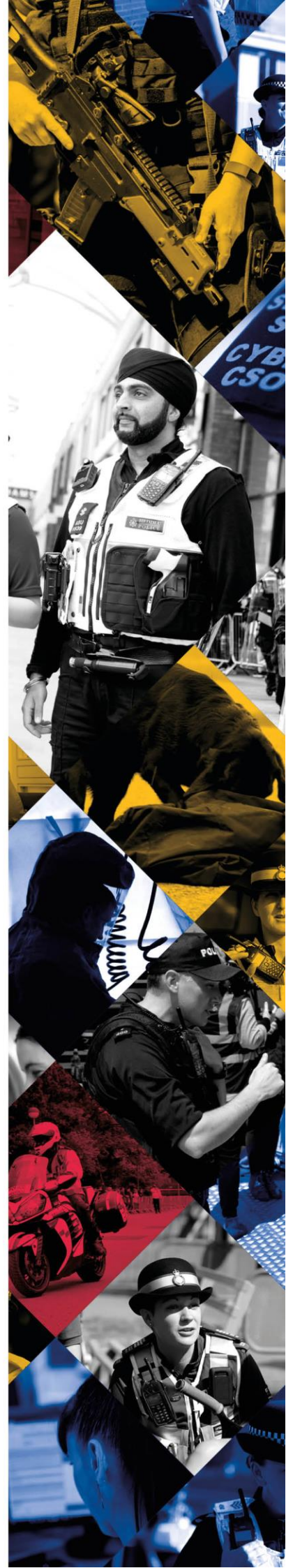




Stop Search Bi-Annual Report

September 2022



1. PURPOSE AND RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for information and to note progress around the force's approach to stop and search.
- 1.2 There are no recommendations requiring a decision.

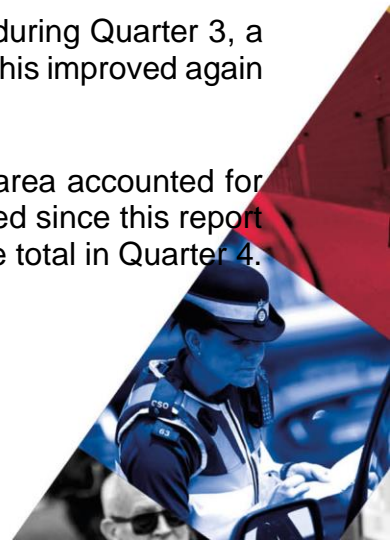
2. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This report provides an update on the use of stop and search powers between October 2021 – March 2022 and will present separate data sets for Quarter 3 and 4 offering opportunity for data comparison.
- 2.2 Since the last biannual report published in March 2022, the HMICFRS has commenced its assessment of the force which has involved the collation of stop and search data, Body Worn Video (BWV) and strategic interviews with the force portfolio lead.
- 2.3 Key performance measures/issues and findings from an independent review of the stop and search portfolio were incorporated into a training package delivered to all Sergeants between March – May 2022, personally delivered by the force portfolio lead.
- 2.4 In the last period the force has developed a new policy for 'no suspicion' searches under Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. This provides clear strategic direction and guidance and is relevant to the current super complaint brought by the Criminal Justice Alliance, currently being jointly investigated by the College of Policing, IOPC and HMICFRS.

3. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Performance Data Highlights/Summary since last report:

- Total Stops decreased during Quarter 3 by 37%, which was the fourth quarter in a row a decline has been recorded. They rose slightly during Quarter 4 by 1.3%, the first quarter on quarter increase recorded in the past year.
- No Location Recorded accounted for 4.4% of all Stops during Quarter 3, a slight improvement on the 5.4% seen during Quarter 2. This improved again during Quarter 4 with the proportion dropping to 3%.
- During Quarter 3, Stops conducted within the Newport area accounted for 32% of the Force total, which is the lowest figure recorded since this report began. The number dropped again to 29.4% of the force total in Quarter 4.



