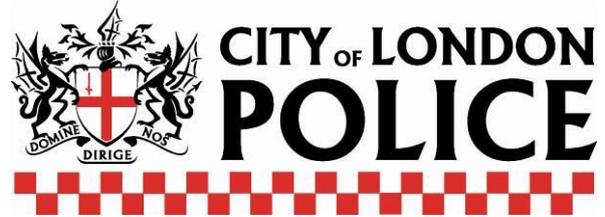

Performance Information Unit



Use of Force
Quarter 4 2019/20
1st January – 31st March 2020

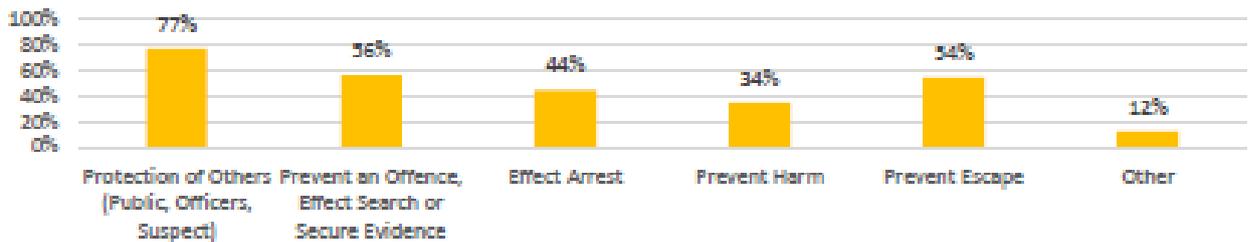
Compiled by:	PIU
Reviewed by:	Performance Analysis Manger
Directorate:	I&I
Date completed:	20/05/2020

Use of Force Summary
Q4 2019/20 (1st January - 31st March 2020)

This summary provides an insight into the number of submitted use of force forms. More than one form can be submitted for an incident if multiple officers are involved. Each form can also include multiple reasons for the use of force and/or multiple tactics. Details of the subject on the forms submitted will be duplicated due to these repetitions. Therefore the below are an indication of the content of the forms themselves and are not a reflection of the exact number of incidents or subjects.



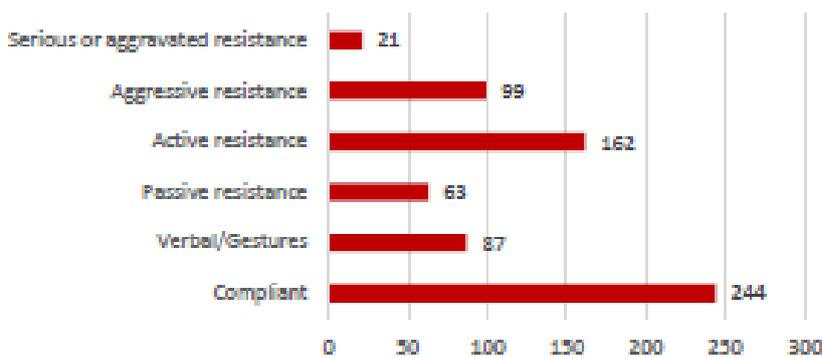
Reason for Use of Force (% of all forms)



Subject Ethnicity **Subject Gender**



Conduct of Subject



17%
of forms involved subjects believed to have mental health issues

3%
of forms involved juveniles

Use of Force – Quarter 4 2019/20

1.1 Introduction

This report provides an insight into the number of submitted use of force (UoF) forms. Each officer involved in a UoF incident is required to submit a form detailing their involvement. Each form can also include multiple reasons for the use force and/or multiple tactics. Details of the subject on the forms submitted will be duplicated due to these repetitions. The following figures are therefore an indication of the content of the forms themselves and are not a reflection of the exact number of incidents or subjects

UoF reporting within the City of London follows national guidelines requiring the reporting of the use of any of the following tactics; handcuffing, unarmed skills, use of police dogs, drawing or use of a baton, drawing or use of irritant spray, limb / body restraints, spit guards, shields, conductive energy device (C.E.D currently TASER), AEP (attenuating energy projectile), firearms and other improvised techniques. An additional tactic available in the City is the use of horses.

Use of TASER covers a range of actions that the officer can take from drawing to aiming, red-dotting, arc-display, stun-drive and firing.

When choosing the appropriate tactical option officers are required to use the minimum amount of force necessary to achieve their legitimate aim.

