Section 60 stop and search is increasingly used in response to low-level disorder and knife crime.

**How many Section 60 stop and searches do Police do?**

- **60,180 total Section 60 stop and searches**
- **CARRY OUT 89%**

Annual Section 60 stop and searches peaked at over 150,000 in 2008/09. An increase of 2000% over the preceding decade.

Even with recent reductions, Section 60 usage remains higher than at any time prior to 2008-09.

**How effective is Stop and Search?**

Only 2.4% of Section 60 stop and searches lead to an arrest and just 0.4% for carrying offensive weapons.

In London, comparisons between boroughs found no direct relationship between numbers of Section 60 stop and searches and reductions in knife crime.

**Who is getting stopped and searched?**

- **Asian people are 10 times more likely** to be stopped and searched under Section 60 than white people.
- **Black people are 37 times more likely** to be stopped and searched under Section 60 than white people.

These are the highest levels of ethnic profiling ever recorded in the UK or internationally.

**Arrests arising from Section 60 stop and searches are roughly equal across all ethnic groups.**
WHO WE ARE

StopWatch is a coalition, which works to:

• Promote effective, accountable and fair policing
• Inform the public about the use of stop and search
• Develop and share research on stop and search and alternatives
• Organise awareness raising events and forums
• Provide legal support challenging stop and search

WHAT IS SECTION 60 STOP & SEARCH?

Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 is a power designed to provide an exceptional response to anticipated violence.

Section 60 allows for police to be authorised to search any person or vehicle for weapons in an area where serious violence is reasonably anticipated. This authorisation lasts 24 hours and can be extended by another 24 hours.

Although the legislation limits “stop and search” to a specific time and place, it does not require the police to have any basis of individual reasonable suspicion.

WHERE DID WE SOURCE OUR INFORMATION?

Ministry of Justice (2011) Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System 2009/10


http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/ehrc_-_briefing_paper_no.5_-_s60_stop_and_search.pdf

CREDITS

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Find out more and get involved at www.stop-watch.org