan Police Authority and I have the portfolio of Stop and Search. I'm sorry I can't be here today to share the celebration with you, but unfortunately I'm otherwise engaged. It was about two years ago that the then Commissioner, with our partners, agreed the 55 recommendations that the MPA have been working with. I believe that these recommendations will take about three years to fully implement, and I think we're about half way there. Recommendation 61 was implemented in London a full six months ahead of the rest of the country, and *I believe* that this couldn't have happened without the commitment and support of the members of the communities. And this includes members of Lewisham's community, because it's boroughs like Lewisham that have set up monitoring groups and that hold the police to account.

We're hoping to achieve 32 monitoring groups, each one in every borough, and *I believe Lewisham is leading the way in the future of these monitoring groups*. Other groups would well look towards Lewisham to best practice. I mean, I've been here many times, and a few weeks ago I came and saw some of the excellent work that you're doing in schools with young people around Stop and Search. I think [we need to recognise] the importance of Stop and Search and getting it through to communities so people understand why we need Stop and Search, but also that this can't be abused and that police officers are held to account. There are so many people to thank here today: I'm afraid I can't thank all of you. But what I would like to tell you is that Lewisham & the community of Lewisham, you have the support of us at the MPA. Well done for organising this conference. I really wish I could be there, but there are MPA staff here on hand to help and support you. Should you have any questions for myself or the authority, I extend a warm welcome for you to come and see me or come to a Stop & Search Review Board at the MPA. Thank you very much. I really hope you have a good day.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Roberts".

**John Roberts  
Independent Member of the Metropolitan Police Authority**







## **Chief Superintendent Archibald Torrance**

### **Supporting Statement from the Former Borough Commander of Lewisham Police**

I would like to thank everyone who has supported the work of the Lewisham Community Police Consultative Group and its Stop and Search Group so tirelessly in setting up this conference. It is through your endeavours that the LCPCG remains so vibrant and innovative as a community police consultative forum. This is demonstrated no more so than by this very successful Lewisham Stop and Search Conference hosted by LCPCG. It is especially rewarding to see the energy and enthusiasm of the many young people contributing to this conference. I would also like to express my gratitude to LCPCG for the valuable insight, guidance and support it provides to Lewisham Borough Police. We are presented with many complex challenges in policing and I am particularly grateful to David Michael as Chair of LCPCG for his vision, leadership and commitment to the community.

It is especially rewarding to see the energy and enthusiasm of the many young people contributing to this conference

**Chief Superintendent  
Archibald Torrance**

I am happy to endorse and support not only the report from this important conference, but also the specific recommendations made for further action in this area. Alone we can achieve nothing in this, but together we can make Lewisham a place we can all be proud to call home. Things are changing for the better as a result of the positive work being carried forward from this Stop and Search 2006 conference.

**Chief Superintendent Archibald Torrance**  
**Former Borough Commander, Lewisham Police**



## 4. Conference Workshops

A range of conference workshops were held in the morning and afternoon of the conference, led by conference facilitators in the venues listed below. Descriptions of the workshops below outline the area of focus and the activities held. The workshops were attended by many people and were in general regarded as a great success, with lively participation and feedback. Delegates signed up to attend the workshops at registration.

