



Police Accountability Meeting (PAM) Stop Search Report April 2024 - June 2024

August 2024

All slides to be treated as OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

CAVEATS

The data in the following report only includes data that have 'Cheshire Constabulary' recorded as the owning agency.

The data in the following report was run on 24/07/2024 and will therefore be subject to change in line with updates made to the source system.

There are several caveats specific to this data set. These have been referenced throughout the report where appropriate and should be taken into consideration when reviewing the information presented.

In the following report the term Action Taken is referred to. The definition of Action Taken has been taken from the HMICFRS PEEL Digital Analysis Pack and refers to the following outcomes:

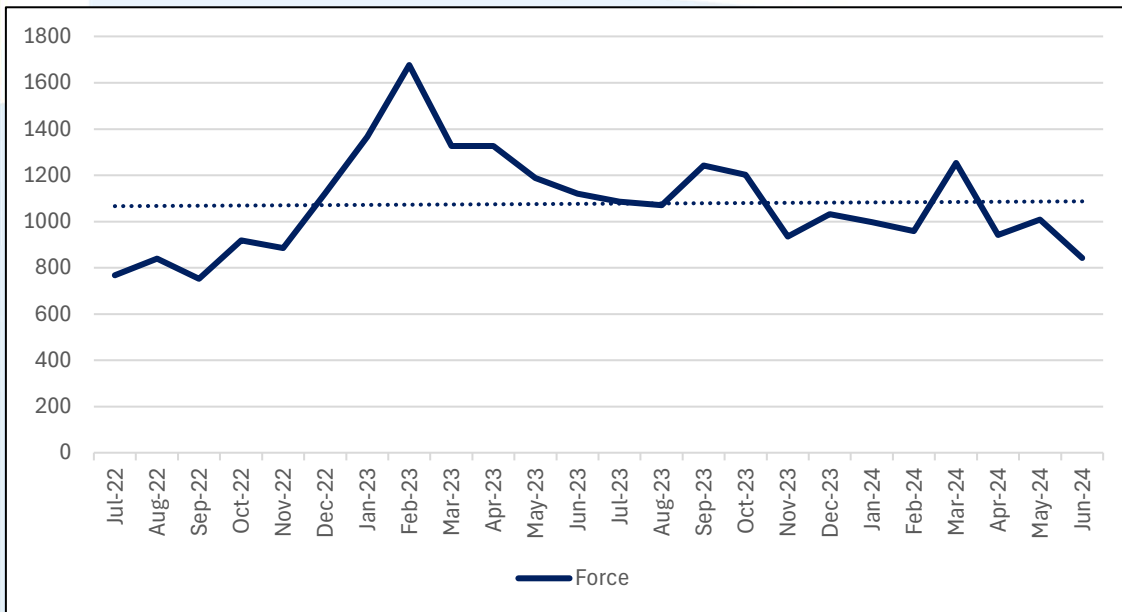
Action Taken: Arrest, Caution, Community Resolution, Drug Warning, Other Action, Seizure of property and summons.

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

This information has been provided for a specific policing purpose: please consider this when making decisions about further dissemination.

- In the latest quarter (April 2024-June 2024) there have been 2,794 stop searches conducted at Force level. Over the latest 12-month period this is the lowest quarterly volume.
- Police Action was taken in 30.6% (856) of stop searches.
- The Arrest rate over the latest quarter (12.5%) was the lowest quarterly percentage over the latest 12-month period.
- (1,831, 65.5%) of stop searches were for Controlled Drugs.
- The highest volume of stop searches were conducted in Warrington LPU (475, 17.0%).
- Most searches were conducted on Males (2,441, 87.4%) notably those aged between 18-24 years old (587, 21.0%).
- The stop search rate per 1,000 population is highest for individuals whose Self Defined Ethnic Group was Black or Black British (10.7 Stop Searches/1,000 pop). This is 4.7 times greater than the equivalent rate for individuals defined as White (2.3 per 1,000 pop).

Force Stop Search volumes (Jul 2022- Jun 2024)

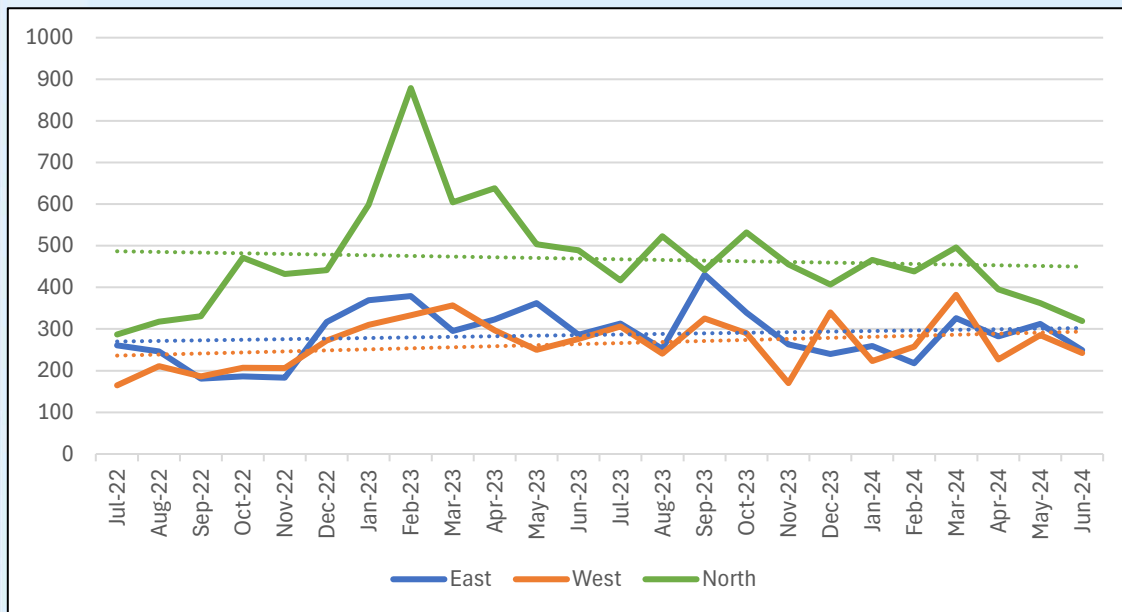


In the latest quarter (April 2024-June 2024) there have been 2,794 stop searches conducted at Force level. Over the latest 12-month period this is the lowest quarterly volume.

