

Use of Force - Independent Scrutiny Panel

Feedback Responses

Date:	Thursday 25 th January 2024
Location:	Conference Room, Leek Wootton Police HQ
Disclaimer: All the following statements have been given by independent members of the general public, none of which have been employed/paid by Warwickshire Police to give these opinions. These findings have been coded from raw data gathered in the Independent Scrutiny Panel which took place on the above date and time. Most comments are largely verbatim, with others summarised due to repetition.	
Use of Force/Stop & Search scores: Average calculated by adding up total scores from the Assessment Score Sheet and divided by total number of responses. Members can score from 1 to 4. 1=Significant learning, 4= Excellent qualities and skills applied.	
Feedback from previous actions:	

Clip No.	Positives	Requires Improvement	Other Comments
Clip 1	Officer took step to not antagonise man by keeping a workable distance until the details had been established. Difficult situation well contained use of force proportionate to the situation Difficult situation female officer to other female was good. I felt the officers used appropriate restraint as I considered that they may have used the taser. Were very patient obviously also dealing with an irate 2nd person	Tactical Communication, improvement control encounter/subject, poor control techniques. Clarity in instruction about the instruction to 'get on your front' The family members (?) could have been moved to another room instead of watching the whole event Could of used tasers. Maybe the officer could have tried more tactical method of communication from the start. Give them a more obvious choice. Easy way or the	Better officer training needed on subject control 'get on your front' bit was confusing Instruction to 'get on your front' was confusing Video stopped before we could see what happened with him being arrested Video sound quality poor I feel the aggression of the man was increased by the speed of 'you're under arrest'

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	Very patient despite the abuse and uncooperative behaviour Police physically stopped him moving very well Initial contact with both parties. Avoidance of further violence The first portion of the process was controlled	hard way, took a long time to get full control Officers went straight to shouting, grabbed his arm before talking to him first. Police attitude was unnecessarily aggressive and confrontational. No obvious need to use Parva as he was already detained on the floor, police very provocative. Almost allowed the assailant to build up aggression, failure to secure handcuffs did not help The officers approached appeared to aggravate the situation. From calm to angry	 Score 2.7/4
Clip 2	Another difficult situation and well dealt with, care and concern shown. Difficult situation handled in these conditions. Eventually the officers got good restraint but they were slow to control the offenders after being tasered. Dealt with patience and facts. They did ultimately use the taser and parva. Officers used minimal force to subdue a very aggressive individual – overall thought the situation was handled well. There was care taken and suspect appeared fully compliant and was frightened. Initial contact was good, situation did escalate	Poor communication and coordination between the officers. Every officer seems to be working on as an individual unit rather than a time. Officers require more training on putting the handcuffs on. Poor control of subject, no control prior to handcuffing – better training needed. Subject held in prone position for too long. Poor cuffing technique and poor communication. The officers were very slow to get the offender under control. The handcuffs could have been applied with more vigilance. Officer gave too much space as he tried to flee, however I feel this could've been due to the offenders friend.	Far too many officers but will not be able to control the information effectively. Why did the officers swear so much? Better training needed in control and restraint. Extended encounter by police, 5 police officers to control 1 non-combative person. Why? There was no officer who seemed to be in control of the situation. Everybody seemed to have a lack of coordination. Not enough officers to gain control, even after taser used. The police needed an easier way to quickly detain someone. The comment 'this would be easier if we knew what to nick him for'. So officers didn't know either. Officer should have suggested to just stay still if the cause was not clear.

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	quickly. Once detained the officers showed empathy and understanding.	Don't use inflammatory language. How many police officers needed to gain control. Unclear as to why they tasered him. He begs to stand up or sit up and they keep him on the floor for a prolonged period. Unclear why they were so long keeping him on the floor. Did not work well as a team at all. Too much resource without one person to take the lead. The situation got out of control. The arrest after use of taser took to long. Disorganised. Very confronting situation there appeared to be no officer in control. All were intervening but in an uncoordinated way.	Language used – lots of swearing. It is unclear if the gentleman was the victim of another crime (assaulted and threatened by someone with a knife) that the situation escalated. Even the officers didn't know what was supposed to have done.
Clip 3	Officers managed an aggressive crowd week and managed to diffuse the situation. Sometimes the threat of force can be sufficient deterrent so it doesn't need a baton strike and this was a good example. Officers were calm in the face of provocation. Continues to engage with supporters and did not overact to jibes.	I am not sure if an officer wondering around branding a baton like a sword a provocative act or a necessary action to quell any arising action. Overuse of drawn batons in non-threatening situation. There appeared to be no reason for batons to be out as the crowd seemed reasonably compliant. What were the reasons for the batons to be drawn? Hard to see in no situation of display of force.	There was a comment about poor organisation and being detained when they just wanted to go home but there was no context for this comment. It appeared to be a very difficult environment to manage as each time the officers moved on another group were replaced by another group of shouting people. Understand why batons were drawn, no issues.

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	All good. Visible display of police force to keep the crowd under control but no actual use of force. Fans goading other fans and police acted with restraint. Took control of the situation without being aggressive. Good policing. Police approach was very professional, controlled the crowd well. Considering they were outnumbered brilliant job under difficult circumstances, certainly at first. I think the batons were used appropriately as a threat. All went well the baton was drawn on occasion that the situation may possibly get hairy.	Didn't feel like there was control. The situation should be fine tuned as they often happen. Who was coordinating?	
Summary: This is the first time that the panels have been split by topic, allowing more videos to be watched. 12 people attended the panel and out of the 12, there were 7 new members.			