<b>Morning: Workshop Lead &amp; Venue</b>	<b>Description of Workshop</b>
Malcolm Ball/ Bianca Foster/ Lashley Roberts  Mayor's Parlour	<b>Youth Service/Citizen's Panel</b> Discussion regarding young people's understanding & experience of Stop & Search in Lewisham & exploring the way forward.
<b>Second Wave Young Activists Group, supported by Talmud Bah, Helen Dyer and Gabriel Eniwumide</b>	<b>Something needs to change – Your time to speak</b> This workshop will explore interactions between the Police & local young people & how the quality of these interactions can be Council Chamber improved.
Gordon Glean/Alma Hunt  Committee Room 7	<b>Scrutiny, locally and centrally</b> What do we do to monitor stop and search. Do changes need to be made following 7 July events?
Police Constable Jonathan Morrison  Committee Room 3	<b>Know your rights and responsibilities – knowledge is power</b> Do you know your rights? Do you know why Police act and do what they do? Do Stop and Search laws impact on you? Come to this workshop to find out the answers.
Sergeant Neil Zabit  Committee Room 4	<b>The Bully Van, fact or fiction: Territorial Support Group (TSG4)</b> Our role and responsibilities. What is a Section 60 & a Section 44?
<b>For REAL! Youth Forum</b> Allan Gay/Cleo Soazandry  Committee Room 1	<b>Is it because I am Black?</b> Disproportionality – fact or fiction? Police & community perceptions. Featuring clips from 'Blue Borough Speaks' Youth Film Consultation
<b>Young Black Positive Advocates (YBPA)</b> (YBPA) Committee Room 2	<b>YBPA Who we are, what we do, young leaders empowering young people.</b>
<b>Afternoon: Forum and Venue</b>	<b>Description of Workshop</b>
David Michael, Steve Harrison and Gordon Glean  Committee Rooms 1 and 2	<b>Adult Forum on complaints, parental concerns, third party reporting</b>  How can this be taken forward?
Grace Rodney/Phil Udeh/Sandra White  Council Chamber	<b>Youth Forum</b> Exchange of information that will form the basis of the way forward for young people. Your feedback your suggestions, your recommendations.

## 5. Reports and Feedback from workshop



### **Wilf Petherbridge, former Young Mayor of Lewisham**

The Young Mayor of Lewisham, Wilf Petherbridge, made some welcoming remarks to the Stop and Search conference, emphasising the youth perspective, following the opening of the conference by the Mayor, Sir Steve Bullock.

#### **Summary of Key Points by Malcolm Ball, Adviser to the Young Mayor and Young Mayor's Team (Lead Officer Youth Participation Strategy)**

##### **Report from Youth Service and Citizen's Panel Workshop**

##### **Malcolm Ball/ Bianca Foster/ Lashley Roberts: Mayor's Parlour**

A discussion was held regarding young people's understanding and experience of Stop and Search in Lewisham and exploring the way forward. There was a lively workshop, attended by young people and adults to explore positive and practical ways forward.

The main points that came forward were:

- For Young People to brief New Officers as part of their induction
- For Young People to take part in positive activities with officers
- For cultural/recreational activities where misunderstandings/tensions could be discussed
- For there to be a Youth I A G [Archie Torrance]
- For Police to negotiate Stop and Search with local Young People
- For local youth clubs/projects to explain/explore these issues with young people
- For the report and recommendations to go to Young Advisers, Youth Forums etc. for action

## **Second Wave Young Activists Group - Workshop Feedback**

### **Something needs to change - Your time to speak**

#### **Talmud Bah, Helen Dyer and Gabriel Eniwumide: Council Chamber**

*This workshop explored interactions between the Police and local young people and how the quality of these interactions can be improved.*

Respondent feedback from the Second Wave workshops was in general very positive. There was clear engagement with the processes and activities carried out. Some clear messages emerged regarding the concerns and views of participants. There was 100% agreement from all participants in the workshop on the following three statements which were regarded overall as priorities in the workshop group's analysis of stop and search activities and workshop respondents' views:

- The police need to consult more directly with young people in neighbourhoods & communities, with 95% agreement amongst participants that:
- Training is needed to improve the interpersonal skills of the police in working more positively with young people, and that:
- More events like this conference should be organised to involve young people in making decisions.

100% of workshop participants agreed that:

- Young people need to be encouraged to report incidents where they are treated unfairly by police.
- while 95% of workshop participants also felt strongly that:
- Young people need to be taken seriously by the police, their views need to be heard
- Better information, legal rights advice & complaints procedures are essential to build the knowledge & confidence of young people about the police.

Key points raised by participants in the Second Wave workshop were the following:

- Respect is a key issue – for people of all ages.
- More involvement of police officers in events and workshops like these.
- We must act on recommendations promptly.
- Parental input is vital.
- Selection and training of police should reflect cultural diversity and address issues of prejudice/discrimination.
- Training needed to achieve more positive relationships between police & young people.
- More workshops like this to generate ideas for action. Stronger role for schools.

- Community should measure success.
- Clear accountability is essential.