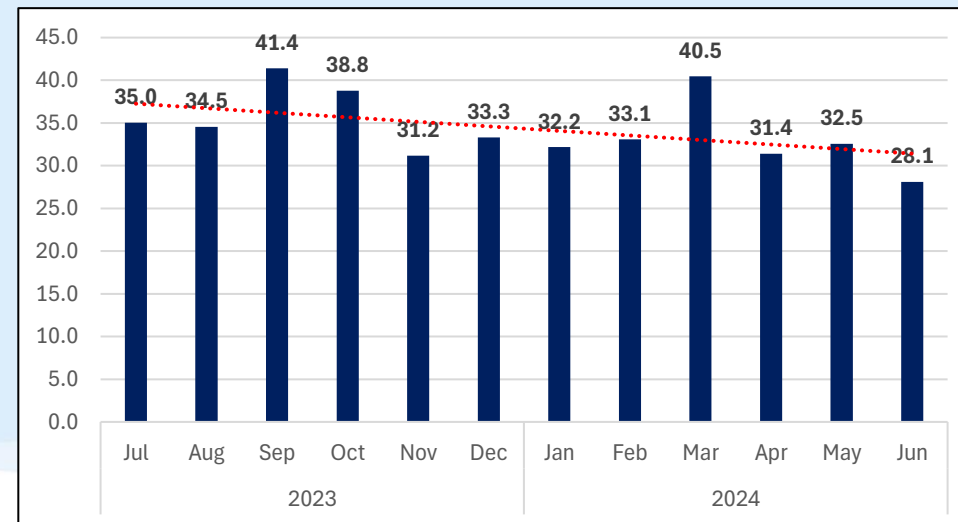
The Eastern Area (+40, +5.0%) were the only Force Area to recorded an increase in stop searches compared to the previous quarter: Northern (-324, -23.1%) & Western (-109, -12.6%).

In June 2024 (843) the Force recorded the lowest monthly volume of stop searches since September 2022 (752). Notably, the North (319) recorded their lowest monthly volume in June 2024 since August 2022 (318).

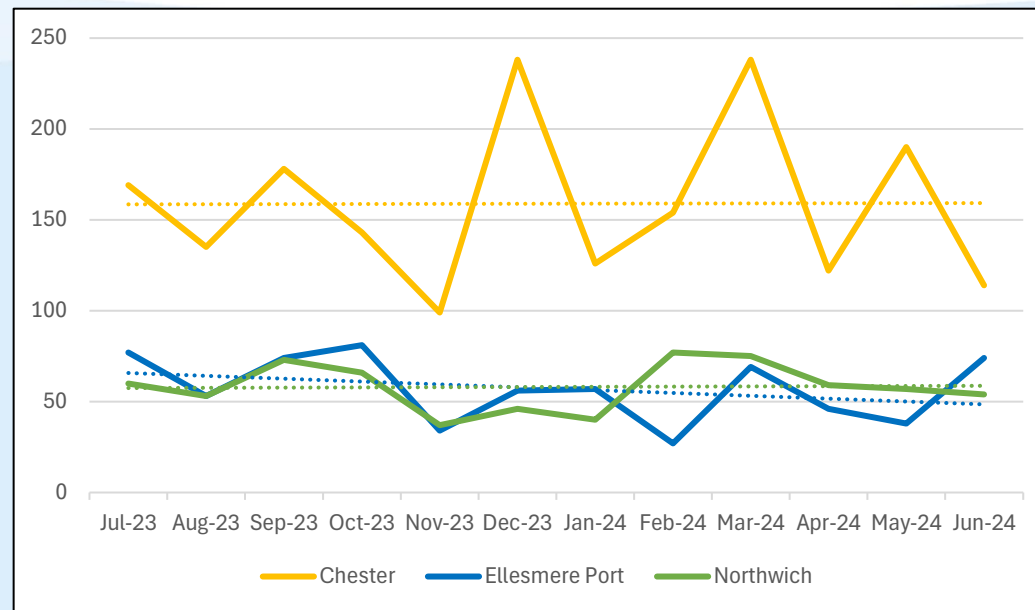
Stop Search volumes by Area (Jul 2022- Jun 2024)



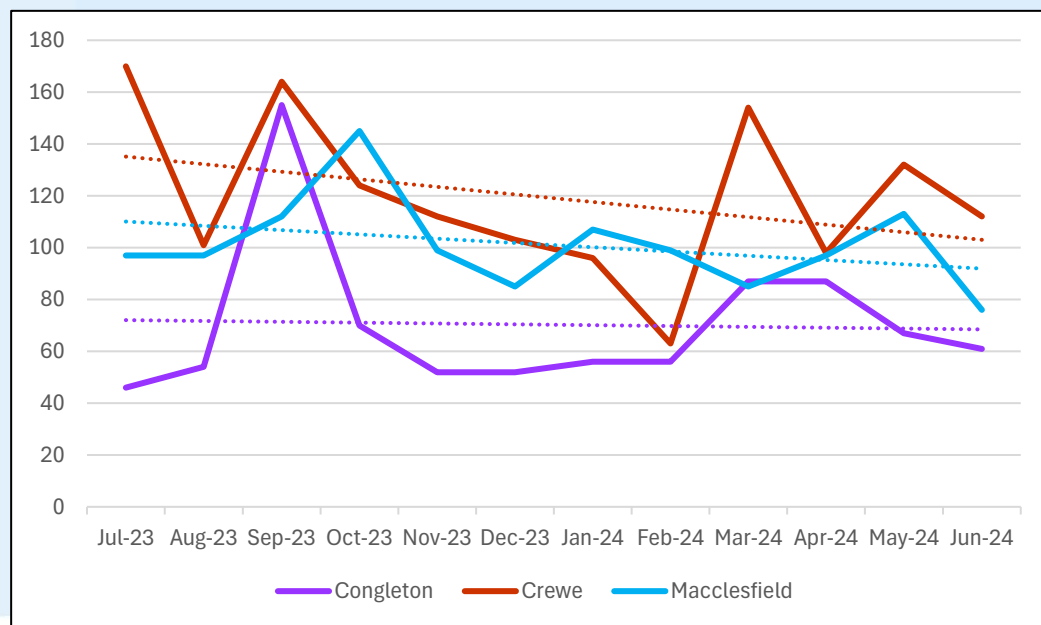
Force Daily Stop Search Rate by Month (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