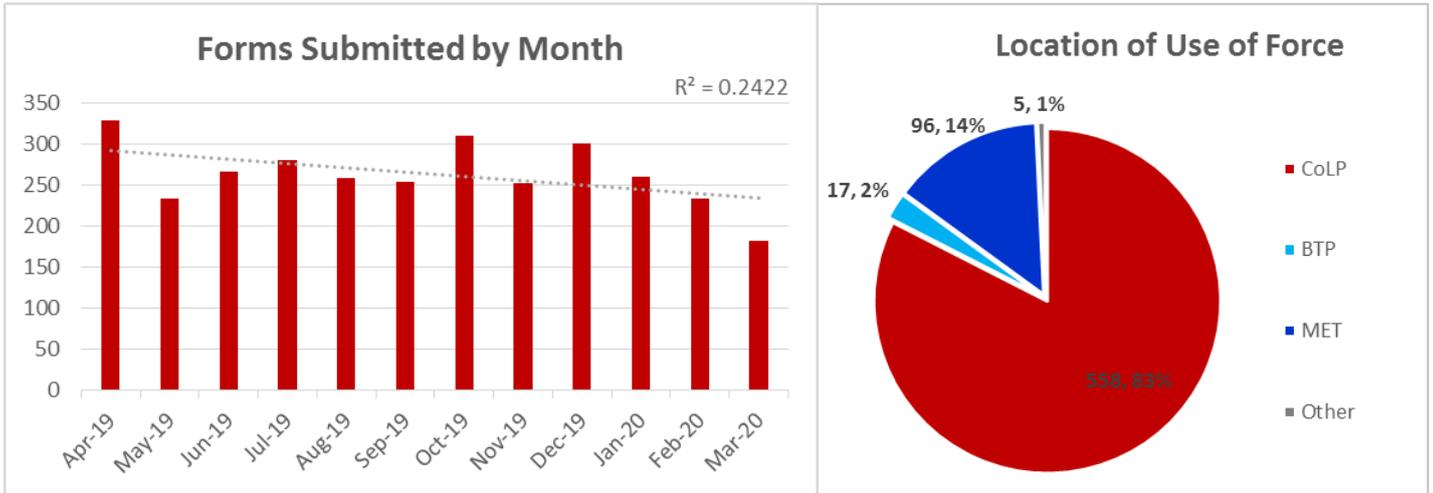
1.2 Key Findings

- Submission of Use of Force forms has decreased slightly this quarter reducing by 21% (n=-184), this was a steady slight decline in January and February followed by a much sharper drop in March, likely impacted by COVID-19.
- Most of the repeat locations are towards the East of the City with Bishopsgate and Liverpool Street being key locations.
- Drugs and alcohol are the most common impact factors.
- Crowds and alcohol are the impact factors most likely to increase subject resistance.
- Taser was used 19 times including two separate incidents of firing.
- There were 22 forms involving children submitted this quarter – compared to the whole they were more likely to be impacted by suspected possession of weapons and crowds.

1.3 Q4 Overview

The average number of Use of Force (UoF) forms per month over the last year is approximately 263. Levels have been increasing across the year until this quarter where we have seen a steady decline month on month since December. This has reversed the whole trend for the year from a gradual increase to a slight decrease.

This quarter there has been an average of 225 forms submitted each month, levels dropped below 200 in March for the first time this year, likely due to the impact of Coronavirus and nationwide lockdown.



