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**Zoë Billingham BA Hons (Oxon)**  
HM Inspector of Constabulary

20 September 2016

Simon Cole QPM  
Chief Constable, Leicestershire Police

Dear Simon,

**HMIC Best use of Stop and Search (BUSS) scheme revisit assessment**

Further to HMI Mike Cunningham's letter dated 23 June 2016, I am writing to inform you of our assessment of your force's compliance with the BUSS scheme. The revisit was carried out between 24 June 2016 and 5 August 2016, and included a review of your website and force documentation and consultation with relevant staff. Thank you for the assistance provided by your staff for this revisit.

HMIC's 2015 legitimacy inspection found that your force was not complying with three features of the scheme in 2015. Our recent assessment found that, at the time of our revisit, Leicestershire Police was still not complying with one feature of the scheme; recording and publishing outcomes. Our detailed assessment is set out at Annex A.

I am aware that, since our revisit, the force has taken action to address this issue. You will see that we have referred to this progress in our assessment, so the Home Secretary can take this into account when making decisions on continuing scheme membership.

Yours sincerely

**Zoë Billingham**  
HM Inspector of Constabulary

cc. PCC  
Force Liaison

**Annex A: 2016 Best Use of Stop and Search (BUSS) scheme revisit assessment of Leicestershire Police**

BUSS scheme feature	2016 HMIC assessment
<p><b>Recording and publishing the full set of outcomes including showing the connection between outcomes and objects</b></p>	<p><b>The force was not compliant with this feature at the time of the revisit</b></p> <p>The force records the full set of stop and search outcomes.</p> <p>However, its published data only includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• suspect arrested;</li> <li>• offender given penalty notice;</li> <li>• nothing found - no further action;</li> <li>• local resolution; and</li> <li>• article found – detailed outcome unavailable.</li> </ul> <p>Outcomes involving cautions, khat/cannabis warnings, and summonses are not published. The force does not record whether the outcomes of searches were connected to the object(s) searched for.</p> <p>The published data is on the police.uk website. The links on the force's website that purport to lead to the data on the police.uk website do not lead there so there is no clear link from the force's website to the force-specific data on the police.uk website.</p> <p>We are aware that, since our revisit, the force has published all required outcome data on its website and provided a link from its website to the Leicestershire Police stop and search overview page of the police.uk website. The force is therefore now compliant with this feature of the scheme.</p>
<p><b>Providing opportunities for the public to observe the use of stop and search powers</b></p>	<p><b>The force is compliant with this feature</b></p> <p>The force has a lay observer scheme. The force's website includes a page about the scheme, which includes a link to the lay observation scheme policy.</p> <p>The force has measures in place to ensure the safety of observers.</p> <p>The force gathers feedback from the observer and uses this to improve procedures.</p>
<p><b>Implementing a community complaints trigger</b></p>	<p><b>The force is compliant with this feature</b></p> <p>While the force does not have a community trigger policy, and the trigger is not mentioned in the force's stop and search policy, all complaints relating to stop and search powers are referred to its</p>

	<p>external scrutiny panel. Information about this process is published on the force's website.</p> <p>However, to increase transparency of the trigger, the force should consider including the community trigger procedure in its published stop and search policy, and signpost it on its website.</p> <p>The force includes details of how to make a complaint about stop and search on its website.</p> <p>The receipt officers give to people who are stopped and searched also provides details about how to make a complaint.</p> <p>The force also instructs officers to tell those people they stop and search how to make a complaint.</p>
<p><b>Reducing stop and search encounters made under section 60, Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The force is compliant with this feature</b></p> <p>The force's section 60 procedures are compliant with the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring the use of stop and search powers, with particular regard to the impact on black, Asian and minority ethnic people and young people</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The force is compliant with this feature</b></p> <p>The force monitors ethnicity and age at its performance delivery group.</p> <p>Analysis and subsequent monitoring could be enhanced by the inclusion of data on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the reason for searches (e.g. drugs) by ethnicity and age;</li> <li>• the outcome rates (not just the arrest rate), by ethnicity and age;</li> <li>• the rate at which the item searched for is found, by ethnicity and age; and</li> <li>• individual officer/team data – totals, outcomes and find rate, by ethnicity and age.</li> </ul>