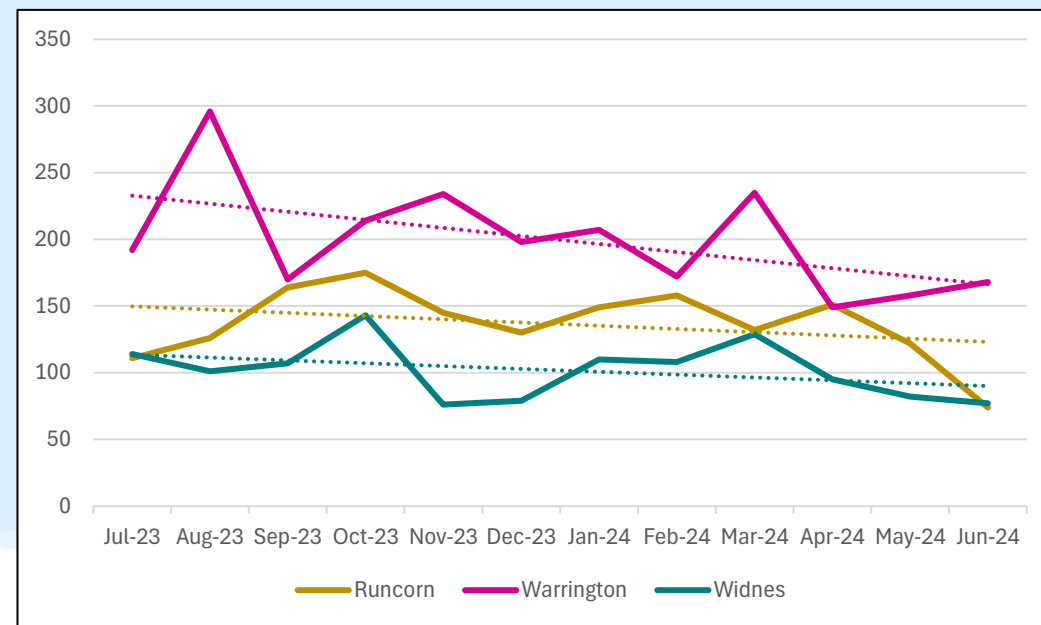
Western LPU Stop Search volumes (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



Eastern LPU Stop Search volumes (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



Northern LPU Stop Search volumes (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



Stop Search Period Volumes (Jul 2022- Jun 2024)

Stop Search	12-Month Vol.		Quarter Vol.		Month Vol.	
	Previous	Latest	Previous	Latest	Previous	Latest
Force	13,289	12,572	3,210	2,794	1,009	843

East	3,388	3,484	803	843	312	249
<i>Congleton</i>	649	843	199	215	67	61
<i>Crewe</i>	1,646	1,429	313	342	132	112
<i>Macclesfield</i>	1,093	1,212	291	286	113	76

North	5,992	5,252	1,401	1,076	362	319
<i>Runcorn</i>	2,181	1,637	439	347	122	74
<i>Warrington</i>	2,328	2,394	615	475	158	168
<i>Widnes</i>	1,483	1,221	347	254	82	77

West	3,070	3,289	863	754	285	242
<i>Chester</i>	1,423	1,906	518	426	190	114
<i>Ellesmere Port</i>	889	686	153	158	38	74
<i>Northwich</i>	758	697	192	170	57	54

Stop Search Period Volume Increases (Jul 2022- Jun 2024)

Stop Search	Volume and % Change					
	12-Months		Quarter		Month	
Force	-717	-5.4%	-416	-13.0%	-166	-16.5%

East	96	2.8%	40	5.0%	-63	-20.2%
<i>Congleton</i>	194	29.9%	16	8.0%	-6	-9.0%
<i>Crewe</i>	-217	-13.2%	29	9.3%	-20	-15.2%
<i>Macclesfield</i>	119	10.9%	-5	-1.7%	-37	-32.7%

North	-740	-12.3%	-325	-23.2%	-43	-11.9%
<i>Runcorn</i>	-544	-24.9%	-92	-21.0%	-48	-39.3%
<i>Warrington</i>	66	2.8%	-140	-22.8%	10	6.3%
<i>Widnes</i>	-262	-17.7%	-93	-26.8%	-5	-6.1%

West	219	7.1%	-109	-12.6%	-43	-15.1%
<i>Chester</i>	483	33.9%	-92	-17.8%	-76	-40.0%
<i>Ellesmere Port</i>	-203	-22.8%	5	3.3%	36	94.7%
<i>Northwich</i>	-61	-8.0%	-22	-11.5%	-3	-5.3%

Runcorn LPU saw the largest decrease in volume (-544, -24.9%) over the 12-month period whilst Chester LPU saw the largest increase (+483, +33.9%),

The Northern Area saw the largest decrease (-325, -23.2%) in the quarterly comparison period with all Northern LPUs recording decreases of between 21-27%.

Only Ellesmere Port (+36, +94.7%) & Warrington (+10, +6.3%) LPUs recorded increases over the monthly comparison period.

Force Object of Search & Legislation Used (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Object of Search	Legislation Used					Grand Total
	Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (S23)	PACE 1984 (S1)	Firearms Act 1968 (S47)	Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994 (S60)	Aviation Security Act 1982 (S27)	
Controlled Drugs	1,831					1,831
Articles intended for use in connection with theft		270				270
Bladed or Sharply Pointed Articles		253				253
Stolen Property & Goods		191				191
Articles intended for use in Criminal Damage		133				133
Offensive Weapons		105		4		109
Firearms			5			5
Fireworks		1				1
Articles Made or Adapted for Offence					1	1
Grand Total	1,831	953	5	4	1	2,794

The highest volume of stop searches recorded during this period were for Controlled Drugs (1,831, 65.5%) with the majority of these being for Possession of Controlled Drugs (1577, 56.4%). All Searches for Drugs were conducted under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (S23).

The stop search conducted under the Aviation Security Act 1982 (S27) was due to a nominal shining a laser at a Police Helicopter.

Details of stop searches conducted under the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994 (S60) can be found on [Slide 18](#).

