

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Results From Our Scrutiny Panels on Use of Force

PAVA

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Results from scrutiny panels PAVA

Introduction

Our scrutiny processes

Before each scrutiny panel an excel spread sheet containing all incidents that are suitable to be reviewed by the external scrutiny panel is given to the independent chair. The Chair then chooses 10 incidents to be reviewed.

One member of Wiltshire police staff then uploads the footage from body worn video into a power point presentation to be shown at the meeting. No other employees of Wiltshire Police get to see the power point before it is shown to the external scrutiny panel. The scrutiny process is then repeated in exactly the same way the next day with our internal panel who are given exactly the same information and watch the same footage to see how Wiltshire Police view the same encounters and if there is a difference between panels.

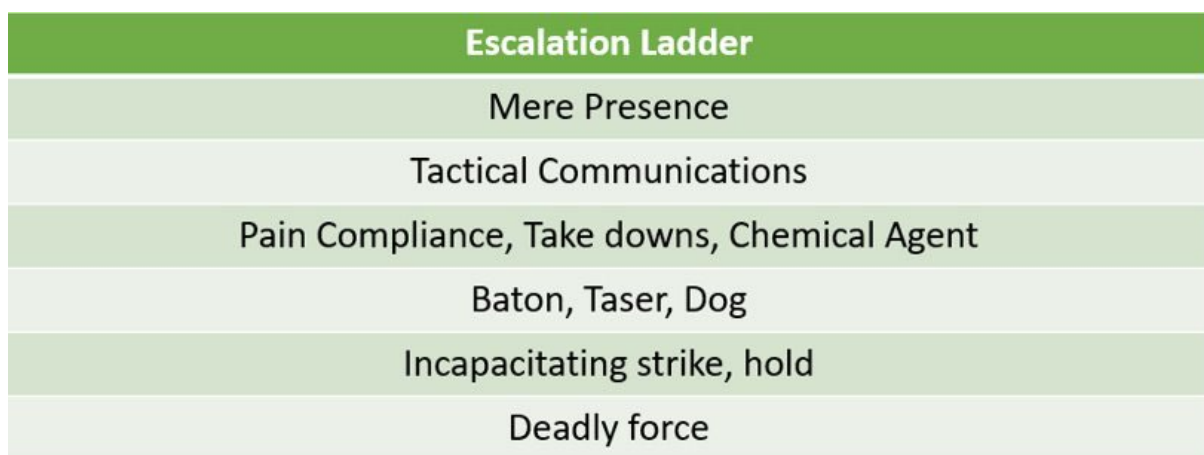
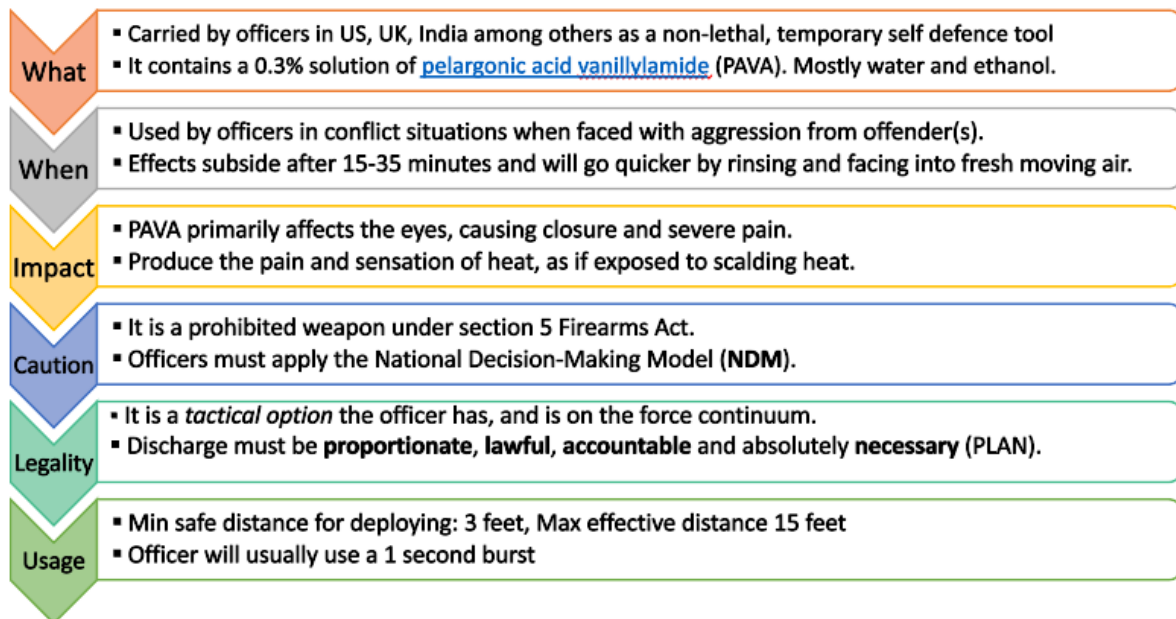
The theme was the use of incapacitant spray (PAVA)