- The average age of a person stopped rose to 28 during Quarter 3 and then dropped to 24 during Quarter 4. The percentage of under 17's being stopped increased during Quarter 4.
- The number of BAME individuals stopped as a percentage of total stops was 8.0% in Quarter 3 a fall from the 8.8% seen during Quarter 2. However, this number rose to 12.6% during Quarter 4.
- The overall Race Disproportionately Rate (RDR) rose slightly to 2.9 in Quarter 3, up from 2.7 in Quarter 2. Quarter 4 saw another small increase to 4.4.
- During Quarter 3, 26.8% of all Stop Searches resulted in a positive outcome being achieved, including an arrest or caution, up slightly from 25.4% in Quarter 2. This figure dropped to 23.7% during Quarter 4.
- The find rate for the Force as a whole was 24.3% during Quarter 3, an increase from the 23.6% achieved in Quarter 2. This figure was highest in Caerphilly North, which had a find rate of 42.9%. During Quarter 4, the find rate for the force dropped to 21.9% with Monmouthshire recording the highest find rate of 31.8%.
- During Quarter 3, the use of Body Worn Video (BWV) increased slightly across the Force to 96.6% and dropped slightly to 94.9% during Quarter 4.

3.2 Performance Data:

This section of the report will examine various performance data metrics from Quarter 3 (Oct – Dec 2021) and Quarter 4 (Jan – March 2022):

- **Total Stop Search Numbers:**

	Q3 21/22	Q4 21/22	% Diff.
Person Stops	325	333	2.5%
Vehicle Stops	66	63	-4.5%
Total	391	396	1.3%

Table 1 – Total Stops Comparison Q3 21/22 & Q4 21/22

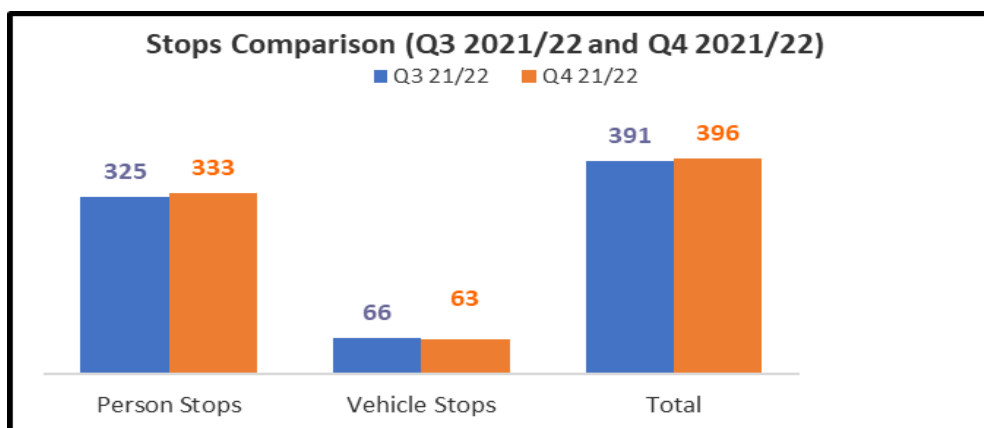


Chart 1 – Total Stops Comparison Q3 21/22 and Q4 21/22

The table and chart above highlights that overall stops have risen slightly between Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 21/22 by 1.3%. This is the first time this year that there has been a quarterly rise in the number of stop searches conducted. However, the numbers being carried out are still significantly below where they have been in the past few years. This decline has been for a number of reasons, all of which have been highlighted in previous reports, including the effect Covid lockdowns have had, team restructuring and a reduction in the number of large scale operations being run. However, it is recognised that these levels have now declined to a very low level and efforts have been made to address this decline like the awareness package delivered to all Sergeants earlier this year.

Table 2 and chart 2 below, illustrate how monthly Stop Search rates have continued to drop off during 21/22, with the figure of 85 in March being the lowest monthly figure recorded in the past two years. This just reinforces the picture seen in the quarterly figures highlighted above.

