



## **Freedom of Information Request Reference No:**

I note you seek access to the following information:

### Strip Search

I write to request information about more thorough and strip searches of children aged 17 years old or younger conducted by officers in your force broken down by year  
(i) 2017 and (ii) 2018.

I define these as:

- (a) 'More thorough searches', as part of a stop and search, where the officer deems it necessary that the subject removes more than outer coat, jacket or gloves (as outlined in PACE, Code A, 3.6); and
- (b) 'Searches involving exposure of intimate parts of the body' as part of a stop and search (as outlined in PACE, Code A, 3.7), where the person removes all or most of their clothing.

Q1. Please provide data on the number of children aged 17 years old and younger who were subject to (a) more thorough searches and (b) searches involving exposure of intimate parts

Q2. Please break the figures in Q1 down by age (eg 17 years old: 105 children; 16 years old: 110 children; 15 years old: 70 children etc)

Q3. Please break the figures in Q1 down by gender (eg Male: 402 children; Female: 161 children)

Q4. Please break the figures in Q1 down by ethnicity (e.g. White British: 162 children; White European: 27 children; Black or Black British-African: 200 children; Black or Black British-Caribbean:12 children; Chinese: 21 children etc.)

Q5. Please break the figures in Q1(b) down by presence of appropriate adult or carer during the strip search.

Q5. Please break down the figures in Q1. (a) and (b) by reason for the search.

## **DECISION**

I have today decided to disclose the located information to you in full.

Please find attached information pursuant to your request above.

I would like to clarify that the following information relates to more thorough and MTIP searches (More Thorough Search where Intimate Parts are exposed) carried out under Stop and Search legislation. It does not refer to Strip Searches as these apply to persons who are under arrest, are conducted in custody at a police station, are authorised by a Custody Officer and apply to the removal of more than outer clothing, shoes and socks.

Note - The detainee does not need to expose intimate body parts for it to be a strip search.

Please find attached information pursuant to your request and ensure that the Notes Page is read in conjunction with the data in this report to ensure that it is interpreted correctly.

I would like to thank you for your interest in the MPS.

**Information Rights Unit**

## More thorough and MTIP Searches conducted by the MPS on children aged 17 or younger

### Calendar Years 2017 and 2018 to 30 September

Protective Marking	<b>OFFICIAL</b>
Suitable for Publication Scheme	<b>Yes</b>
Ad-Hoc Reference Number	
FOIA/MOPAC Ref Number	
Summary	More thorough and MTIP Searches conducted by the MPS on children aged 17 or younger for the period Calendar Years 2017 and 2018 to 30 September
Creating Branch / Directorate	MetHQ - Information and Insight
Date Created	27/11/2018
Review Date	<b>01/04/2020</b>

**This report uses LIVE DATA extracted from: CRIMINT**

**Date Live data was extracted:27/11/2018**

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

### Notes

The data was extracted from CRIMINT on 27/11/2018.

The data required is for more thorough searches and MTIP searches for the calendar years 2017 to 2018 (to 30 September 2018).

Q1 asks for the data to be restricted to children aged 17 and younger.

The age used is the apparent age, or the age at the date of the search if the apparent age was not recorded but the date of birth was.

Q2 asks for the data to be broken down by age.

Q3 asks for the data to be broken down by gender.

Q4 asks for the data to be broken down by ethnicity.

Self defined ethnicity was the definition used.

Q5 asks for the figures for MTIP searches to be broken down by the presence of appropriate adult or carer during the search.

Q6 asks for the More Thorough and MTIP searches to be broken down by the reason for the search.

>The information provided relates to more thorough and MTIP searches (More Thorough Search where Intimate Parts are exposed) carried out under Stop and Search legislation.

It does not refer to Strip Searches as these apply to persons who are under arrest, are conducted in custody at a police station, are authorised by a Custody Officer and apply to the removal of more than outer clothing, shoes and socks.