Feedback notes from the flipcharts and post-it notes collected in the workshops included a range of concerns reported in remarks about stop and search from young people. Concerns were raised about the following issues in discussion:

- Effect of 9/11 (September, 11th, 2001) and 7/7 (7th July, 2005) on stop and search
- Percentage stops may give inaccurate impression
- Disproportionality – ethnicity not always recorded and this distorts outcome
- Changes in society – role models
- Critical encounters
- Citizenship rights and responsibilities
- Respect
- Accountability
- Input from young people in police training
- Practical training for police
- Communication and training
- Grass roots – local, community, specific
- Who carries it out? Reflecting community
- Partnership – awareness of rights and responsibilities, schools and other agencies, ownership of issues by young people
- Accountability – two-way accuracy
- Learning other people's views and experience
- Combat stereotypes
- Need to get together to do something positive
- How can you make complaints and what happens when you do?
- Why do police treat Black young people like animals?
- Can the Young Mayor do more? Power – where?
- Learning needed on both sides!
- Kids will be on the streets if there is no proper youth provision
- More Black people to join police.
- Interaction which is negative will discourage
- We need Black police officers!

Extracts from activities and discussions held in the workshops are provided below, with two statements from Second Wave participants, photographs of the workshop held on the day, and of participants in recent performances held at Second Wave.



**Stop and Search: The role of Second Wave by André (Logic) Thompson  
Second Wave Youth Arts, Deptford:  
Participant in the 2006 Conference**

Stop and Search stems from before the process itself. There has to be a certain understanding before Stop and Search incidents happen about what is taking place and the consequences of this. A lot of work can be done before Stop and Search incidents occur. Conferences like this one on Stop and Search really help by bringing young people into the ambience of police officers, to create a mutual space. However, it is not an instant process. Anything that is worth fighting for is worth achieving through time and effort. Conferences and other actions like this don't have instant impact, but there has been an improvement, since things that are learnt are brought into Stop and Search situations. Many a time, as young people, the people who surround you are more important to you than your parents. If you're surrounded by other young people, whatever they're doing, you're going to want to do. Many people come from the streets to Second Wave: the majority of people in Second Wave have come from the streets. There are not enough organisations like Second Wave. This is not like school: young people carry whatever they've learned from the street, but they learn to incorporate that into Second Wave. Otherwise, many young people don't have the right resources for them to have a chance.



**Stop and Search: Young People and Second Wave by Samina Jusu, Second Wave Youth Arts, Deptford: Participant in the 2006 Conference**

If the police use power correctly in situations where they are upholders of the law and should act in a certain way – they are adults – youth learn from them, so if police learn the ways to approach young people, that is beneficial. It is very important to teach the police how to deal with different cultures. It's also very important that young people learn how to answer the police. The TSG have approached situations differently after doing workshops with Second Wave, so there is a small improvement from this work. But, the major problem is youth outside on the streets who don't know of these things. In conferences like this, we are only talking to people who are willing to come here, whereas it's important we get to police officers to change. Trident, for example, was set up to tackle race and crime. If there is racism it's an institutional problem, but if someone's got hurt, it's *crime* (not race involved in crime). Institutional racism is being made worse by having separate groups to deal with it, segregating the community by creating solutions based on race, e.g. Trident. The young people who feel safer when associated with a gang – those are the young people who need to be reached. They are going to feel more associated with gangs. We need to tell them there is a future for them apart from with gangs. Once everyone labels gangs as 'black youth hoodied out', they don't want to come out of this stereotypical view: they are tired of being stereotyped. A youth was once a child: that child had to learn their behaviour from an adult. Where are the weapons coming from if it's not an adult behind them? A group of people – young people – are being stereotyped, but Second Wave has given young people a chance without having to fight for it. Young people feel they have to change who they are to fit in, whereas Second Wave allows you to be who you are without having to change. Young people on the streets don't feel anyone understands them. Young people aren't aware there are organisations like Second Wave.



## **Presentation by**

### **Police Constable Jonathan Morrison**

## **Stop & Search: Know your rights: Knowledge is power**

**Jonathan Morrison Police Constable, Safer Schools Officer**

**Lewisham Borough Police, Partnership Team: Committee Room 3**

Good Morning and May I welcome you to this workshop, which I hope, will tackle an extremely important and topical subject. I hope the time we have together will be enjoyable, informative but most of all fun. Respect as always is paramount in this debate and we should all respect the views of others even if they do not agree with our own. Before I start though I'd like to see as a show of hands how many here today have actually been stopped and search personally by Police. (A few put their hand up) It's clear to see that quite a few of you have had personal experiences concerning this matter which should help our in the debate part of the session.

