

Stop and Search.

Quarter 1. April to June 2026.

New Forest. Chief Inspector Scott Johnson.

There has been a notable increase in the number of stops in this quarter, which is mostly attributable to stops relating to offensive weapons and going equipped. This reflects the priorities we have as a district, including the launch of Operation Forestguard which is focused on proactive summer crime prevention and also our work tackling drug-related harm in specific neighbourhoods.

We are finding items in 37 per cent of our stops. While this is a slight reduction in the percentage of our positive outcomes, it is still illustrative of our intelligence led approach to stop and search.

You will see our disproportionality figures have changed quite drastically. This is a reflection of small population numbers, which make a large difference to this calculation.

Total number of stops.

This period – 152, Previous 3 months – 120.

Arrests.

This period – 15, Previous 3 months – 19.

No further action taken/advice given.

This period – 95, Previous 3 months – 70.

Positive outcomes.

Positive outcomes includes arrests.

This period – 57.

Previous 3 months – 50.

New Forest total population – 176,462.

White – 170,125.

Asian – 2,088.

Mixed race – 2,233.

Black – 708.

Other – 642.

Disproportionality.

Likelihood of being stopped and searched compared to white person.

Black – 1.8 times more likely.

Mixed Race – 1.1 times more likely.

Asian – 0 times more likely.

Other – 3.9 times more likely.

Reasons for stop.

Drugs – 68.

Offensive weapon – 50.

Going equipped – 16.

Stolen property – 15.

Criminal damage – 3.

Outcome of stop.

No further action – 95.

Community resolution – 24.

Arrest – 15.

Voluntary attendance – 12.

Summons – 2.

Caution – 2.

Other/words of advice – 2.