21/22 by Total Person Monthly Stops								
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	%
East LPA	46	53	52	45	40	35	271	41.2%
West LPA	56	46	55	78	62	44	341	51.8%
No Location Recorded	6	2	0	6	3	3	20	3.0%
Outside Force	5	1	3	10	4	3	26	4.0%
Total	113	102	110	139	109	85	658	

Table 2 – Total Stops by Month 21/22



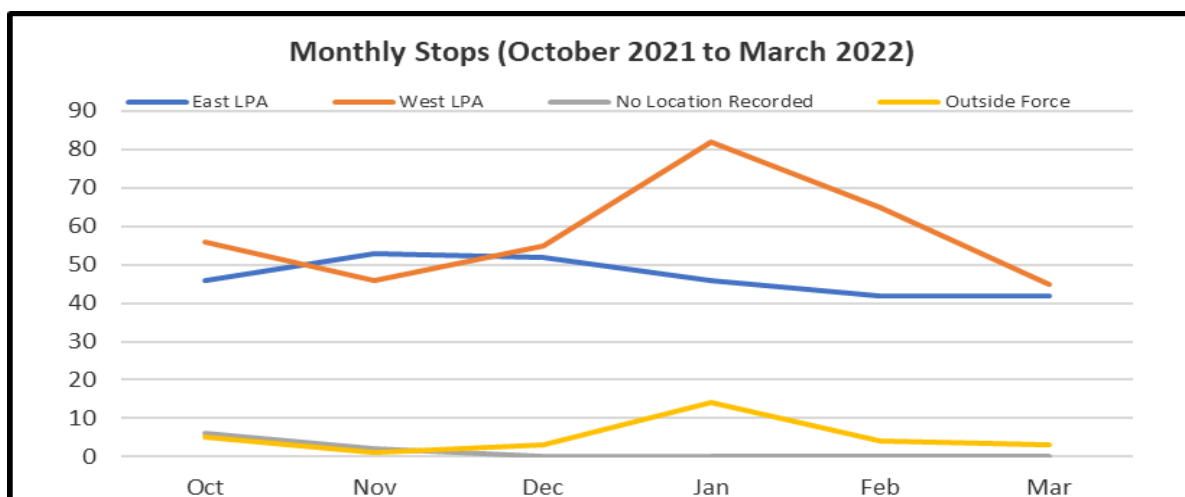


Chart 2 – Total Stops by Month 21/22

Table 2 also highlights a number of Stop Searches continue to record ‘no location’ and therefore cannot accurately be included in analytical reports. However, this figure has continued to improve slightly, decreasing from 4.4% in Quarter 3 to 3% in Quarter 4.

Total Stops Legal Power Used - Q4 21/22				
	East LPA	West LPA	Other	Total
S1 PACE 1984	41	97	19	157
S139B CJA 1988	0	1	0	1
S23 Drugs 1971	79	79	10	168
S47 Firearms 1968	0	7	0	7
S6(3) PACE 1984	0	0	0	0
Not Recorded	0	0	0	0
Total	120	184	29	333

Table 3 – Total Stops Legal Power Used Q4 21/22

The above table shows that ‘S23 Drugs 1971’ continues to be the most used power for stopping people, accounting for 51% of total Stop Searches carried out. This is an area that has received previous scrutiny from the OPCC as a cause of concern when it was as high as 70%. It is widely reported that the public perception is that forces see drugs searches as ‘easy pickings’, it is therefore positive to note that this figure has dropped quite significantly from 64% seen during Quarter 3, with ‘S1 PACE 1984’ increasing to 47% during Quarter 4.

