West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

1. What is your force policy on checking driving licences (real time checks showing points etc) on officers and staff (do not include new joiners/vetting) on a routine basis, other than following an accident involving a police vehicle.

Whenever an officer attends a driving course they are required to bring their own personal driving licence and are required to check on the DVSA site to show their current points status. This also includes refresher training. Our DDU (Driver Development Unit) understands the advice to front line supervisors is to check their staff's licences every 12 months.

2. How are those checks on licences actually completed and which department completes them?

See above.

3. What is the driver training department policy on licence checking and do they keep records of the actual checks undertaken online to see if the driver has any points etc. in case a serious accident occurs?

As above, licences are checked when driving courses are attended.

4. Following an accident involving a police car, what systems are in place to ensure the driver reports this matter to their own private car insurance company so that they don't fall foul of the offence of fraudulently obtaining motor insurance as in s.174(5) Road Traffic Act 1988.

We are not aware of any system, however we understand that officers are advised as policy to report incidents. (Although there are some exceptions for when using TPAC tactics as not always 'accidents').

The above answers have been provided by our DDU.