

Stop and Search.

Quarter 3. October to December 2025.

Isle of Wight. Superintendent Rob Mitchell.

While the number of stop searches has decreased for this quarter, we have seen 49.7% of those persons stopped receiving a positive outcome (this could be an arrest, community resolution, caution or summons to court). This means that half of those stopped were found to have evidence of an offence sufficient to achieve a formal outcome.

This indicates that officers are targeting the right people and using their stop search powers in a proportionate way.

Many of those searched were for drugs, often found as a result of a vehicle stop. Road side tests will check for cocaine and cannabis, which can stay in your system for some time and remain detectable.

Keeping people safe on the roads is a vital part of policing, the use of stop and search in these circumstances can provide additional evidence of drug driving that can be presented to court.

Shoplifting remains a priority for the Island, searches for going equipped and stolen goods continue to support this priority and help to bring offenders to justice.

Total number of stops.

Last 3 months – 177, Previous 3 months – 185.

Arrests.

Last 3 months – 39, Previous 3 months – 39.

No further action taken/advice given.

Last 3 months – 89, Previous 3 months – 102.

Positive outcomes.

Positive outcomes includes arrests.

Last 3 months – 88.

Previous 3 months – 83.

Isle of Wight population.

White – 136,219.

Asian – 1,663.

Mixed Race – 1,720.

Black – 478.

Other – 379.

Disproportionality.

Likelihood of being stopped and searched compared to white person.

Black – 1.8 times more likely.

Mixed Race – 2.5 times more likely.

Asian – 0.5 times more likely.

Other – 2.2 times more likely.

Reasons for stop.

Drugs – 124.

Going equipped – 14.

Offensive weapon – 23.

Stolen goods – 16.

Outcome of stop.

Arrest – 39.

Community resolution – 33.

No further action – 89.

Postal requisition/postal charge/summons – 7.

Voluntary attendance – 4.

Other/words of advice – 5.