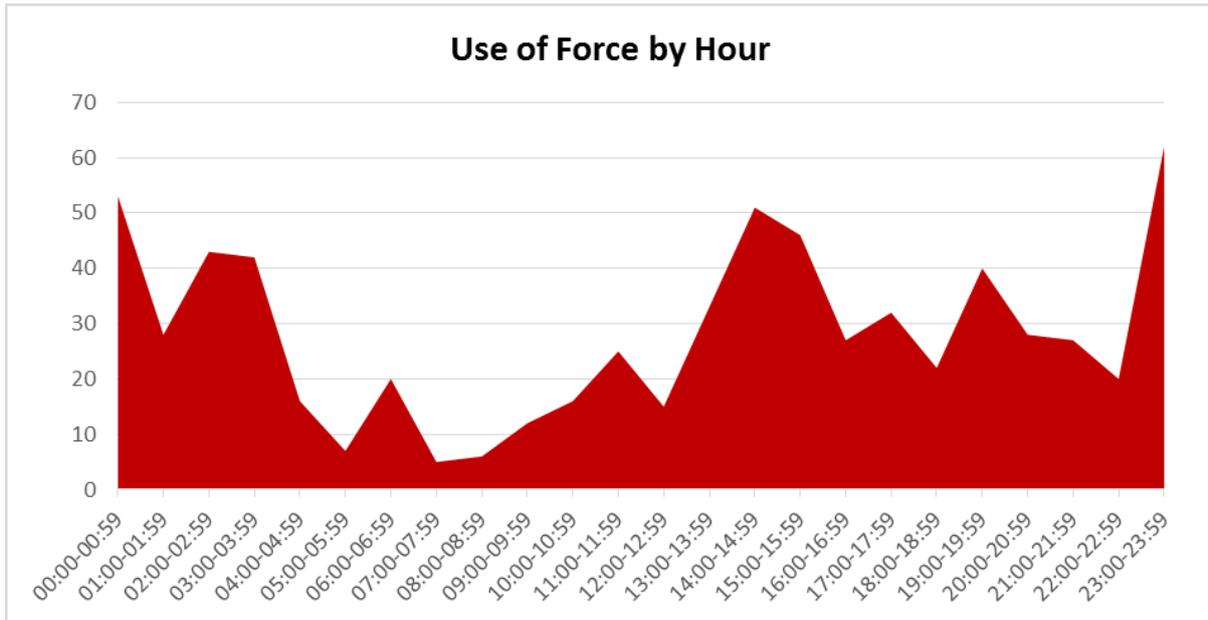
Of the 676 forms submitted this quarter 558 (83%) occurred on City of London ground with a further 113 (16%) taking place in the wider metropolitan London area or at British Transport Police Hubs.

Comparing the 19/20 financial year to the previous year there has been a 41% increase in the number of forms submitted (n=911).

In the last three months 18 forms submitted related to public order events, relating to two separate protest events, one outside the Old Bailey and the other outside the London Stock Exchange.

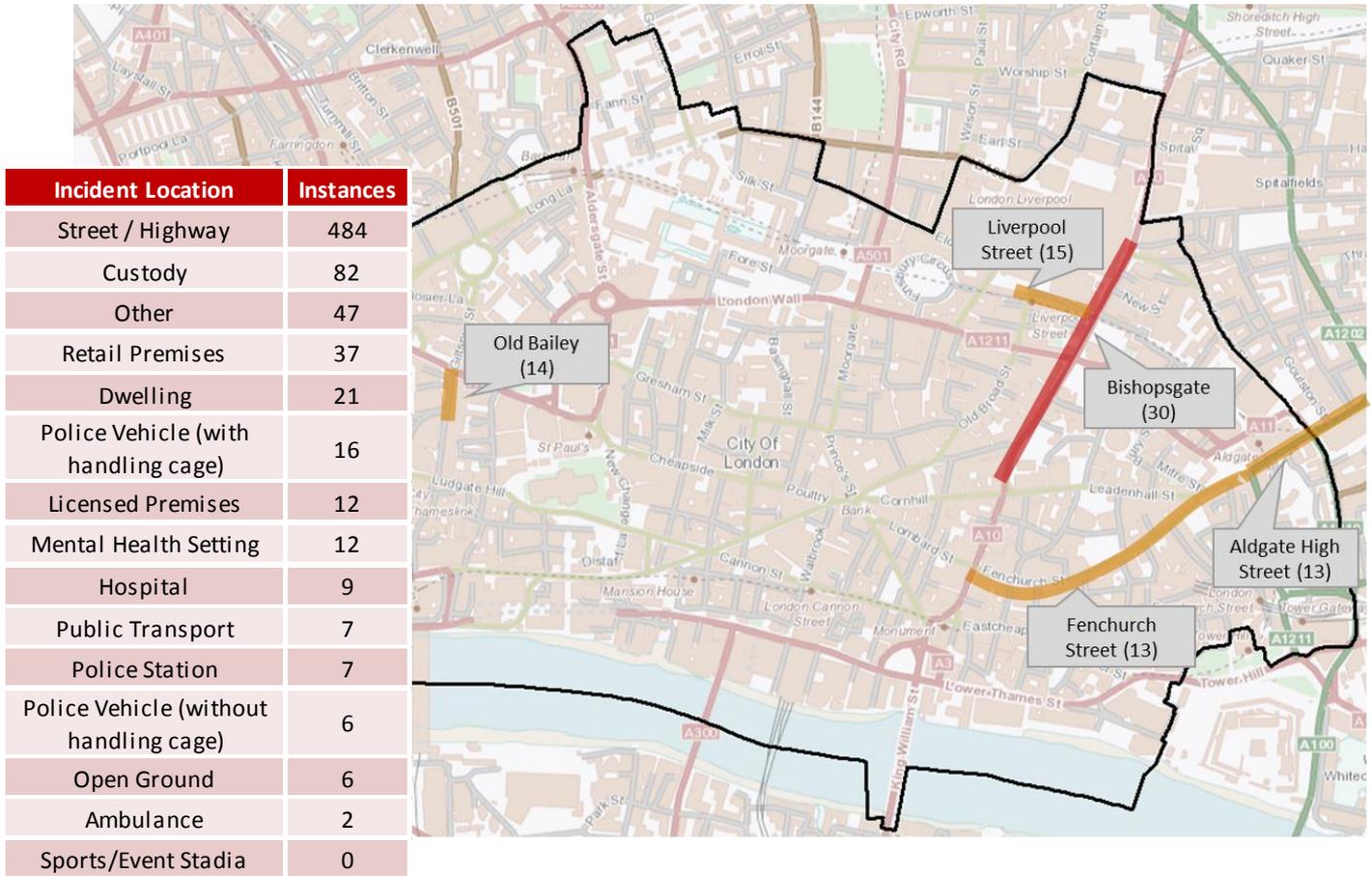
The most common time for UoF incidents this quarter was between 23:00-00:59. In terms of days Friday is most common followed by Saturday. Between 14:00 and 16:00 on Monday is the peak that emerges this quarter looking at both day and time