- **Person Stops by Section/Ward**

Total Person Stops by Section - Q3 21/22		
Section	Total Person Stops	% of Total Stops
Blaenau Gwent	27	8.3%
Caerphilly Central	40	12.3%
Caerphilly North	21	6.5%
Caerphilly South	12	3.7%
Monmouthshire	47	14.5%
Newport City Centre	25	7.7%
Newport East	38	11.7%
Newport West	41	12.6%
Torfaen	57	17.5%
Outside Force	9	2.8%
No Location	8	2.5%
Total	325	

Table 4 – Person Stops by Section (Q3)

Total Person Stops by Section - Q4 21/22		
Section	Total Person Stops	% of Total Stops
Blaenau Gwent	24	7.2%
Caerphilly Central	46	13.8%
Caerphilly North	29	8.7%
Caerphilly South	28	8.4%
Monmouthshire	22	6.6%
Newport City Centre	18	5.4%
Newport East	37	11.1%
Newport West	43	12.9%
Torfaen	57	17.1%
Outside Force	17	5.1%
No Location	12	3.6%
Total	333	

Table 5 – Person Stops by Section (Q4)

The above table shows all Person Stops by section where a known location is recorded. As can be seen, during Quarter 4 Newport accounted for 29.4% (n=98) of all stops conducted within the Force area, which is a decrease from the 32% recorded during Quarter 3, and a significant drop from the percentages in the mid-40s it regularly recorded during 20/21. For the second quarter in a row Torfaen was the section with the highest recorded number of stops (n=57), accounting for 17.1% of all stops across the force. Newport City Centre recorded the lowest number for any section (n=18), which made up just 5.4% of total person stops.

This is one of the factors that influences the forces overall RDR figure, and it has been seen previously that when stops are more evenly spread throughout the force, as opposed to being more concentrated within Newport, the RDR figure tends to be reduced, or remain relatively low. However, this is of course dependent on the ethnicity of those being stopped in other sections being proportionate. The RDR rating is considered in more detail later in this report.

Table 6, below, illustrates the ages of those stopped in each section during Quarter 4. It shows the largest proportion of people Stop Searched continues to be aged between 18 and 25 (29.7%; n=86). There was also an increase in the number of under 17s being stopped this quarter, which has contributed to the median age of a person stopped falling to 24 during Quarter 4.



Total Person Stops by Age by Section - Q4 21/22							
Section	Under 17	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
Blaenau Gwent	4	1	8	8	0	2	0
Caerphilly Central	3	7	13	5	10	0	0
Caerphilly North	10	8	3	4	1	1	0
Caerphilly South	7	8	8	3	0	0	0
Monmouthshire	2	7	7	1	0	0	1
Newport City Centre	8	4	1	3	0	0	0
Newport East	2	11	5	5	3	1	0
Newport West	3	18	7	5	4	1	0
Torfaen	26	14	5	4	1	0	0
Other	7	8	4	5	2	1	0
Total	72	86	61	43	21	6	1
Percentage of Total	24.8%	29.7%	21.0%	14.8%	7.2%	2.1%	0.3%

Table 6 – Age of Person Stopped by Section

Table 7 and 8, below, shows the wards where the most Person Stops have occurred. Three of them appeared in both Quarter 3 and 4, with the new wards being Lliswerry and Ynysddu. This is the first time the latter has appeared within the top 5 wards list.

The number of stops these top five wards accounted for has increased slightly, from 26.8% last quarter, to 27.3% in Quarter 4. It means that over a quarter of all stops around the force occurred within just 5 wards.

Total Person Stops by Ward (Top 5) - Q3 21/22		
Ward	Total Person Stops	% of Total Stops
Stow Hill	25	7.7%
Pillgwenlly	21	6.5%
Llantarnam	19	5.8%
Crumlin	11	3.4%
Victoria	11	3.4%
Total	87	26.8%

7 – Top 5 Wards Based on Total Person Stop Numbers (Q3)

Total Person Stops by Ward (Top 5) - Q4 21/22		
Ward	Total Person Stops	% of Total Stops
Llantarnam	24	7.2%
Pillgwenlly	24	7.2%
Stow Hill	18	5.4%
Lliswerry	13	3.9%
Ynysddu	12	3.6%
Total	91	27.3%

Table 8 – Top 5 Wards Based on Total Person Stop Numbers (Q4)