Force Self-defined Ethnicity (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Self-Defined Ethnic Group	Self-Defined Ethnicities	Total	Population (2021 Census)	Stop Searches per 1000 pop
White	White - White British (W1)	2,197	989,198	2.2
	White - White Irish (W2)	40	7,261	5.5
	White - Gypsy/Traveller (W3)	17	905	18.8
	White - Roma (W4)	0	874	0.0
	White - Any other White ethnic background (W9)	101	39,947	2.5
White Total		2,355	1,038,185	2.3
Asian or Asian British	Asian or Asian British - Indian (A1)	11	8,540	1.3
	Asian or Asian British - Pakistani (A2)	30	3,978	7.5
	Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi (A3)	0	1,623	0.0
	Asian or Asian British - Chinese (A4)	0	4,624	0.0
	Asian or Asian British - Any other Asian ethnic background (A9)	24	6,387	3.8
Asian or Asian British Total		65	25,152	2.6
Black or Black British	Black or Black British - Caribbean (B1)	7	1,342	5.2
	Black or Black British - African (B2)	19	4,355	4.4
	Black or Black British - Any other Black ethnic background (B9)	45	919	49.0
Black or Black British Total		71	6,616	10.7
Mixed	Mixed - White and Black Caribbean (M1)	15	4,448	3.4
	Mixed - White and Black African (M2)	8	2,723	2.9
	Mixed - White and Asian (M3)	11	6,099	1.8
	Mixed - Any other Mixed ethnic background (M9)	31	4,206	7.4
Mixed Total		65	17,476	3.7
Other Ethnic Group	Any other ethnic Group - Arab (O2)	5	1,938	2.6
	Other ethnic group - Any other ethnic group (O9)	45	6,005	7.5
Any Other Ethnic Group Total		50	7,943	6.3
Not Stated	Not Stated (NS)	188	0	0.0
Not Stated Total		188	0	0.0
Total		2,794	1,095,372	2.6

The overall highest stop search rate per 1,000 population was for individuals whose Self Defined Ethnic Group was Black or Black British (10.7 Stop searches/1000 pop). This is 4.7 times greater than the equivalent rate for individuals defined as White (2.3 searches/1000 pop).

Overall, the number of individuals stop searched from BME ethnic groups was low (251). However, 6.7% (188) of stop searched individuals were categorised as Not Stated and these individuals could fall into any of the Self Defined Ethnic groupings, thus impacting on the totals.



Stop Search Ethnicity Volumes

April 2024 - June 2024	East	West	North	Force
Black or Black British	20	26	23	71
Other Ethnic Group	19	10	20	50
White	689	619	943	2,355
Mixed	23	19	19	65
Asian or Asian British	39	12	14	65
<i>Not Stated</i>	53	68	57	188
DCG Total	101	67	76	251

Stop Search Ethnicity % by Area

April 2024 - June 2024	East	West	North	Force
Black or Black British	2.4%	3.4%	2.1%	2.5%
Other Ethnic Group	2.3%	1.3%	1.9%	1.8%
White	81.7%	82.1%	87.6%	84.3%
Mixed	2.7%	2.5%	1.8%	2.3%
Asian or Asian British	4.6%	1.6%	1.3%	2.3%
<i>Not Stated</i>	6.3%	9.0%	5.3%	6.7%

Stop Searches Per 1,000 Population (2021 Census)

April 2024 - June 2024	East	West	North	Force
Black or Black British	8.26	12.34	11.02	10.73
Other Ethnic Group	5.91	4.63	7.79	6.29
White	1.83	1.82	2.94	2.29
Mixed	3.26	3.59	3.71	3.72
Asian or Asian British	4.09	1.66	1.67	2.58

Stop Searches Cheshire Resident Volumes

Cheshire Resident April 2024 - June 2024	East	West	North	Force
Yes	44	30	40	117
No	46	25	29	104
No Address	11	12	7	30
DCG Total	101	67	76	251

Black or Black British persons in the West were 6.8x more likely to be searched per 1000 pop than those who had a White SDE, higher than both the Eastern (4.5x) & Northern (3.8x) Areas.

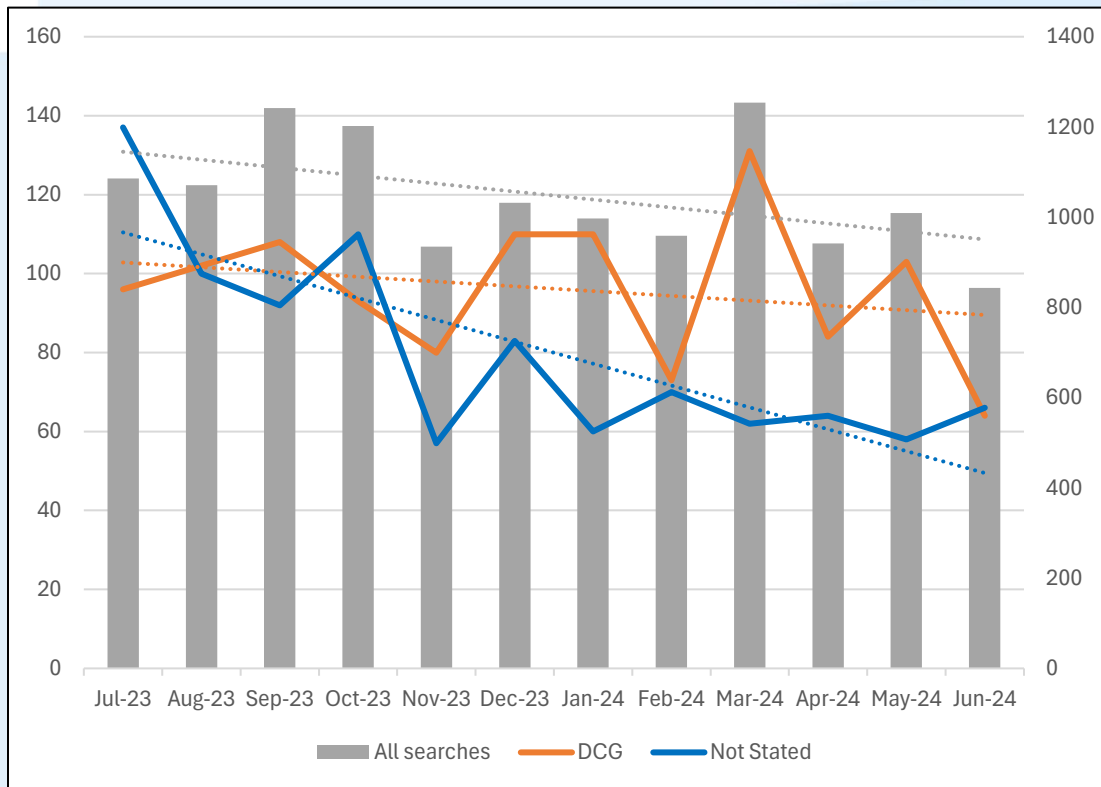
The Eastern Area (12.0%) had the highest % of searches which were conducted on persons from Diverse Community Group: Western (8.9%) & Northern (7.1%) Areas.