So... Who actually knows all their rights? It seems like a strange question to ask but many people today are not fully aware of what they need to know. So I'm going to give a quick run down and it will be a good test for you. When a police officer is out and about on patrol he can speak to any person at anytime. It doesn't mean that you're in trouble if the officer does speak to you. I know that when I have spoken to members of the public in the past the first thing they have asked is "what have I done?".

### **So Why do we have STOP and SEARCH?**

Well its prime objective is to help the police DETECT crime and make our communities safer.

### **Who can stop you?**

A police officer or a police community support officer (PCSO) but the PCSO must be in uniform. A Police officer does not need to be in uniform but they MUST show you their warrant card.



## **What is a STOP?**

A “Stop” is when a Police Officer or PCSO stops you and asks you to Account for yourself. That means they are asking you to tell them:

- What you are doing,
- What you are carrying

## **So what is a STOP AND SEARCH?**

This is when a Police Officer stops you and searches you, your clothing and anything you are carrying. Only a Police officer (NOT A PCSO) can search you.

## **What would a Police officer search you for?**

If the police officer has REASONABLE GROUNDS (good Reason) to suspect that you have with you:

- STOLEN GOODS,
- A KNIFE or
- AN ITEM WHICH IS BLADED OR POINTED or any other legally defined OFFENSIVE WEAPON,
- THINGS THAT CAN BE USED TO COMMIT BURGLARY, THEFT or DECEPTION or TAKING A MOTOR VEHICLE,
- ARTICLES TO COMMIT CRIMINAL DAMAGE,
- CONTROLLED DRUGS, GUNS OR OTHER FIREARMS,
- Or REASONABLE SUSPICION OF BEING CONCERNED IN TERRORISM.

It's quite a long list isn't it? But what did you not see on there? A police officer cannot stop you because of the:

- COLOUR OF YOUR SKIN,
- PERSONAL APPEARANCE,
- YOUR AGE,
- STYLE OF CLOTHING
- HAIRSTYLE, LANGUAGE
- RELIGION or FAITH
- YOU HAVE COMMITTED A CRIME IN THE PAST.

## **So where can I be stopped?**

- In a public place;
- Anywhere if the police officer believes you have committed a crime

If you are in a public place, you only have to take off your coat or jacket and your gloves, unless you have been stopped in relation to terrorism or where the officer believes you are using clothes to hide your identity. If the police officer asks you to take off more than this or anything you wear for religious reasons, such as a face scarf, veil or turban, they must take you somewhere out of public view. This doesn't mean you're under arrest. In this case, the police officer that searches you must be the same sex as you.

### **What if I'm in a vehicle?**

Your vehicle can be stopped at anytime and you may be asked to show your driving license. The Police officer can search your vehicle if they have good reason to think it contains:

- Stolen Goods
- Drugs
- Weapons

They can search your vehicle at anytime, even if you are not there, but must leave a notice saying what they have done. If the search causes damage to your car, you can ask for compensation but only if the police didn't find anything to connect you to a crime.

Now that I've told you the basics concerning stop and search has it surprised you how much or how little you know about it? Well now I'm going to talk about the responsibility on the police.

### **What happens if I'm stopped AND searched?**

BEFORE you are searched, the police officer should tell you:

- That you must wait to be searched
- What law they are using and your rights
- Their name
- The station they work for; and
- That you have a right to be given a form straightaway showing details of the stop and search

### **Your right to a form**

If you are stopped or searched the officer must fill in a form and give it to you straightaway unless, for example, they are called away to an emergency. In that case you can get a copy from a police station anytime within 12 months.

On the Stop and Search Form (5090) the officer must write down:

- Your name or description of you (only if you are searched)
- Your self-defined ethnic background
- When and where you were stopped or searched
- If they are taking any action

The names and/ or numbers of the officers; and if you were searched, what they were looking for and anything they found.

The police will ask you for your name, address and date of birth. You DO NOT have to give this information if you don't want to, unless the police say they are reporting you for an offence. If this is the case you could be arrested if you don't tell them your name.

You may think it strange that police ask you what your ethnic background is. This is because the Home Office wants to know if the police are stopping or searching people just because of their race or ethnicity. You DO NOT have to say what it is if you don't want to.