- **Ethnicity Breakdown**

Total Person Stops v BAME Stops by Section - Q4 21/22			
Section	Total Person Stops	BAME Stops	% of BAME Stops
Blaenau Gwent	24	0	0.0%
Caerphilly Central	46	0	0.0%
Caerphilly North	29	0	0.0%
Caerphilly South	28	3	10.7%
Monmouthshire	22	1	4.5%
Newport City Centre	18	5	27.8%
Newport East	37	8	21.6%
Newport West	43	16	37.2%
Torfaen	57	3	5.3%
Outside Force	17	4	23.5%
No Location	12	2	16.7%
Total	333	42	12.6%

Table 9 – Number of BAME Person Stops Against Total Person Stops

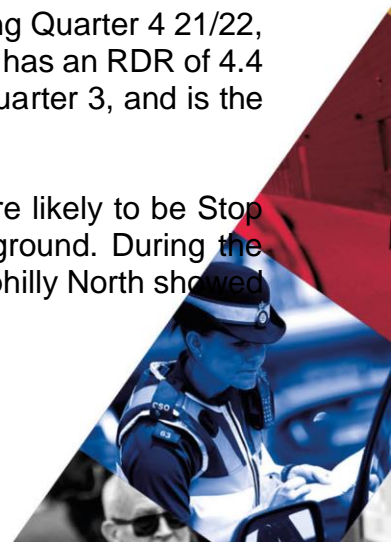
As can be seen in the table above the highest numbers of BAME persons Stop Searched occurred within Newport West (n=16). In total, 29 stops took place within Newport, which is an increase from the 17 recorded in Quarter 3. Only 13 BAME stops took place in all other locations around the force, although this too is a rise of 4 from the previous quarter. This meant the overall force ratio of BAME individuals stopped rose from 8% in Quarter 3 to 12.6% in Quarter 4.

Total Stops and RDR by Section - Q4 21/22						
Section	Total Person Stops	Total White Stops	Total BAME Stops	White Population	BAME Population	RDR Rate
Blaenau Gwent	24	21	0	68750	1054	0.0
Caerphilly Central	46	37	0	64717	959	0.0
Caerphilly North	29	25	0	54961	792	0.0
Caerphilly South	28	22	3	54494	1173	6.3
Monmouthshire	22	14	1	92072	1796	3.7
Newport City Centre	18	7	5	3608	1165	2.2
Newport East	37	18	8	61915	6481	4.2
Newport West	43	19	16	65502	7065	7.8
Torfaen	57	42	3	88213	1796	3.5
Total	304	205	36	554232	22281	4.4

Table 10 – RDR for Q4 21/22 by Section

Above is the breakdown of BAME Stops and White Stops by section during Quarter 4 21/22, providing the RDR rating for each section. It shows that overall, the Force has an RDR of 4.4 for the quarter, which is a significant increase from the 2.9 recorded in Quarter 3, and is the highest rating seen over the past year.

This means that a person from the BAME community was 4.4 times more likely to be Stop Searched in Gwent during Quarter 4 than someone from a white background. During the quarter only three sections, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly Central and Caerphilly North showed



no evidence of disproportionality based on the RDR. However, as explained previously, some other areas such as Monmouthshire and Torfaen, can see relatively low numbers of stops have a big impact on their RDR ratio.

Table 11, below, shows the same data for Quarter 3 21/22, and highlights the lower RDR rate, alluded to above.

Total Stops and RDR by Section - Q3 21/22						
Section	Total Person Stops	Total White Stops	Total BAME Stops	White Population	BAME Population	RDR Rate
Blaenau Gwent	27	18	1	68750	1054	3.6
Caerphilly Central	40	30	2	64717	959	4.5
Caerphilly North	21	14	1	54961	792	5.0
Caerphilly South	12	9	0	54494	1173	0.0
Monmouthshire	47	37	1	92072	1796	1.4
Newport City Centre	25	17	3	3608	1165	0.5
Newport East	38	23	5	61915	6481	2.1
Newport West	41	26	9	65502	7065	3.2
Torfaen	57	43	3	88213	1796	3.4
Total	308	217	25	554232	22281	2.9