During the latest quarter there were 251 stop searches on persons from a Diverse Community Group (DCG). From these 251 stop searches:

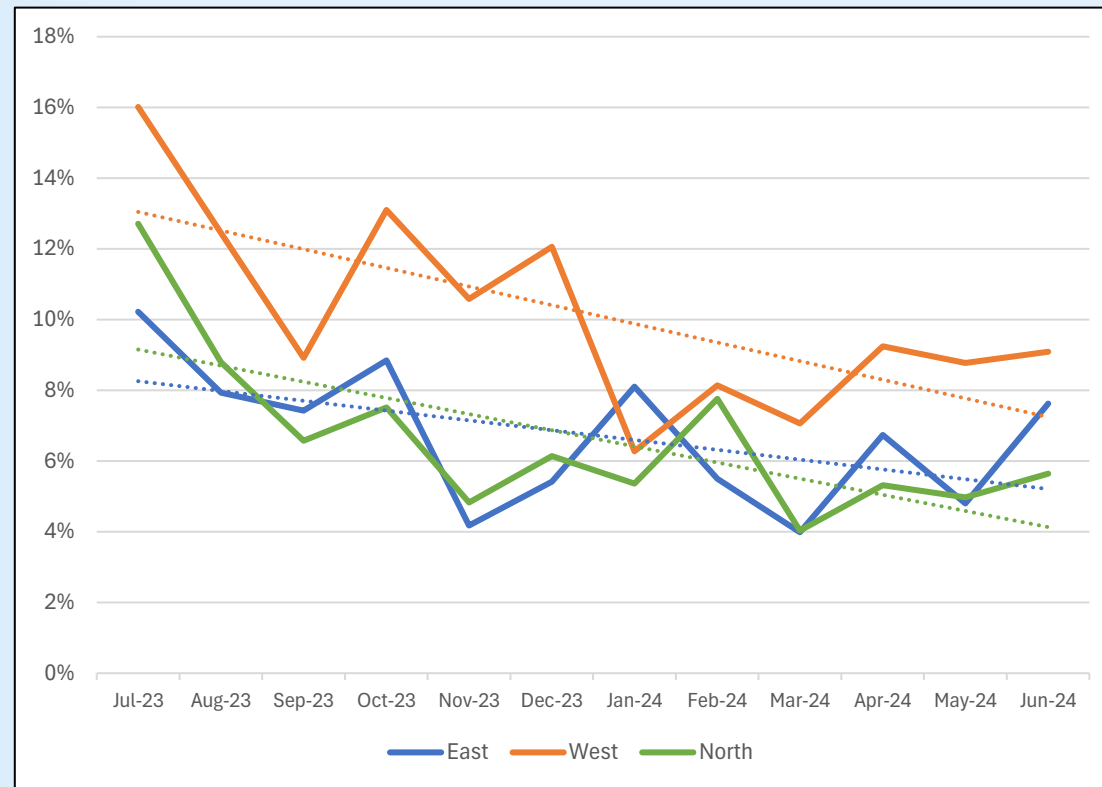
- 117 (46.6%) were Cheshire Residents
- 104 (41.4%) were Non-Cheshire Residents
- 30 (12.0%) had no recorded address

The Eastern (45.5%) Area had a higher % of searches where the stopped person was not a Cheshire Resident compared to the Western (37.3%) & Northern (38.2%) Areas.

Force DCG & Not Stated Stop Search Volumes (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



% Not Stated SDE by Area (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



The Western Area have consistently recorded a higher % of stop searches where the persons SDE is Not Stated. Between April 2024-June 2024 the Western Area (9.0%) had the highest % of persons with a Not Stated SDE: Northern (5.3%) & Eastern (6.3%).

In the latest quarter, the most common reason for a person's SDE being Not Stated was that the person 'Declined' (84, 44.7%) or there was 'No Suitable Option' for the person to select (84, 44.7%).

Not Stated Reason	East	West	North	No Location	Force
Absconded	3				3
Declined	23	32	25	4	84
Language barrier	5	2	9	1	17
No suitable option	22	34	23	5	84
Total	53	68	57	10	188

Force Officer-defined Ethnicity (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Officer Defined Ethnicity	Volume	%
White	2,561	91.7%
Asian	72	2.6%
Black	99	3.5%
Chinese, Japanese or other SE Asian	6	0.2%
Arabic or North African	22	0.8%
Not Stated	34	1.2%
Total	2,794	100.0%

Most searched persons had an officer-defined ethnicity (ODE) of 'White' (2,561, 91.7%). 7.1% of persons had an ODE from a Diverse Community Group. There were 34 persons (1.2%) who were subject to a stop search who had an ODE as Not Stated.

Force Stop Search volumes by Age Range & Gender (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Age Range	Gender			Total
	Male	Female	Unknown	
Under 10				0
10-17 Years Old	547	83	1	631
18-24 Years Old	587	77		664
25-34 Years Old	553	68		621
35-44 Years Old	349	65		414
45-54 Years Old	229	34		263
55-64 Years Old	71	7		78
65+	10	1		11
N/A	95	15	2	112
Total	2,441	350	3	2,794

Force Stop Search Percentages by Age Range & Gender (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Age Range	Gender			Total
	Male	Female	Unknown	
Under 10				0.0%
10-17 Years Old	19.6%	3.0%	0.0%	22.6%
18-24 Years Old	21.0%	2.8%		23.8%
25-34 Years Old	19.8%	2.4%		22.2%
35-44 Years Old	12.5%	2.3%		14.8%
45-54 Years Old	8.2%	1.2%		9.4%
55-64 Years Old	2.5%	0.3%		2.8%
65+	0.4%	0.0%		0.4%
N/A	3.4%	0.5%	0.1%	4.0%
Total	87.4%	12.5%	0.1%	100.0%

Most searches in the latest quarter were conducted on Males (2,441, 87.4%) notably those aged between 18-24 years old (587, 21.0%).

In 112 (4.0%) of searches the persons age was not recorded and in 3 (0.1%) searches the Gender was unknown.

