

STOP & SEARCH

Quarter 1
Apr 26 to
Jun 26

Berkshire West Chief Superintendent
Felicity Parker

Total number of stops

Last 3 months

815

Same period last
year

881

Times item was found

Last 3 months

377
46.26%

Same period last
year

351
39.84%

During Quarter 1 (01 April – 30 June 2026), Berkshire West recorded 815 stop and search encounters, a reduction of 7.5% compared with the same period last year. Despite fewer searches, effectiveness improved, with the combined find rate increasing from 39.8% to 46.3%, supporting a targeted and intelligence-led targeted approach. A total of 101 searches resulted in arrest, representing the highest arrest rate across Thames Valley Police.

Drug related searches remained the primary driver of activity, accounting for 65.8% of all searches. Searches for stolen property, offensive weapons, bladed articles and going equipped offences continue to support the Local Command Unit's focus on crime prevention, knife crime and other priority harm areas.

Stop and search activity remained predominantly focused on adults, with approximately one in five searches involving an individual aged under 18 years of age. White individuals accounted for the highest volume of searches, while black individuals experienced the highest level of disproportionality, with a ratio of 4.02. Search activity continues to be monitored through supervisory review, governance and independent scrutiny to ensure powers are used fairly and proportionately.

One Section 60 authorisation was implemented during quarter 1 in response to concerns regarding potential violence and disorder. The authority was proportionate to the threat, time limited and not extended. No searches were conducted under the power, demonstrating the selective use of enhanced stop and search powers.

Berkshire West's Community Scrutiny Panel held its inaugural meeting during the quarter, introducing independent community oversight of stop and search encounters and supporting organisational learning and public confidence.

Reason for stop

Article - criminal damage	13	(1.5%)
Drugs	537	(65.8%)
Bladed Article	44	(5.3%)
Going equipped for theft	60	(7.3%)
Offensive weapon	44	(5.3%)
Stolen goods	113	(13.8%)
S. 60 CJPOA	0	

Most frequent outcomes of stop

Arrest	101	(12.4%)
Cautio - simple/conditional	1	(0.1%)
Community resolution	158	(19.4%)
No further action	511	(62.7%)
Voluntary attendance	17	(2.0 %)

Age of individual stopped

Under 18

164

Over 18

651

S.60 Criminal Justice & Public Order Act

Last 3 months

1 Orders

Previous 3 months

1 Orders

Ethnicity of individual stopped

White	535	(72%)
Black	98	(13.2%)
Asian	62	(8.3%)
Mixed ethnicity	38	(5.1%)
Other	16	(2.2%)
Not Stated	180	(22.09%)

Location Population
513,320

White 407,122
Asian 59,729
Mixed 18,429
Black 18,901
Other 9,139