

All Police (Fire) and Crime Commissioners,  
Deputy Mayors for Policing and Crime,  
and other Police Governance Bodies  
in England and Wales



*Sent via email*

19 October 2023

Dear colleagues,

We hope that this letter finds you well. We are writing to you today as the APCC Leads on Race Disparity, Equality, and Human Rights, regarding the Independent Office for Police Conduct's recent Summary Report, which outlines the results to the survey that they conducted after the publication of their [Stop and Search Learning Report in 2022](#).

The Summary Report collates a wide range of initiatives that forces are pursuing to improve their use of stop and search, highlighting examples of positive and innovative practice, centred around policies, guidance, training, and effective scrutiny.

As the APCC Leads in this area, we are pleased to see the focus on Stop and Search from the IOPC that this report demonstrates. Stop and Search is an essential tool for policing to keep our communities safe, but it must not be used at the expense of equity and fairness. If we are to improve trust and confidence in the police amongst all the communities that we represent, police use of Stop and Search must be a key area for us to scrutinise.

Therefore, as national leads we support the learning opportunity that this report represents. As colleagues, we would encourage you as part of your holding-to-account role locally to

- consider your force's progress in relation to other forces as detailed in this report, and encourage your forces to learn from one another where good practice has been identified.
- use your force's survey feedback to hold your Chief Constable to account for any commitments made, recognise positive performance, and drive improvements in practice to help reduce disparities in the use of these powers.
- Encourage your force to seek support from the NPCC Lead on Stop and Search, Chief Constable Amanda Pearson.

Meanwhile, we also encourage you to access the resources that the APCC produces to support you in your equality duties locally, including the [Equality Framework](#) -which is endorsed by the Equality & Human Rights Commission -and the APCC Race Disparity Toolkit, which has recently been updated and reshared with APCC members (see GR 110/2023).

Yours sincerely,



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Equality, and Human Rights,  
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime  
in West Yorkshire



**John Campion,**  
APCC Joint Lead on Race Disparity,  
Equality, and Human Rights,  
PCC for West Mercia