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During this quarter there were 17 forms that reported that the subject received a minor injury as a result of the Use of Force, 11 of these received medical assistance at the scene. Two officers also received a minor injury as a result of these incidents. Twelve other officers received injuries in incidents where the subject did not, all injuries were minor. Six officers believed their injuries were the result of the subject intentionally trying to assault them.

2.1 Locations



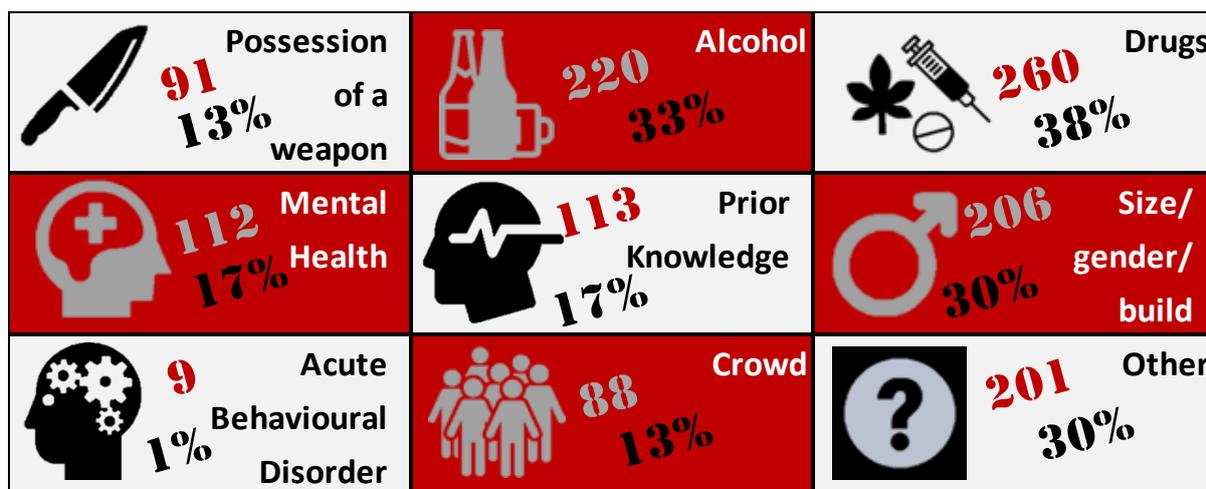
The map above highlights the top five areas associated with Use of Force forms and the table details the most common types of location. Each form can list multiple location types.

As usual the key locality where use of force takes place is the street/highway and predominantly Bishopsgate, however the proportion of forms relating to Bishopsgate continues to be lower than previously reported this quarter (9%, n=30).

Most of the repeat locations are in the east of the City this quarter apart from the Old Bailey in the west.

Those incidents involving licensed premises focus around Bishopsgate (6) while retail premises are most likely to be on Cheapside (6) or Fenchurch Street (5).