Note - *The detainee does not need to expose intimate body parts for it to be a strip search.*

**\*\* Note:** Whilst Code A provides assistance and guidance to police officers in the exercise of their powers to stop and search persons and vehicles, in terms of more thorough searches where intimate parts are exposed it states that these searches must be conducted in accordance with paragraph 11 of Annex A to Code C (which deals with the detention, treatment and questioning of persons by police officers and designated persons). This paragraph states:

(c) except in cases of urgency, where there is a risk of serious harm to the detainee or to others, whenever a strip search involves exposure of intimate body parts, there must be at least two people present other than the detainee, and if the search is of a juvenile or vulnerable person, one of the people must be the appropriate adult. Except in urgent cases as above, a search of a juvenile may take place in the absence of the appropriate adult only if the juvenile signifies in the presence of the appropriate adult that they do not want the appropriate adult to be present during the search and the appropriate adult agrees. A record shall be made of the juvenile's decision and signed by the appropriate adult. The presence of more than two people, other than an appropriate adult, shall be permitted only in the most exceptional circumstances.

**IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that the Notes Page is read in conjunction with the data in this report to ensure that it is interpreted correctly.

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

**More Thorough Searches - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Total
2017	600
2018	392
Grand Total	992

**Searches by Age Group - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Age group							Grand Total
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
2017	2	4	22	49	96	196	231	600
2018	1	4	12	26	72	119	158	392
Grand Total	3	8	34	75	168	315	389	992

**Searches by Gender - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Female	Male	Total
2017	11	589	600
2018	9	383	392
Grand Total	20	972	992

**Searches by Self Defined Ethnicity - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Self Defined Ethnicity														Grand Total	
	W1 British	W2 Irish	W9 Any other White background	A1 Indian	A2 Pakistani	A3 Bangladeshi	A9 Any other Asian background	B1 Caribbean	B2 African	B9 Any other	M1 White	M2 White and Black	M9 Any other	O9 Any other		Unrecorded/Unknown
2017	100	3	14	2	4	14	28	95	81	125	30	5	17	16	66	600
2018	51	3	9	0	2	20	16	59	53	90	9	2	12	9	57	392
Grand Total	151	6	23	2	6	34	44	154	134	215	39	7	29	25	123	992

**Searches by Reason - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Searches by Reason								Grand Total
	A Stolen property (s.1 PACE)	B Drugs (s.23 Misuse of Drugs Act)	C Firearms (s.47 Firearms Act)	D Weapons, Point & Blades (s.1 PACE, s.139 CJ Act)	F Going equipped (s.1 PACE)	K s.60 CJPO Weapons	L Articles to cause Criminal Damage (s.1 PACE)	O Other Object (see Annex A of code A PACE)	
2017	36	272	2	250	29	7	1	3	600
2018	24	202	0	138	5	23	0	0	392
Grand Total	60	474	2	388	34	30	1	3	992

**IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that the Notes Page is read in conjunction with the data in this report to ensure that it is interpreted correctly.

**MTIP Searches - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Total
2017	80
2018	70
Grand Total	150

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

**Searches by Age Group - Calendar Years 2017-2018**

Calendar Year	Age group					Grand Total
	13	14	15	16	17	
2017	6	5	13	27	29	80
2018	3	4	10	22	31	70
Grand Total	9	9	23	49	60	150

**Searches by Gender - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Female	Male	Total
2017	4	76	80
2018	3	67	70
Grand Total	7	143	150

**Searches by Self Defined Ethnicity - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Self Defined Ethnicity												Unrecorded/Unk nown	Grand Total
	W1 British	W9 Any other White background	A1 Indian	A3 Bangladeshi	A9 Any other Asian	B1 Caribbean	B2 African	B9 Any other Black	M1 White	M2 White	M9 Any other	O9 Any other ethnic group		
2017	6	0	1	6	3	16	12	15	3	2	2	3	11	80
2018	8	3	0	1	2	8	14	17	4	0	0	2	11	70
Grand Total	14	3	1	7	5	24	26	32	7	2	2	5	22	150

**Searches by Appropriate Adult Present - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Appropriate Adult Present		Total
	Yes	No	
2017	56	24	80
2018	53	17	70
Grand Total	109	41	150

**\*\*Note:** Please see further information on the Notes tab

**Searches by Reason - Calendar Years 2017-2018 (to 30 September)**

Calendar Year	Searches by Reason					Grand Total
	A Stolen property (s.1 PACE)	B Drugs (s.23 Misuse of Drugs Act)	D Weapons, Point & Blades (s.1 PACE, s.139 CJ Act)	F Going equipped (s.1 PACE)	K s.60 CJPO Weapons	
2017	1	63	15	1	0	80
2018	4	46	16	2	2	70
Grand Total	5	109	31	3	2	150