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Zoë Billingham BA Hons (Oxon)
HM Inspector of Constabulary

20 September 2016

Neil Rhodes
Chief Constable, Lincolnshire Police

Dear Neil,

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 Best Use of Stop and Search 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 the revisit, Lincolnshire 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 Lincolnshire Police

BUSS scheme feature	2016 HMIC assessment
<p>Recording and publishing the full set of outcomes including showing the connection between outcomes and objects</p>	<p>The force was not compliant with this feature at the time of the revisit</p> <p>The force has recently rolled-out mobile data technology and now records the full range of stop and search outcomes.</p> <p>It also records whether the outcomes of searches were linked to the object(s) searched for. While the force does not publish data on outcomes on its website, data are published on the police.uk website. However, these are limited to summons, arrest, drugs warning, and nothing found – no further action.</p> <p>There is no clear link from the force’s website to the data on the police.uk website.</p> <p>We are aware that, since our revisit, the force has provided all required outcome data to police.uk and added a clear link from its website to the Lincolnshire Police Stop and Search Overview page on police.uk. The force is now compliant with this feature of the scheme.</p>
<p>Providing opportunities for the public to observe the use of stop and search powers</p>	<p>The force is compliant with this feature</p> <p>The force has a ride-along scheme which it promotes on its website.</p> <p>The force gathers feedback from observers and uses this to improve procedures.</p> <p>The force also has measures in place designed to ensure the safety of observers.</p>
<p>Implementing a community complaints trigger</p>	<p>The force is compliant with this feature</p> <p>The force has a community complaints trigger. The trigger is activated by the force receiving any complaints about its stop and search activities, including those received via the online reporting form on its website.</p> <p>When the trigger is activated, in the absence of local scrutiny group responsible for scrutinising the use of stop and search, the force explains its use of the powers to the independent advisory group. However, this process is not clearly explained in the force policy or on its website. The trigger has not yet been activated.</p> <p>The force includes on its website details of how to make a</p>

	complaint about stop and search. The receipt generated by the mobile data terminal and given to people stopped and searched provides details about how to make a complaint.
Reducing stop and search encounters made under section 60, Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994	The force is compliant with this feature
	The force's procedures in relation to searches authorised under section 60 are compliant with the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme.
Monitoring the use of stop and search powers, with particular regard to the impact on black, Asian and minority ethnic people and young people	The force is compliant with this feature
	<p>The force monitors ethnicity and age at its strategic stop and search oversight group, including monitoring data on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the outcome rates (not just the arrest rate), by ethnicity and age; • the rate at which the item searched for is found, by ethnicity and age; and • individual officer/team data – totals, outcomes and find rate, by ethnicity and age.