

Stop and Search.

Quarter 4. January to March 2026.

Hart. Chief Inspector Alex Reading.

We have continued to use stop and search where appropriate when responding to reports of drug possession or dealing. Used where the lawful grounds exist, this power is an effective way of confirming if the person in question is in possession of illegal drugs or not.

And we continue to use stop and search, as a way of confirming if the people being searched are carrying weapons – in this case catapults. We have a current district priority related to anti-social behaviour and crimes caused by youths in Hart, and especially in the wider Yateley area, with catapults. We continue to take steps to identify and take action against those responsible.

We are ably supported as always by our Independent Advisory Group (IAG) who as members of the local community provide us with constructive scrutiny and feedback on our proportionate and fair use of stop and search.

### **Total number of stops.**

This Quarter – 90, Previous 3 months – 68.

Arrests.

This Quarter – 14, Previous 3 months – 17.

No further action taken/advice given.

This Quarter – 55, Previous 3 months – 38.

### **Positive outcomes.**

Positive outcomes includes arrests.

This Quarter – 35.

Previous 3 months – 30.

### **Hart population.**

White – 91,952.

Asian – 3,595.

Mixed Race – 2,231.

Black – 843.

Other – 783.

### **Disproportionality.**

Likelihood of being stopped and searched compared to white person.

Black – 5.2 times more likely.

Mixed Race – 4.1 times more likely.

Asian – 1.1 times more likely.

Other – 5 times more likely.

**Reasons for stop.**

Drugs – 57.

Offensive weapon – 17.

Criminal damage – 3.

Stolen goods – 5.

Going equipped – 8.

**Outcome of stop.**

Arrest – 14.

Caution – simple/conditional – 3.

Community resolution – 12.

No further action – 55.

Postal requisition/postal charge/summons – 3.

Voluntary attendance – 3.