### **So what if you're not happy with the Stop and Search?**

The police should at ALL TIMES treat you fairly and with respect. If you are unhappy with how you were treated, you can complain. If you feel you were treated differently because of your

- Race
- Age
- Sexuality
- Gender
- Disability
- Religion or faith

You can complain of unlawful discrimination.

It will help if you keep the form that the police gave you.

You can get advice from, or complain to:

- A Police station
- Your local police authority
- A citizen advice bureau
- Your local race equality council
- The independent police complaints commission
- A Solicitor.

Now that we've gone through the basics we can now debate on what been said and any questions raised may now be brought forward. Thank you.

## **Know your rights and Responsibilities – Knowledge is Power Workshop**

### **Review: Summary by Police Constable Jonathan Morrison**

What an honour it was for me to be involved in a forward thinking conference that brought together many of the leading minds on Stop and Search in Lewisham Borough. I had the pleasure of taking part in an informative workshop named “*Know your rights and Responsibilities – Knowledge is Power*”. This workshop gave the Police Service an opportunity to speak about and discuss the impact of such an important piece of legislation. This was indeed a unique opportunity for debate as Stop and Search usually comes into play during confrontational situations.

After giving my presentation it was clear that many in the audience had heard of Stop and Search, been personally involved in Stop and Search, but didn't really know all their rights. Many asked in depth questions and some were willing to hear an answer. There were some in the crowd who would style themselves as “ANTI POLICE” due to past experiences but during the discussion they were nodding in agreement to many of the things I said. A few days before the conference I spoke to one young person and I asked him “would you ever join the Police Service?” to which he replied “No way man!” so I asked him “why?” and he replied “because I don't think the police like black people”. I asked him to attend the conference, which he did, and he brought six other friends with him! During the debate they made many comments, which enriched the discussion. I approached the same youngster at the conclusion of the day and asked him the same question. He replied “what I heard today really made me think differently about the Police Service, I still wouldn't join but I think because I know my rights now I understand where they're coming from (police) and I think if they keep doing things like this (conference) they will understand where I'm coming from”.

The conference had made a difference to this young man and made him see that the Police Service is trying to do whatever it can to get rid of its “racist” reputation. I made it a goal to speak to as many young people throughout the day. It soon became apparent to me that for many this was the first time they had spoken in any great detail with Police Officers. “Yes we are Human” was a response I made to one young girl! Also I believe as a Police Service we learnt a great deal from the conference and I hope we continue to engage with all the Citizens of Lewisham Borough.

At the conclusion the response was very good and after the discussion many in the audience approached me thanking me for workshop. I would like to thank all for giving me the opportunity to represent the Police Service in such an important event.

Jonathan Morrison was born in Lewisham and attended Forest Hill Boys School. He was a presenter on BBC TV Crimewatch UK.

# Stop & Search



In order to prevent and detect crime police are given powers to stop and search under certain circumstances. These powers need to be used sensibly and with respect so that the police maintain public support.

## Prevention & Detection

If criminals and others think they may be stopped with illegal or prohibited items on them they are less likely to commit the crime.

## Main laws

There are several laws that give police the power to stop and search depending on the

**Sensible use of Stop & Search means less crime**

1

circumstances. The Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (P.A.C.E.) covers these and makes sure the powers are used correctly.

## Prohibited Articles

The main items police can search for are, stolen goods and prohibited articles. They are items such as offensive weapons, or anything used for burglary, theft, taking vehicles without authority, deception and items used for criminal damage e.g. spray cans. Police can also search for drugs.

**Search for - knives, drugs, guns, stolen goods...**

## Your Rights

Police can't just stop and search any one. They have to have reasonable grounds to suspect you have the articles on you. So you know what reasons and powers police are using they will tell you the following:-

- Grounds-** the reasons to search
- Object-** what they are looking for e.g. drugs
- Warrant Card-** show it if not in uniform
- Identify-** state their name/shoulder number
- Station-** station they are attached to
- Entitlement-** your right to a copy of search
- Legal-** power used e.g PACE
- You're** detained for the search.



**You have a right to a copy of the stop and search**

## Copy

Police will give you a copy of the form if you wish which will have all of the above information on it.

