



# Stop and Search in Leicestershire

## How many stop and searches do police do?

Last year, the police conducted **8,510** stops and searches across Leicestershire. This is a 55% reduction from the previous year.

The Leicestershire Constabulary do not record stops without searches.

There are large geographical differences with how stop and search is used; with city policing units doing 40% more stops and searches than county areas.

## What are stops and searches targeted at?

**In Leicestershire the main targets for stops with searches were for drugs and stolen property**

The population that were Stopped & Searched for –

Drugs: White 41.3%, Black 57.9%, Asian 72.6% and Other 39.1%

Stolen Property: White 35.5%, Black 19.1%, Asian 15.5% and Other 30.4%

Equipped for Criminal Damage: White 0.8%, Black 0.2%, Asian 0.1% and Other 4.3%

Firearms: White 0.6%, Black 0.5%, Asian 0.3% and Other 0.0%

Going Equipped to Steal: White 14.7%, Black 9.3%, Asian 5.7% and Other 13.0%

Offensive Weapons: White 5.3%, Black 12.0%, Asian 5.3% and Other 13.0%

## How effective is stop and search?

The overwhelming majority, more than 9 out of 10 people searched were innocent.

**Ten percent** of all stop and searches led to an arrest in Leicestershire. This is up from 8.2 percent the previous year.

## Who is getting stopped and searched?

Across Leicestershire, Black people are stopped and searched by the police at **five times** the rate of whites.

Asian people are stopped and searched by the police at **twice** the rate of white people.

Disproportionality has increased from the previous year.

Disproportionality varies considerable across the force. Disproportionality for black people ranges from low disproportionality in the city (2011 - 2.8 Black 0.9 Asian more likely to be stopped) to 14.6 Black and 12.6 Asian more likely to be stopped and searched in Blaby.

Black people were stopped at a rate of 30 times that of white people and Asians 22.3 times that of white people in Oadby and Wigston<sup>1</sup>.

Maybe note that there is particular concern about the disproportionality in the city as the volume of stops being done there is higher

*“Leicestershire police should be congratulated on achieving an overall reduction in numbers being stopped and searched and an increase in the arrest rate (which shows that more intelligence is being used to better effect). However there is still concern about the disproportionate numbers of Black and Asian people being stopped – this has not been changed. This disproportionality continues into custodial sentence length.*

*The average custodial sentence length (ACSL) for those given determinate sentences for indictable offences was recorded at: White 14.9 months, Black 20.8 months, Asian 19.9months and Other 19.7months.*

*In Leicestershire we are campaigning to ensure that all candidates for the Police and Crime Commissioner to be elected on November 15<sup>th</sup> pledge to do something sustainable to reduce disproportionality in stops, stops and searches, arrests and custodial sentences”*

*Karen Chouhan – Chair of Equanomics UK working with StopWatch on the Police and Crime Commissioner campaign.*

Supported in Leicestershire by:

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<sup>1</sup> Figures from the Leicestershire Constabulary report to the Equality and Human Rights Commission April 2012.