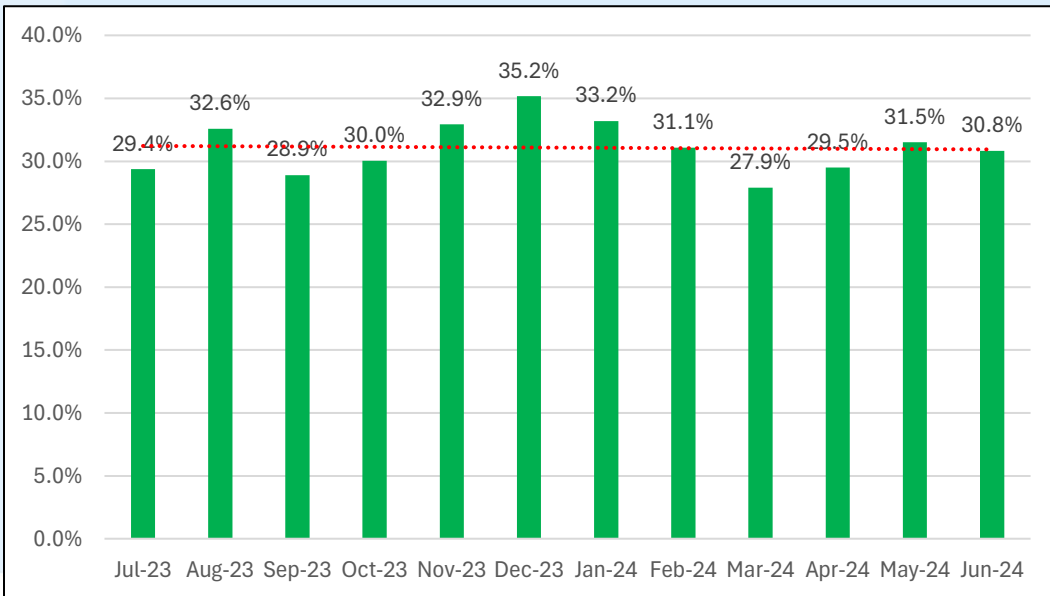
Force Stop Search Outcome volumes (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Stop Searches by Outcome: April 2024 to June 2024		Total	% Split
Generalised Outcome	Detailed Outcome		
Police Action Taken	Arrest	349	12.5%
	Community Resolution	307	11.0%
	Other Positive Outcome	165	5.9%
	Voluntary Attendance	26	0.9%
	Cannabis Warning	7	0.3%
	Khat Warning	2	0.1%
No Further Action	Nothing found - No further action	1,938	69.4%
Total		2,794	100.0%

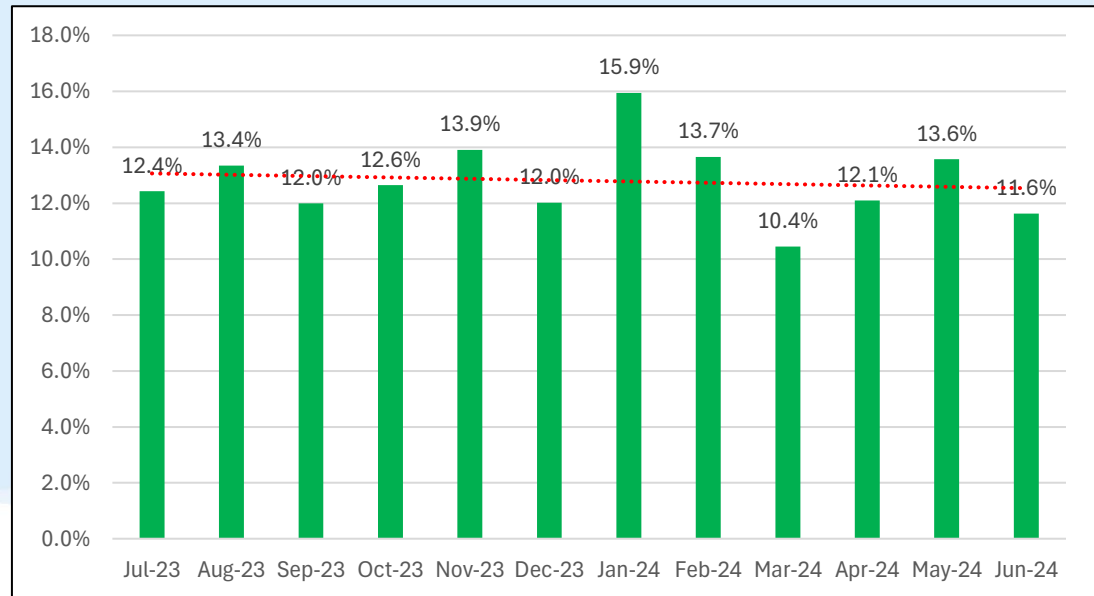
For the period of Apr 24 to Jul 24, the percentage of stop searches which resulted in Police Action was 30.6% stable on the previous quarter (30.5%). The most common Action Taken outcomes were Arrest (12.5%) & Community Resolution (11.0%).

Overall, there is a downward trend for stop searches resulting in Arrests over the 12-month period. The Arrest rate over the latest quarter (12.5%) was the lowest quarterly percentage over the latest 12-month period.

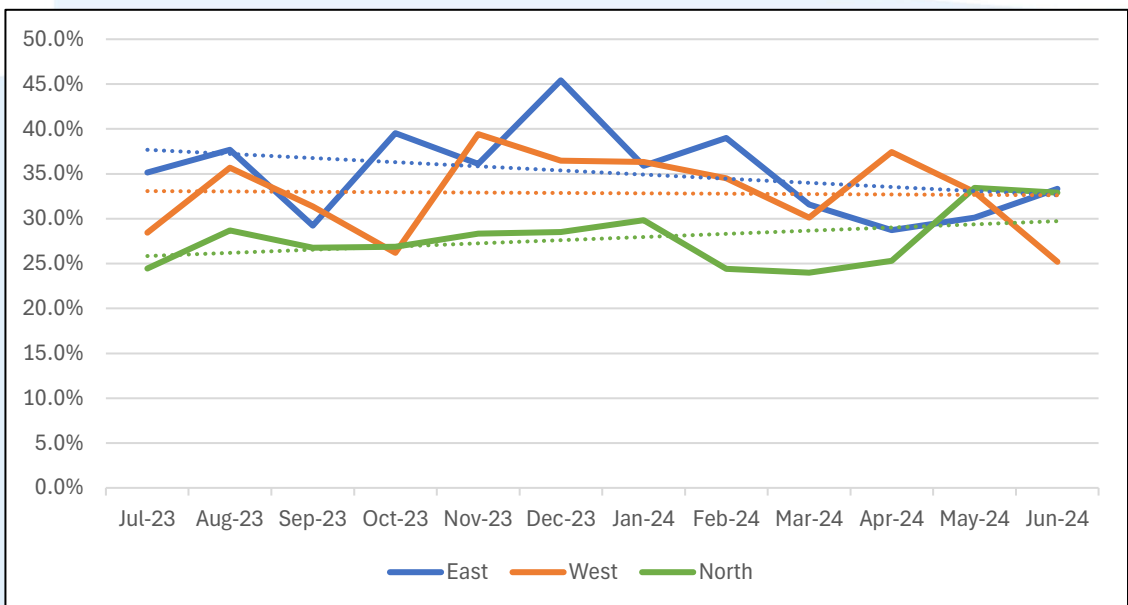
Monthly Force Stop Search Police Action Taken (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