2.2 Impact Factors



Like location types, multiple impact factors can be recorded on each form – a subject could for example be under the influence of alcohol, of a large size/build and amongst a crowd of others.

The most common impact factors for use of force continue to be drugs and alcohol (38% and 33% respectively), drugs has risen 4 percentage points this quarter from 34% while alcohol has only fallen one percentage point (also from 34%). The only category to see a significant change this quarter is crowds falling to 13% from 18%.

Looking at how impact factors correlate with subject behaviour the main factors leading to increased resistive behaviour are being in a crowd and alcohol (63% and 62%, compared to 40% for all forms). Those in a crowd were most likely to offer serious and aggravated resistance this quarter whilst active and aggressive resistance was most commonly demonstrated by subjects impacted by either alcohol or mental health.

Around a fifth of mental health impacted forms resulted in the subject being detained under the mental health act or hospitalised (20%, n=22).

Taser was used most often on those forms where possession of a weapon was an impact factor (n=9) or where the subject was thought to be under the influence of drugs (n=7).

2.3 Reason for Use of Force



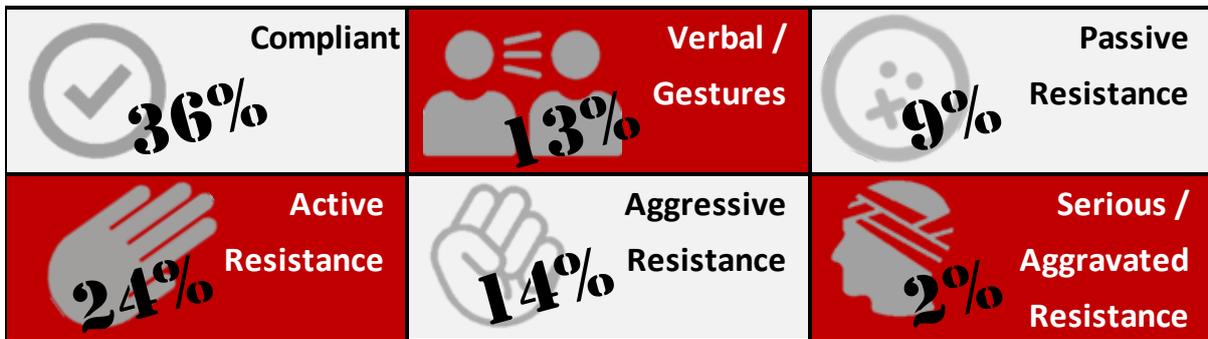
As with other factors there can be multiple reasons given for use of force so figures will not add up to 100%.

The primary reason given for UoF is the protection of others, 75% of forms (n=504), this may be the public, other officers or the subject themselves. This has only seen a slight increase since last quarter from 73%, the only area to see a significant change is prevent escape increasing 8 percentage points from 46% to 54%.

Over half of all forms (54%, n=362) refer to preventing an offence, including actions linked to an investigation such as conducting a search or securing evidence. This level is similar to that where force is used in order to prevent the escape of the subject (54%, n=364).

44% of UoF forms detail tactics used in the course of arresting the subject (n=296).

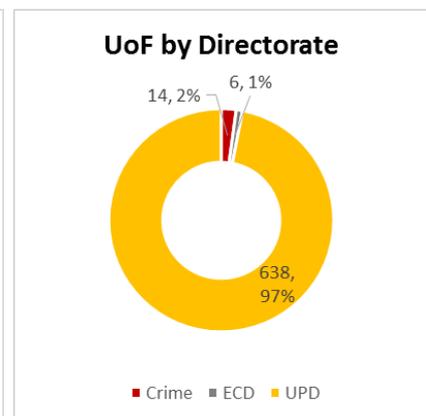
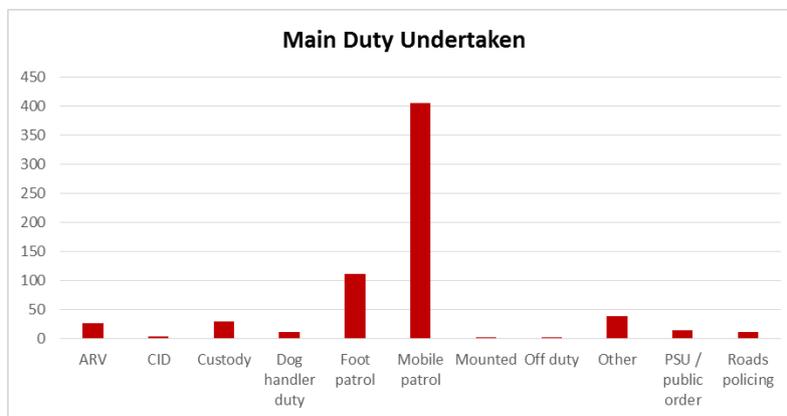
2.4 Conduct of Subject