Table 11 – RDR for Q3 21/22 by Section

- Arrest, Positive Outcome and Find Rates**

Persons Arrested/Positive Outcome as a Result of a Stop - Q4 21/22				
Section	Total Person Stops	Arrest	Total Positive Outcome	% of Positive Outcome
Blaenau Gwent	24	5	6	25.0%
Caerphilly Central	46	6	11	23.9%
Caerphilly North	29	2	5	17.2%
Caerphilly South	28	2	8	28.6%
Monmouthshire	22	6	6	27.3%
Newport City Centre	18	1	3	16.7%
Newport East	37	7	13	35.1%
Newport West	43	7	13	30.2%
Torfaen	57	2	8	14.0%
Other	29	4	6	20.7%
Total	333	42	79	23.7%

Table 12 – Persons Arrested/Positive Outcome as a Result of a Stop

The table above shows that during Quarter 4, 23.7% of all stops resulted in a positive outcome being achieved, down slightly from 26.8% during Quarter 3, with 12.6% of those stopped being subsequently arrested. Newport East recorded the highest positive outcome ratio (35.1%), with Torfaen reporting the lowest at just 14%. This is despite Torfaen recording the highest number of Stops being conducted within a single section during the quarter.

Item Found Against Item Searched For by Section - Q4 21/22					
Section	Total Person Stops	Item Searched for Found	Other Item Found	Total Finds	% Total Find Rate
Blaenau Gwent	24	3	2	5	20.8%
Caerphilly Central	46	9	2	11	23.9%
Caerphilly North	29	4	1	5	17.2%
Caerphilly South	28	5	3	8	28.6%
Monmouthshire	22	4	3	7	31.8%
Newport City Centre	18	0	0	0	0.0%
Newport East	37	5	3	8	21.6%
Newport West	43	11	1	12	27.9%
Torfaen	57	5	6	11	19.3%
Other	29	4	2	6	20.7%
Total	333	50	23	73	21.9%

Table 13 – Find Rates by Section

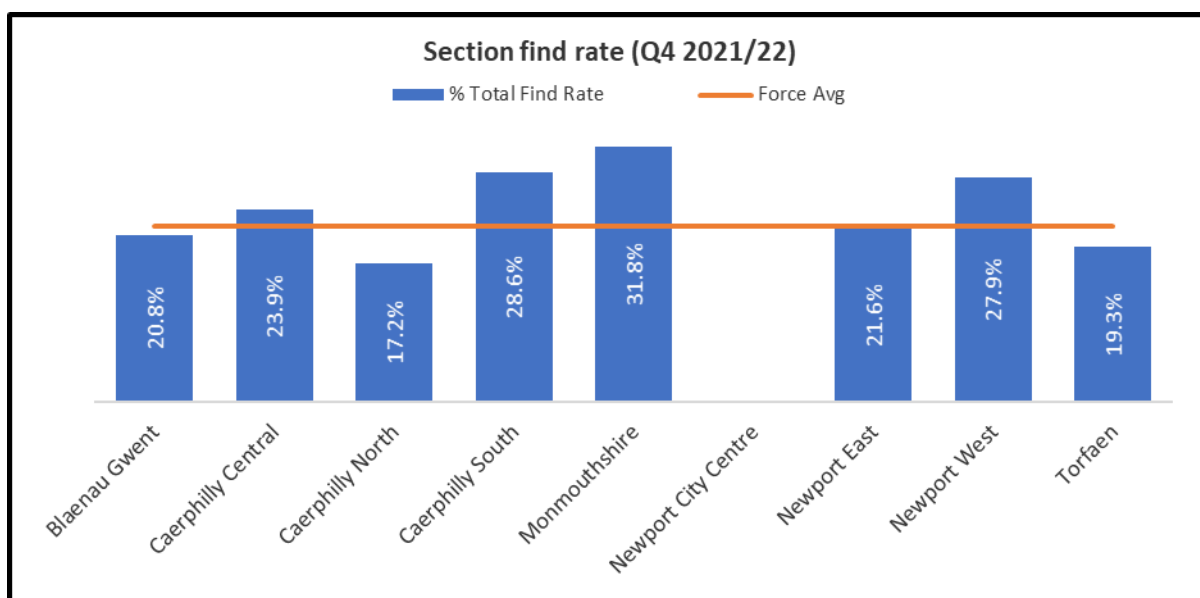


Chart 3 – Find Rate by Section

Table 13 and Chart 3 highlight the find rates for all Stops carried out during Quarter 4 and indicates that overall, on 21.9% of occasions the item searched for was recovered. This is a drop from the 24.3% recorded in Quarter 3.

