

Stop and Search.

Quarter 1. April to June 2026.

Southampton. Superintendent Alex Charge.

In Southampton, we continue to focus a significant amount of our stop and search activity in St Mary's and the city centre as part of the Building a Brighter Future partnership initiative. This targeted approach helps disrupt the supply of drugs, reduce associated violence, and protect children who are being exploited and harmed by criminal groups. Our neighbourhood enforcement teams continue to recover drugs, weapons and criminal cash, while working with partners to safeguard children and young people who may be at risk of exploitation or harm.

We have increased proactive patrols and carried out more stop searches than at the same point last year. We have also seen a reduction in reported drug-related violence in these areas. Enforcement is only one part of our approach. We are working closely with partners to support children, young people and families affected by exploitation, violence and other harms. This includes safeguarding those at risk, helping individuals recover from exploitation, reducing opportunities for offenders to continue causing harm, and working with Youth Justice services and voluntary organisations to provide positive opportunities, support and guidance.

Total number of stops.

This period – 987, Previous 3 months – 1,014.

Arrests.

This period – 154, Previous 3 months – 147.

No further action taken/advice given.

This period – 583, Previous 3 months – 630.

Positive outcomes.

Positive outcomes includes arrests.

This period – 404.

Previous 3 months – 384.

Southampton total population – 248,920.

White – 200,829.

Asian – 26,414.

Mixed Race – 8,309.

Black – 7,539.

Other – 5,829.

Disproportionality.

Likelihood of being stopped and searched compared to white person.

Black – 6 times more likely.

Mixed Race – 2.2 times more likely.

Asian – 1 times more likely.

Other – 1.3 times more likely.

Reasons for stop.

Drugs – 709.

Stolen goods – 130.

Offensive weapons – 121.

Going equipped – 22.

Other – 2.

Criminal damage – 2.

Outcome of stop.

No further action – 583.

Community resolution – 189.

Arrest – 154.

Voluntary attendance – 32.

Postal requisition/postal charge/summons – 14.

Caution – 6.

Seizure of property – 2.

Other/words of advice – 7.