Subjects were mostly compliant with the use of force- levels of the various types of compliance remain similar to previous quarters apart from passive resistance which has decreased by 11 percentage points from 20% to 9%, likely due to the number of extinction rebellion protests seen last quarter. Those subjects that received minor injuries were more likely to have offered resistance with 8 offering active resistance and a further 6 offering aggressive resistance and 2 more serious or aggravated resistance.

2.5 Officer Details

- **Violence:** Fourteen officers received minor injuries with six believing the injury to have been inflicted intentionally. Two officers were spat at during the course of the quarter.
- **Weapons:** Nine officers were threatened with a weapon; three with a bladed weapon, one with a blunt object and five with other objects. Two of the officers involved in these incidents received minor injuries. There were a further 102 forms where intelligence suggested a weapon may be present.
- **Main duty:** 47% of officers utilising UoF were on mobile patrol, followed by foot patrol at 13%. In 6% (n=38) of submitted forms the officer reporting was single crewed at the time of use of force.
- **Directorate:** UPD represents 97% of all UoF, followed by Crime (2%) with ECD being the only other directorate to submit forms this quarter.



- **Rank:** Constables (including PC, DC and SC) account for 89% of UoF, Sergeants account for 9% and 2% of forms are submitted by inspector rank or higher. Fifteen forms relate to actions taken by detective constables, sergeants or inspectors.
- **Gender:** The majority of officers using force are male (89%) compared to female (11%).
- **Age:** Officers ages ranged from 20-60 years with the average age being 35 years and most common being 32 years.

2.6 Tactics Used

	Tactic															
Tactic Order	Tactical communications	Handcuffing (compliant and non-compliant)	Unarmed skills (including pressure points strikes restraints and takedowns)	Ground Restraint	Limb/body restraints	Baton drawn	Baton used	Irritant spray PAVA drawn	Irritant spray PAVA used	Shield	Spit Guard	Dog deployed	Taser	Firearms	Other / improvised	Not Applicable
1st	414	164	52	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	2	9	7	5	-
2nd	17	247	151	7	7	4	-	3	-	1	-	1	7	3	9	219
3rd	6	52	25	17	5	3	3	3	2	-	-	-	3	-	5	552
4th	5	10	11	4	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	631
5th	1	4	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	664
6th	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	672
7th	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	674

Tactical communications and handcuffing are the most common first tactics employed in 61% and 24% of forms respectively. When officers are called to assist with an ongoing incident this may lead to more serious tactics such as taser and firearms being used as the first tactic.

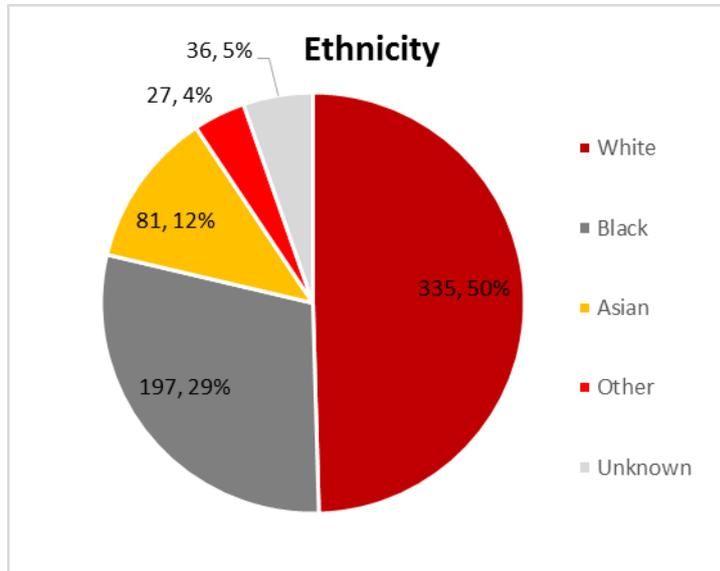
Some tactics were not used at all this quarter – the drawing and use of CS spray, spit guards and dog biting – so some have been removed from the table.

There are 18 forms where the order of tactics has not been recorded. In 32% of UoF forms (n=219) only one tactic is utilised, with the maximum number of tactics recorded on any form being 7.

