

STOP & SEARCH

Quarter 1
April 26 –
June 26

Buckinghamshire

Chief Superintendent Simon Mason

Total number of stops

Last 3 months

827

Same period last
year

720

Times item was found

Last 3 months

393

47.5%

Same period last
year

300

41.7%

Buckinghamshire LCU conducted 827 stop and search encounters during Quarter 1, reflecting a continued targeted approach to proactive policing. Of these searches, 393 resulted in a positive outcome, equating to a 47.5% find rate and demonstrating that officers are using stop and search powers in an intelligence-led and focused manner. Drug-related searches remained the most common reason for stop and search activity, accounting for 536 encounters and supporting ongoing efforts to tackle drug supply and associated harm. Searches for offensive weapons, bladed articles and stolen goods accounted for a further 255 encounters, contributing to the LCU’s focus on preventing violence, acquisitive crime and safeguarding communities.

Supervisor review of 53 Body Worn Video recordings identified high levels of compliance, with only one encounter requiring formal development. Learning focused on strengthening how officers evidence and record grounds, particularly in higher-discretion searches. Safeguarding remains a key consideration, with reviews demonstrating improved identification of vulnerability and appropriate referrals. Community Scrutiny Panel feedback highlighted opportunities to strengthen communication, manage encounters effectively and support colleagues, with learning shared across operational teams. Future Community Scrutiny Panels will consider use of force and stop and search themes to support transparency, legitimacy and organisational learning. Independent oversight helps ensure powers are used lawfully, proportionately and in accordance with the circumstances of each encounter.

Analytical review has identified drug supply searches as a significant contributor to disproportionality, with intelligence-led activity explaining some, but not all, of the disproportionality observed between ethnic groups. The LCU continues to use supervisory oversight, scrutiny and analytical review to better understand these findings, particularly in higher-discretion searches, and ensure stop and search powers remain intelligence-led, fair and proportionate.

Reason for stop

Article - criminal damage	6	(0.73%)
Drugs	536	(65.21%)
Bladed Article	67	(8.15%)
Going equipped for theft	25	(3.04%)
Offensive weapon	61	(7.42%)
Stolen goods	127	(15.45%)
S. 60 CJPOA	0	

Most frequent outcomes of stop

Arrest	69	(8.91%)
Caution - simple/conditional	2	(0.26%)
Community resolution	169	(21.83%)
No further action	508	(65.63%)
Voluntary attendance	26	(3.36%)

Age of individual stopped

Under 18

130

Over 18

649

S.60 Criminal Justice & Public Order
Act

Last 3 months

0 Order

Previous 3 months

1 Order

Ethnicity of individual stopped

White	440	(53.2%)
Black	80	(9.67%)
Asian	251	(30.35%)
Mixed ethnicity	41	(4.96%)
Other	15	(1.81%)
Not stated	189	(22.85%)

Location Population
553,035

White 442,234
Asian 68,294
Mixed 19,556
Black 14,233
Other 8,718