## Conduct of Search

In public view only the outer clothing can be searched. Police can require you to be searched out of public view or at a police station if a fuller search is necessary.

## Problems

Not all stops and searches are easy. Police have to make sure they and other people are safe. Some people resent being stopped and others want to prevent police from searching and finding items.

## Guns

If weapons or guns are suspected the search may be conducted by armed police officers instead.

**Co-operation is better than compulsion**

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**Presentation by Sergeant Neil Zabit**  
**The Bully Van, fact or fiction:**  
**Territorial Support Group No. 4 (TSG4)**  
**Metropolitan Police Service**

**Our role and responsibilities: What is a Section 60 and a Section 44?**  
**Committee Room 4**

**Neil Zabit, London Metropolitan Police Authority TSG – Points from the Workshop**

**1. There was a definite lack of knowledge from the public on a number of points:**

- a) Different police units do different things and may act towards the public in different ways due to police tactics and policy. (This was highlighted when I explained how TSG will get out of carriers in numbers & then withdraw when the overall risk assessment has been made)
- b) The public do not realise that we receive structured briefings and taskings before we go out including looking for specific people and targeting specific 'hot spot' areas of crime.
- c) Lack of public knowledge of the law and procedure regarding stop and search.

It was agreed that more liaison between police and public concerning a) and b) would lead to better understanding of how the police work and therefore less criticism and more compliance from the public. It was agreed that c) should be added to the educational curriculum at an early stage and that some kind of media help should be put in place at a local or national level to educate older people on the law and stop and search. Again it was thought this would lead to less confrontation as people would be more confident that police were doing the right thing if they knew what the right thing was.

## **2. Confrontational situations:**

When I explained that there is always a supervisor on a TSG carrier everyone agreed this was a positive point. Oppression vs. safety was argued when I explained TSG officers will initially get out in numbers and then withdraw and it was agreed that if the public were aware of this tactic (see point 1) and this tactic was managed by experienced supervisors, it was an acceptable tactic as long as integrity was maintained and the situations were managed to avoid escalation into critical encounters.

## **3. Police are human:**

I put it that we are fallable and do have bad days and do make mistakes. I also admitted that in a force of 30,000 officers there would be some bad eggs. It was appreciated that I accepted this. I stated that there has to be give and take on both sides.

It was discussed and agreed by all that:

- Just as police are not expected to stereotype the public should not assume that each officer or stop will be the same. If both sides show respect at the start of a stop it is much more likely to go well. Police should thoroughly explain why a person has been stopped and that person should be prepared to listen to the explanation. If police are wrong they should apologise and at least thank a person for their time.

## **4. From the majority of the workshop it was accepted that stop and search is a necessary tool to deter crime.**

S.1 PACE searches were accepted as necessary but should be dealt with professionally and with more accountability and there should be a better system for complaints which to all age groups would appear to have integrity.

There was less agreement with regard to S.60 searches being necessary, though the workshop agreed that if they were strictly monitored, only used for specific problems and stopped the moment the danger had passed they would be justified.

**5. Everyone agreed there is a big problem with group dynamics during stops and that this must be difficult to manage.**

It was agreed that people act differently and won't back down in a group situation, which is more likely to lead to a critical encounter with police. Stereotyping groups as gangs was discussed and the danger of alienating innocent youth was pointed out. The big thing to come out of this part of the discussion was the lack of facilities for youth in Lewisham and the contributing factor this has for large groups hanging around in the town centre leading to more stops by police.

**6. There should be more training on stop and search both within the police service and externally with public help.**

It was thought that bringing in outside agencies to discuss stop and search with new recruits would be helpful. In general it was thought the work the TSG do with Second Wave and other outside agencies to better understand the thoughts of youth and public towards both the police and life in general was a positive step.