In addition the internal scrutiny panel over the next few weeks then review the remaining incidents not picked by the external scrutiny panel chair to capture more learning and good practice.

PAVA: Incapacitant Spray



Results from scrutiny panels PAVA



How we grade the incidents reviewed.

GREEN – *Grounds or circumstances* justify the Use of Force or Stop Search being carried out

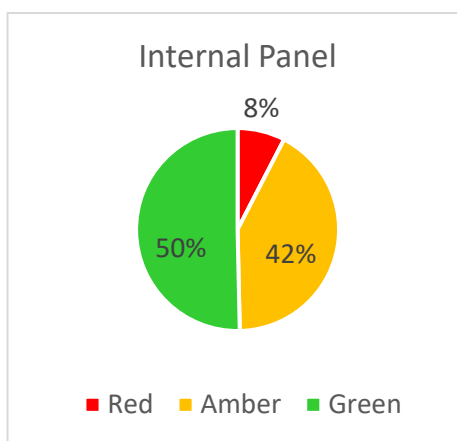
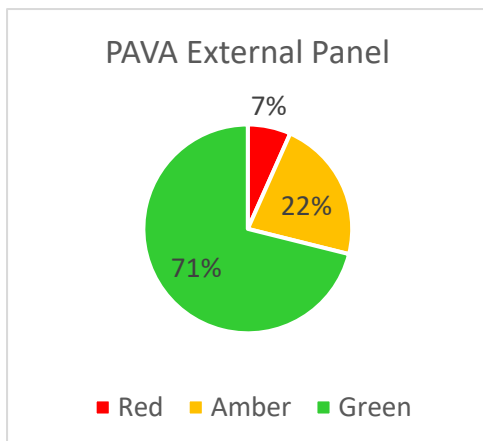
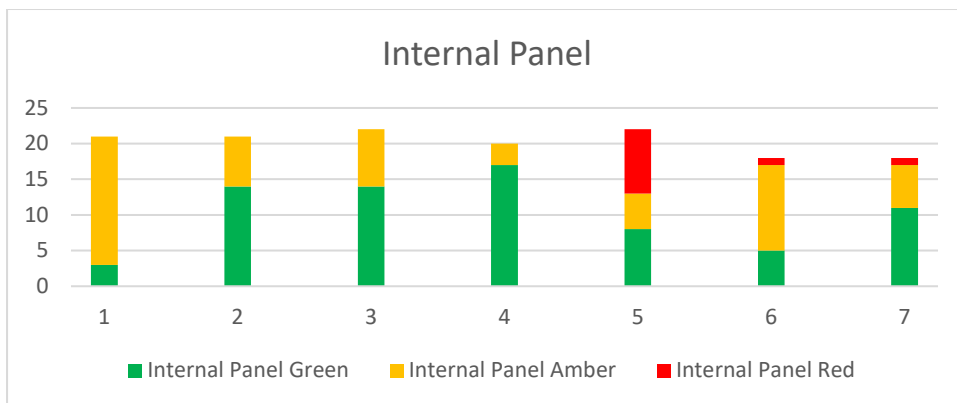
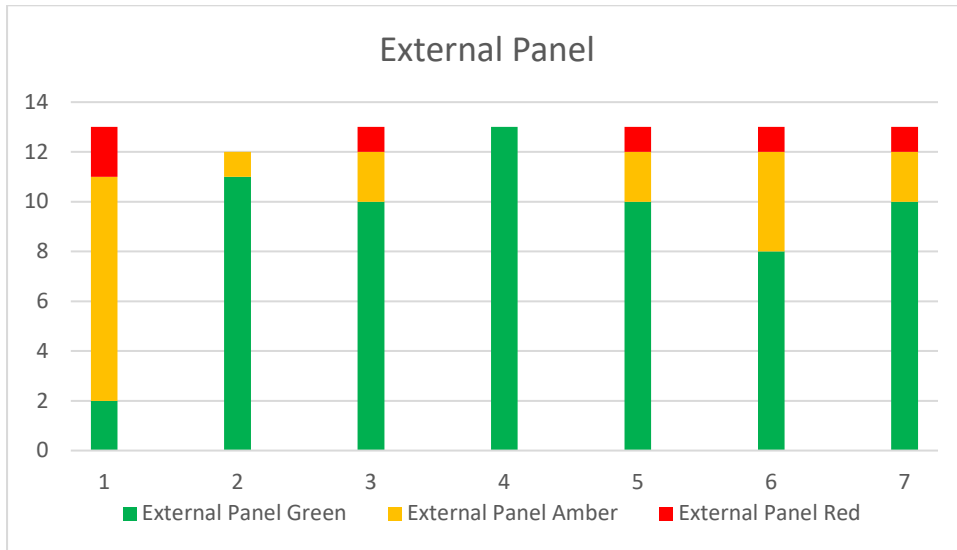
AMBER – *Grounds or circumstances* aren't CLEAR enough to make a decision either way or weren't SUFFICIENT enough, but we understand why the decision was made