Taser was available at the scene in 56% of forms (n=378). Taser trained officers submitted 224 forms, 177 were carrying at the time of the incident while 47 were not. Taser was used 19 times, most commonly red dotted (9) or drawn (7). Taser was fired twice this quarter in two separate incidents involving males in their 30s who were both eventually arrested after offering resistance.

3.1 Subject Ethnicity

Similar to other aspects of Use of Force forms if more than one officer is involved in an incident the subjects details will be duplicated – these figures show the information from the forms and give an indication of individuals involved but will not be exact.



Most forms (50%) involve subjects that are white, this includes North and South European, followed by black (29%), Asian (12%) and other (including Middle Eastern) at 4%. 5% of forms record an unknown ethnicity.

The majority of the unknown forms (n=18) were forms where subject details were not recorded these are all Public Order related and the information is not required in these instances.

3.2 Disproportionality

Due to the relatively small resident population compared to the large transient population in the City disproportionality is difficult to calculate. Therefore the resident population of the whole London region (including the City) from the 2011 Census have been used. Based on this information people within black ethnic groups are 2.6 times more likely than the white population to have force used against them. This has increased from 2.01 last quarter. Force is less likely to be used against Asian groups than white individuals.

BLACK

2.64

ASIAN

0.85

OTHER

0.97

3.3 Subject Ethnicity Breakdown

- Points highlighted in **RED** indicate an over representation of more than 5% based on comparing white subjects and the overall cohort.
- Points highlighted in **YELLOW** indicate under representation of more than 5% based on comparing black subjects and the overall cohort.

3.3.1 White

There are a total of 335 white subjects recorded on forms; 81% were male, 16% female and 4% unknown.

- **Outcome:** 244 (73%) were arrested, higher than the rate of 66% for the whole cohort.
- **Injury:** Of the 17 subjects who received an injury 10 were white.

Impact Factors

- 143 (43%) link to alcohol, higher than the whole cohort of 33%.
- 122 (36%) link to drugs, higher than the whole cohort rate of 38%.
- 72 (21%) have mental health concerns, higher than the whole cohort at 17%.
- 88 (26%) identify size, gender or build of the subject as an impact factor, lower than the overall 30%.
- 32 (10%) involve possession of a weapon, slightly lower than the whole cohort of 13%.

Tactics Used

- **Handcuffs:** 74% were handcuffed, higher than the whole cohort at 70%.
- **Taser:** 4 out of 19 uses involved white subjects.
- **Firearms:** Involved in three incidents with white subjects.
- **PAVA/CS Irritant Spray:** Drawn four times and used on one occasions.
- **Dog deployed:** There was one dog deployments this quarter involving white subjects.
- **Limb/body restraints:** 10 out of 23 occasions were against white subjects.

3.3.2 Black

There are a total of 197 black subjects recorded on forms; 82% were male, 6% female and 12% unknown.

- **Outcome:** 123 (62%) were arrested, slightly lower than the overall percentage (66%).
- **Injury:** Of the 17 subjects who received an injury 3 were black.

Impact Factors

- 44 (22%) link to alcohol, lower than the whole cohort of 33%.
- 86 (44%) link to drugs, higher than the whole cohort of 38%.
- 26 (13%) have mental health concerns, lower than the whole cohort at 17%.

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- 84 (43%) identify size, gender or build of the subject as an impact factor, significantly higher than overall 30%.
- 35 (18%) involve possession of a weapon, higher than the whole cohort of 13%.

Tactics Used

- **Handcuffs:** 69% were handcuffed, slightly lower than the whole cohort at 70%.
- **Taser:** Use recorded 10 times against black subjects, including both firings.
- **Firearms:** Involved in four forms relating to black subjects.
- **Baton:** A baton was drawn four times and used twice against black subjects.
- **PAVA/CS Irritant Spray:** Spray was drawn twice against black subjects and used once.
- **Dog deployed:** There were two dog deployments this quarter involving black subjects.
- **Limb/body restraints:** 11 of the 23 occasions were against a black subject

3.3.3 Asian

There are a total of 81 Asian subjects recorded on forms; 94% were male, 1% female and 5% unknown.

- **Outcome:** 55 (68%) were arrested, slightly higher than the rate of 66% for the whole cohort.
- **Injury:** 1 Asian subject received an injury.