**So, in brief:**

- Respect and understanding is needed on both sides.
- Better education for the public as to Police tactics and the law.
- Stop and Search is necessary but needs to be managed properly.
- Police training should be one with liaison from outside agencies (i.e. public)



 <p><b>Territorial Support Group</b></p>	<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>WHY ARE WE HERE TODAY?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the role of the TSG and the difference between TSG and the local Officers.</li> <li>2. Dispel some myths such as 'BULLY VANS' etc.</li> <li>3. Explain our procedures concerning officer safety and stop and search.</li> <li>4. Discuss how the barriers between youth and police can be broken down to manage critical encounters better.</li> </ol>
<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>During the presentation we hope to explain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ What the TSG is;</li> <li>➤ What it does;</li> <li>➤ How we are tasked;</li> <li>➤ What our operating procedures are regarding stop and search;</li> <li>➤ What we expect from the people we deal with... YOU?</li> <li>➤ What we feel some of the problems are between police and youth;</li> <li>➤ Open the discussion to the floor to discuss what you feel the problems are and how we can improve?</li> </ul>	<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>What is the TSG?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The TSG is a branch of the Metropolitan Police Service that works all over London.</li> <li>➤ It consists of over 700 officers</li> <li>➤ The officers work from 5 bases situated at Paddington, Finchley, Chadwell Heath, Catford and Clapham</li> <li>➤ Each of the bases is directly aligned to - and supports - a cluster of London boroughs.</li> <li>➤ <b>Cladwell TSG (known as TSG Support Lewisham Borough)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>TSG priorities are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ To work with our borough colleagues to create safer communities in London;</li> <li>➤ To secure the capital against terrorism; and</li> <li>➤ To provide the first response to critical incidents and major public disorder in London.</li> </ul>	<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>Options available include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Proactive covert/overt operations</li> <li>✓ Targeting suspects/hotspot areas</li> <li>✓ Intelligence-led stop &amp; search</li> <li>✓ Covert surveillance</li> <li>✓ Decoy operations</li> <li>✓ Multi-agency operations</li> <li>✓ High Visibility patrols</li> </ul>
<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>How do we work?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In uniform we patrol in carriers</li> <li>• Each carrier will normally contain one Sergeant and between 4 and 7 Constables.</li> <li>• There will normally be 2 to 4 carriers working together during a shift.</li> <li>• Sometimes we patrol in plain-clothes on foot or in unmarked cars.</li> </ul>	<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>Public disorder</b></p> <p>The TSG is London's primary response to any planned or spontaneous incidents involving public disorder.</p>  <p>The 1st carriers will then join up together to deal with the disturbance!</p>
<p><b>Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A constable in uniform may stop and search anyone under <b>Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994</b> if authorised by Superintendent or above!</li> <li>• Authorising officer must reasonably believe: -</li> <li>• (a) that incidents involving serious violence may take place in any locality in the officer's police area, and it is expedient to use these powers to prevent their occurrence; or</li> <li>• (b) that persons are carrying dangerous instruments or offensive weapons without good reason in any locality in the officer's police area.</li> <li>• <b>By reasonable grounds, entitled to search</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A time limit must be given (up to 24 hours)</li> <li>• A geographical area must be stipulated.</li> <li>• Inspector may authorise if need is immediate</li> <li>• <b>S.60A</b> states that if a s.60 is in place</li> <li>• any constable in uniform may</li> <li>• (a) require any person to remove any item which the constable reasonably believes that person is wearing wholly or mainly for the purpose of concealing his identity;</li> <li>• (b) seize any item which the constable reasonably believes any person intends to wear wholly or mainly for that purpose.</li> </ul>

Figure 4: The Bully Van, fact or fiction: Territorial Support Group (TSG 4): Sergeant Neil Zabit - 1