Monthly Force Stop Search Arrest Rate (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)

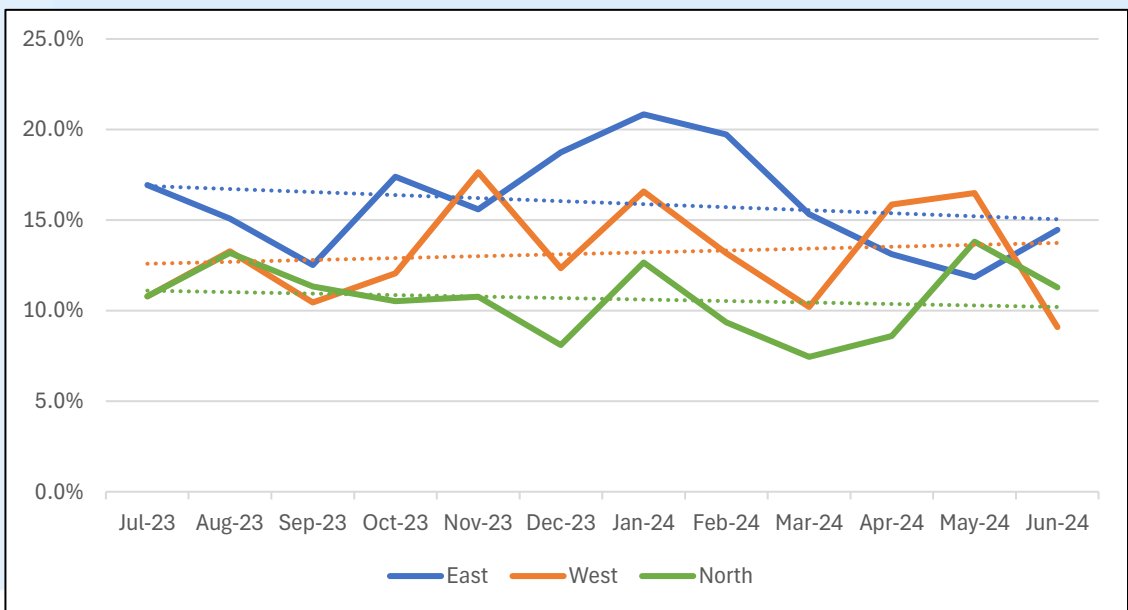


Area Monthly Stop Search Police Action Taken (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



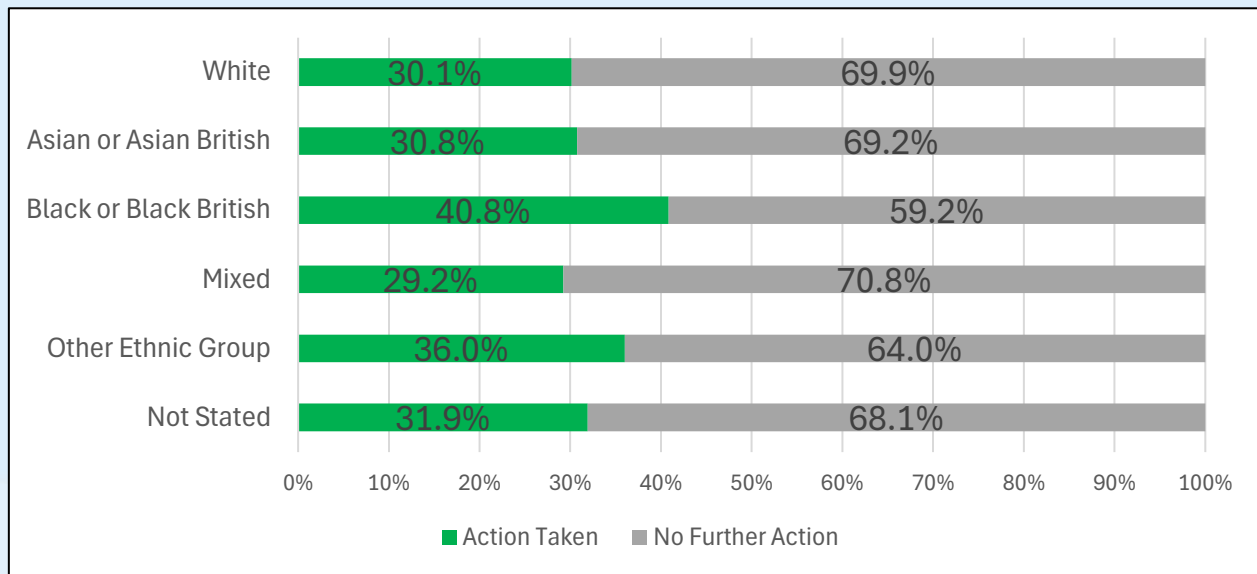
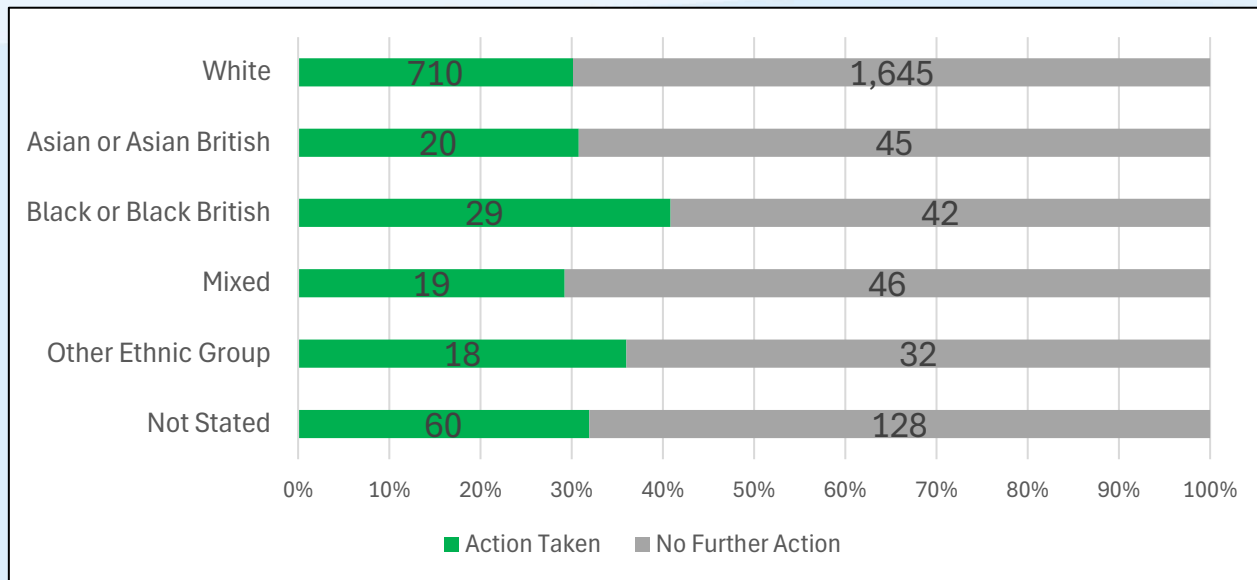
The Western Area (31.8%) recorded the highest Action Taken rate in the latest quarter: East (30.6%) & North (30.3%). This is despite the West recording a low Action Taken rate in June 2024 (25.2%). The Northern Area recorded their highest quarterly Action Taken % in the latest quarter compared to previous quarters during the latest 12 months.