Impact Factors

- 24 (30%) link to alcohol, lower than the whole cohort of 33%.
- 40 (49%) link to drugs, significantly higher than the whole cohort at 38%.
- 10 (12%) have mental health concerns, lower than the whole cohort at 17%.
- 16 (20%) identify size, gender or build of the subject as an impact factor, lower than 30% for the whole cohort.
- 17 (21%) involved possession of a weapon, higher than the overall rate of 13%.

Tactics Used

- **Handcuffs:** 73% were handcuffed, higher than the whole cohort at 70%.
- **Taser:** Use recorded three times against Asian subjects.
- **Firearms:** Three forms involving Asian subjects.
- **Batons:** Drawn twice and used once in incidents involving Asian subjects
- **Limb/body restraints:** Two of the twenty three occasions involved Asian subjects.

3.4 Subject Gender

The subjects gender has been recorded on 90% of forms (n=610), for those forms where the gender is known 89% are Male and 11% Female. Overall percentages are shown below;



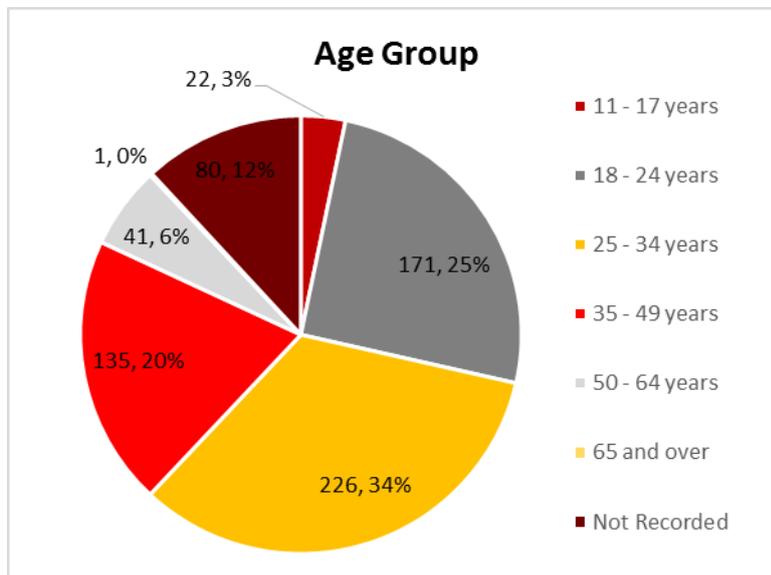
For those forms where gender has been recorded males are significantly over represented in regards to UoF compared to females. They are 8.3 times more likely for force to be used against them when compared to their prevalence in the wider population.

No females had taser or PAVA spray used or drawn against them this quarter. No females offered serious resistance although there were less likely to be compliant than men and offered significantly more aggressive resistance than men (22% compared to 13%).

3.5 Subject Age

The age of subjects is not recorded on a number of forms (12%, n=80), only 18 of these refer to Public Order where the details are not routinely recorded.

Force is used most frequently against those aged 25-34 years old (34%, n=2226) with very few people being over 50 or under 18. This is likely reflective of the ages of the working population and the majority of the available street population within the City.



3.5.1 Children (Under 18)

Indicators in **RED** are those greater than the average for the whole cohort.

- There were 22 forms involving children – all aged between 13 and 17, the majority were 17 years old (55%, n=12).

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- There forms involving a 13 year old relates to a white female seen acting suspiciously and thought to be involved in theft, she was arrested by the officer and handcuffed after offering verbal resistance.
- **Six forms involve females**, these are all separate incidents with five (including the above) leading to arrests.
- In terms of ethnicity **73% were white**, 14% Asian and **9% black**.
- The most commonly stated impact factors were **other** (55%, n=12) and then **crowds, possession of weapons**, prior knowledge and **size/gender/build** (all 18%, n=4).
- There was no uses of taser against juveniles this quarter.
- **95% handcuffed**; 68% arrested.
- No juveniles received injuries this quarter resulting from use of force.

3.6 Outcomes



The majority (66%) of UoF result in an arrest of the subject.

There continues to be a concern around the question regarding hospitalisation outcome recorded by officers, even though officers are selecting yes this may not be as a result of the UoF and may concern other factors i.e. mental health or injuries sustained prior to police arrival. This quarter there are 15 forms showing hospitalisation as an outcome yet only four of these subjects received a minor injury or were detained under the mental health act as a result of the use of force. We are seeking further clarity from the Home Office on what hospitalisation occurrences should be recorded here and then will provide an update to all officers and amend the use of force form to remind them of the criteria as appropriate.