<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>How are we tasked?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are posted to a Borough and tasked to deal with the most prominent crime trend at that time -&gt; normally street crime..... ROBBERIES</li> <li>• We are then given HOTSPOT areas to patrol- these are the areas in the Borough where the highest density of crimes are occurring.</li> <li>• We are then briefed every day to the previous days events and crime trends and possible suspects for these crimes.</li> </ul>	<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>What do we do then?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patrol these tasked HOTSPOT areas to DETER and DETECT crime.</li> <li>• Conduct stops on vehicles and persons committing offences, acting suspiciously or fitting the descriptions of suspects highlighted in our briefings and</li> <li>• Searching those vehicles or persons... if the grounds allow it.</li> </ul>
<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>What are our procedures.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ We practice a two to one approach for officer safety purposes- so if there are a LOT of you... a LOT OF US will get out of our vehicles until the situation is deemed safe.</li> <li>✓ If we think there is a danger from weapons of any kind the suspect will be dealt with in a dominating manner until we feel the situation is safe.</li> <li>✓ Otherwise, or once the situation has calmed we will stop you ascertain what you are doing in the area (as this is an area of HIGH CRIME), search you if the need arises and give you a record of this search.</li> </ul>	<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>What do we expect from YOU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don't think all policemen are the same!</li> <li>• Don't automatically think because you have had a bad experience with police before that this will be the same!</li> <li>• Don't start with inflammatory statements this will just put up barriers before we start!</li> <li>• Be calm- even if you think we are wrong... discussion is better than argument!</li> <li>• At least let us try and explain why we have stopped you.... Even if you don't believe it!</li> <li>• Talk to us!</li> </ul>
<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>Some facts and figures...</b></p> <p>During a 4 month period (November 2005 to February 2006), the TSG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrested 613 persons</li> <li>• 44 were for priority arrests (robbery &amp; burglary)</li> <li>• Stopped and searched 1170 persons</li> <li>• (a success rate of 32%)</li> </ul>	<p><b>What do we feel the problems are between youth and police?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth of today believe police think they are criminals before any interaction starts.</li> <li>• No respect from either side.</li> <li>• Peer pressure from mates is not to lose face to police</li> <li>• People think they are stopped due to stereotyping and for no other reason.</li> </ul>
<p><b>TSG</b></p> <p><b>Thank you for listening</b></p> <p>Over to you</p> 	<p><b>Territorial Support Group</b></p>

Figure 5: The Bully Van, fact or fiction: Territorial Support Group (TSG 4): Sergeant Neil Zabit - 2

## Young Black Positive Advocates (YBPA) workshop: Committee Room 2

**Sandra White, VOYAGE Youth Education & Development  
Manager**



The YBPA (Young Black Positive Advocates) delivered an inspiring and empowering workshop on the subject of Stop and Search. The young graduates of the Metropolitan Police Service, Black Police Associations, Youth Leadership Programme challenged young and old alike, and revealed their knowledge and understanding of what is, for most, a controversial and difficult subject. For forty-five minutes, the young leaders spoke with authority on

police powers and the legislation and processes that underpin Stop and Search and Stop and Account.

These were all covered in depth and it seemed that the young people very quickly gained the respect of the audience, including the police officers and other adults in the room.

Finally came the call for responsibility: the opportunity to look at how young people can behave when being stopped and how that creates a smoother encounter with the police. The YBPA were professional, knowledgeable and engaging with their delivery.

They worked as a team to show that young people are not always part of the problem.

They are definitely part of the solution and should be recognised as such.



## Summarised Points: Know Your Rights – Rights and Responsibility – A workshop

The workshop was delivered by three members of the YBPA (Young Black Positive Advocates): Fabian, Nadhia and Hannah. The YBPA are the youth forum of the Metropolitan Black Police Association.



The main aim of the workshop was for young people to be aware of:

- Why stop and search is used.
- What police do to carry out a proper search?
- The legislation governing police powers.
- How best to respond during a search.

This was a youth-led workshop with young people actively seen to be empowering their peers, by passing on their knowledge around stop and search and telling them rights. A further important aspect of the workshop is that the young people explored with their peers the importance of their behaviour in response to and during an encounter with the police – the importance of their responsibility as a citizen. Although it was mainly an adult audience, the YBPA took everyone through what constitutes a good stop and a bad stop and explored the more recent outcome of recommendation 61 Stop and Account, introducing the use of the 5090 slip issued by officers. The 5090 and its relevance was debated quite heavily and after some debate the young leaders were able to establish that the slips are useful in establishing the best practice of police officers and encouraged the audience to use the slip to aid them in identifying officers carrying out incorrect process and how they might be used to support a complaint.

The young leaders were able to distinguish between “Stop and Search” and “Stop and Account” and went on to identify specific legislation giving police powers to stop and search. Section 1 of PACE (Police and Criminal Evidence) Act, Section 60 Public Disorder Act and Section 44 of the Terrorism Act (2000). The main body of the presentation discussed the correct process of Stop and Search, GOWISELY and what police officers search for, SCOAP. The complaints process was heavily debated as many people felt that “nothing would be done” as the police cannot be brought to task. The YBPA explained the reasons for why people, especially those young people who feel they are being systematically targeted, should complain if they wish to see a change in poor use of Stop and Search methods.