RED – *Grounds or circumstances* are NOT sufficient to warrant Use of Force or Stop Search. Further investigation required

Results from scrutiny panels PAVA

Scrutiny panel results

The scrutiny panels reviewed 7 incidents during the meeting



Results from scrutiny panels PAVA

Comparison of results between scrutiny panels

When we look at the grading of the individual incident's we see that most have similar gradings given by the external and internal scrutiny panels. Incidents 5 and 6 were graded more harshly by both our panels who felt that better use of communication and de-escalation may have helped resolve the situation before the use of PAVA. Feed back is given to the officers involved in each incident.

When we look at our total scores in the pie charts we see that Internal panels voted green 50% and Amber 42% as opposed to the external panel who voted green 74 % and amber 22%. The score for red votes was very similar being 7% for the external panel and 8 % for the internal panel across all incidents.

The total scores give a general idea as to how our internal panel of police officers and staff view the incidents in comparison with external members of the public with no or little policing experience.

As with the previous use of force scrutiny panel which looked at Taser use internal panels voted more critically overall which is preferable. We want our staff and officers who have training and experience in de-escalating conflict and understanding of tactical options to be more critical of their peers.

Key Learning identified

1. Verbal warnings were not being given when it was possible.
2. BWV not switched on early enough or only one person recorded downloaded footage despite multiple officers at scene.
3. Aftercare is really important to our panels. When aftercare is given well scrutiny panels give a more positive score.

Next steps

Key learning fed back to our learning and development team to develop training reinforcing the message to give verbal warnings.

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Key messaging sent to all officers through briefings BWV not switched on early enough or only one person recorded downloaded footage despite multiple officers at scene.

Scrutiny of remaining incidents not viewed at the meetings by the internal panel and feedback sent directly to officers and supervisors to ensure good practise is praised and learning opportunities are taken.