

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg yn ogystal â Saesneg.

This document is available in Welsh as well as English.

# Use of Force

## **Scrutiny Deep Dive**

## September 2018



#### What we did...



Review of data



Face to face public consultation at summer shows



Online public opinion survey



Focus groups with officers and staff



Independent review of incidents

## Why we did it...



From April 2017, data on officers' use of force has been published by all Home Office forces

Significant investment in Body Worn Video and Spit and Bite Guards



Evidence that the public are interested in knowing how officers treat individuals



Inspectorate's view that Dyfed-Powys "needs to enhance external scrutiny to improve its treatment of the public"

## The facts:

The most commonly used types of force are:



**Tactical** Handcuffing communication



Unarmed skills



Ground restraint



The higher risk types of force are drawn upon less often:

**Taser** 





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Irritant

spray

Spit and Bite Guard



£342,788 invested in Body Worn Video £3,150 in Spit and Bite Guards

36 out of 40 complaints relating to officers' use of excess force NOT UPHELD





**61** police officers and staff injured through the use of force, in one 3 month period

90% of the public we spoke to think officers use force appropriately



#### Our conclusions...

- Use of force is being under-recorded by officers;
- · Alcohol, drugs and mental health are the most prevalent impact factors;
- Unarmed skills, handcuffing and ground restraints are the majority of tactics resulting in complaints;
- · Public opinion is mainly positive in relation to the police's use of force; and
- Our independent review supported the positive public feedback.

## Our top recommendations...

- Introduce unique reference numbers for use of force forms
- Use these to ensure Body Worn Video footage is readily retrievable
- Communicate clear and consistent recording requirements to officers and staff
- Review the current use of force training package
- Set in place audit and supervision arrangements

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