The two sections with the highest find rates were Caerphilly South (28.6%) and Monmouthshire (31.8%). However, Newport City Centre recorded a find rate figure of 0%, the first time this has been seen this year, and does raise it as an area of concern which is being addressed.



- **Body Worn Video (BWV)**

BWV Breakdown by Section - Q4 21/22							
Section	Total Person Stops	Camera Used	Camera Faulty	Camera Out of Power	No Camera Available	Officer Discretion	Camera Used %
Blaenau Gwent	24	24	0	0	0	0	100.0%
Caerphilly Central	46	45	0	0	0	1	97.8%
Caerphilly North	29	29	0	0	0	0	100.0%
Caerphilly South	28	28	0	0	0	0	100.0%
Monmouthshire	22	22	0	0	0	0	100.0%
Newport City Centre	18	18	0	0	0	0	100.0%
Newport East	37	32	1	2	1	1	86.5%
Newport West	43	37	1	1	2	2	86.0%
Torfaen	57	55	0	2	0	0	96.5%
Unknown Location	29	26	0	0	0	3	89.7%
Gwent	333	316	2	5	3	7	94.9%
Percentage of Total		94.9%	0.6%	1.5%	0.9%	2.1%	

Table 14 – Body Worn Video Compliance Breakdown

As can be seen in Table 14 above, BWV compliance during Quarter 4 force wide was 94.9%, which is a slight decrease from the 96.6% reported in Quarter 3. Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly North, Caerphilly South, Monmouthshire and Newport City Centre all recorded 100% compliance rates in relation to BWV, with other sections reporting a figure over 96%. However, the exceptions were Newport East (86.5%) and Newport West (86%). These were the lowest figures recorded in both these sections over the past year.

In the small number of instances where BWV was not used, Officer Discretion was the most prevalent reason (2.1%; n=7). Although it is still relatively small numbers across the force, there were 17 stops conducted without a camera being used, up from 11 seen in Quarter 3.

4. COLLABORATION

4.1 None.

5. NEXT STEPS

5.1 The force continues to monitor closely the performance metrics in this report with a particular focus on reducing racial disparity.



6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 There is no cost implication.

7. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There is no specific staffing or personnel implication associated with this report.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 None.

9. EQUALITIES & HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 This report has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Joint Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.

9.2 In preparing this report, consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.

10. RISK

10.1 The on-going work in relation to stop & search is designed to minimise any risk to the Force in respect of failure to comply with legislation. It will also minimise the impact on public confidence when powers and procedures have not been correctly adhered to.

11. PUBLIC INTEREST

11.1 In producing this report, has consideration been given to 'public confidence'? **Yes**

11.2 Are the contents of this report, observations and appendices necessary and suitable for the public domain? **Yes**

11.3 If you consider this report to be exempt from the public domain, please state the reasons: **N/A**

12. REPORT AUTHOR

12.1 Supt Mike Richards



13. LEAD CHIEF OFFICER

13.1 ACC M Hobrough

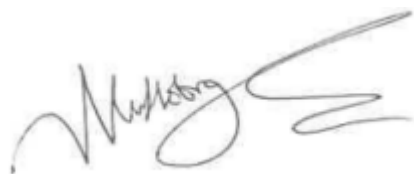
14. ANNEXES

14.1 None

15. CHIEF OFFICER APPROVAL

15.1 I confirm this report has been discussed and approved at a formal Chief Officers' meeting.

15.2 I confirm this report is suitable for the public domain.



Signature:

Date: 10.08.2022

