



Section 60 powers authorised in Tunstall

Section 60 powers were authorised for the Tunstall area of Stoke-on-Trent at 3pm on Wednesday 29 October.

Section 60 powers are used when police believe there is a risk of serious violence and authorises officers in the area to use stop and search on any person or vehicle within the area suspected of possessing a weapon.

It follows recent disorder in the area where a hammer was located inside a vehicle and information over potential violence. People were also seen in the area with face coverings, potentially carrying weapons.

Intelligence suggested that the group may have been targeting a group of people who were in the Tunstall area that are known to them.

Following the force's proactive response, no further incidents linked to the intelligence took place.

Superintendent David Wain said: "By taking decisive action and working closely with our partners across the city, we were able to ensure we kept people safe.

"You may see an increased presence of officers out and about in the city and we continue to provide extra reassurance to communities in the local area."

After the Section 60 has concluded, the [Commissioner's Independent Scrutiny Panel](#) will consider conducting a review. This would include considering the following:

- the grounds and underlying reasons for the authorisation
- any recordings of briefings
- written records of searches
- information about the outcome of the searches
- body worn video footage of the entire encounters.

The force will incorporate feedback from the Commissioner's Independent Scrutiny Panel when evaluating and improving the force's use of Section 60.

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