

Stop and Search.

Quarter 2. July to September 2025.

East Hampshire. Chief Inspector Matt Moss.

The use of stop and search in East Hampshire is continuing to rise, as is the proportion of those stop searches that are successful. There are a number of factors that have contributed to this over recent months including the specific targeting of some of our prolific offenders, increased activity in rural area, and a focus on the A3 as a key route in and out of Hampshire for persons committing crime in our area.

The significant proportion of drugs stops reflects the fact that it is often the case that the grounds for a stop and search looking for drugs are more prevalent in our area. One of our district priorities is theft from shops, which often is an offence carried out by drug users. For some of the offenders who steal to fund their habit, we are far more likely to stop check them for drugs than we are for the theft. It is also worthy of note that as such a vast rural area, it is not unusual for my officers to come across people smoking recreational drugs in secluded areas.

Finally in relation to disproportionality, the recent months figures are likely to be skewed by our targeting of an individual in the Petersfield area. This individual has since moved away from the area, so this should address this figure.

Total number of stops.

Last 3 months – 124, Previous 3 months – 122.

Arrests.

Last 3 months – 17, Previous 3 months – 12.

No further action taken/advice given.

Last 3 months – 70, Previous 3 months – 88.

Positive outcomes.

Positive outcomes includes arrests.

Last 3 months – 55.

Previous 3 months – 34.

East Hampshire population.

White – 119,993.

Asian – 2,370.

Mixed Race – 2,079.

Black – 658.

Other – 642.

Disproportionality.

Likelihood of being stopped and searched compared to white person.

Black – 3.3 times more likely.

Mixed Race – 1.6 times more likely.

Asian – 1.8 times more likely.

Other – 1.7 times more likely.

Reasons for stop.

Criminal damage – 1.

Drugs – 95.

Going equipped – 6.

Offensive weapon – 13.

Stolen goods – 9.

Outcome of stop.

Arrest – 17.

Community resolution – 23.

No further action – 70.

Postal requisition – 5.

Voluntary attendance – 9.