Area Monthly Stop Search Arrest Rate (Jul 2023- Jun 2024)



Both the Western (11.4%) & Eastern (13.0%) Areas recorded lower quarterly Arrest Rates compared to the previous quarter. The Northern Area (11.2%) recorded an increase on the previous quarter (+1.4pp) but still had the lowest Arrest Rate of all Areas. Western Area Arrest rate in June 2024 (9.1%) was their lowest monthly Arrest Rate in the latest 24 months.

Force Stop Search Police Action Taken by Ethnicity (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)



A Positive outcome was more likely for those whose self-defined ethnicity was Black or Black British (40.8%) & Other Ethnic Group (36.0%).

It should be kept in mind that the outcomes for those whose self-defined ethnicity was White will be closer to the rates of the searches overall because they account for most of the overall searches and low volumes of other ethnicities will make the percentages more volatile.

Force Stop Search Object of Search x Outcome (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Object of Search x Outcome	Controlled Drugs	Articles for Theft	Bladed Articles	Stolen Property & Goods	Articles for Criminal Damage	Offensive Weapons	Firearms	Fireworks	Other	Total
No Items Found - NFA/ Advice Given	1,256	187	198	101	107	86	2		1	1,938
Arrest	189	51	34	53	5	14	3			349
Community Resolution	272	9	3	12	8	3				307
Other Positive Outcome	96	22	16	18	7	5		1		165
Voluntary Attendance	11	1	2	7	5					26
Cannabis Warning	7									7
Khat Warning					1	1				2
Total	1,831	270	253	191	133	109	5	1	1	2,794

Object of Search x Outcome	Controlled Drugs	Offensive Weapons	Articles for Theft	Stolen Property & Goods	Articles for Criminal Damage	Bladed Articles	Firearms	Fireworks	Other	Total
No Items Found - NFA/ Advice Given	68.6%	69.3%	78.3%	52.9%	80.5%	78.9%	40.0%		100.0%	69.4%
Arrest	10.3%	18.9%	13.4%	27.7%	3.8%	12.8%	60.0%			12.5%
Community Resolution	14.9%	3.3%	1.2%	6.3%	6.0%	2.8%				11.0%
Other Positive Outcome	5.2%	8.1%	6.3%	9.4%	5.3%	4.6%		100.0%		5.9%
Voluntary Attendance	0.6%	0.4%	0.8%	3.7%	3.8%					0.9%
Cannabis Warning	0.4%									0.3%
Khat Warning					0.8%	0.9%				0.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Where the object of search was for Articles for Criminal Damage, Police Action Taken (19.5%) was the lowest. This is due to the Eastern Area only recording Police Action in 12.9% of Articles for Criminal Damage searches, lower than the West (25.0%) & North (19.6%).

A Community Resolution was more likely to be the outcome of a stop search when the object of search was for Controlled Drugs (272, 14.9%).

Force Stop Search Outcome Linked x Outcome (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Outcome Linked x Ethnicity	White	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Mixed	Other Ethnic Group	Not Stated	Grand Total
Number of Outcome Linked SS	672	11	22	22	15	58	800
Total Number of SS	2,355	65	71	65	50	188	2,794
% Find Rate	28.5%	16.9%	31.0%	33.8%	30.0%	30.9%	28.6%

During the latest quarter, 28.6% (800) of all stop searches (2,794) resulted in an outcome that is linked to the object of the search.

The number of stop searches that are linked to the object of the search are higher for those whose self-defined ethnicity is Mixed (33.8%) compared to both White SDE individuals (28.5%) as well as to the rate overall (28.6%).

There were 4x searches in the latest quarter which were conducted under Section 60 of the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994. These all refer to searches which took place on Hungerford Road in Crewe LPU.

Points of Note:

- 3x Searches were carried out by the same officer
- All Persons searched had an SDE of White British.

Section 60 Age/Range & Gender (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Age Range	Gender			Total
	Male	Female	Unknown	
10-17 Years Old	2			2
18-24 Years Old		1		1
25-34 Years Old	1			1
35-44 Years Old				
45+				
N/A				
Total	3	1		4

Section 60 Searches by Outcome (Apr 2024- Jun 2024)

Section 60 Outcome: April 2024- June 2024		Total	%
Police Action	Community Resolution	1	25.0%
Nothing found - NFA	Nothing found - NFA	3	75.0%
Total		4	100.0%