

In relation to this incident published on the West Midland's Police YouTube channel here:

https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D08Yau5_DdHE&data=05%7C02%7Cfoi%40westmidlands.police.uk%7C684ae7839f03475529e608dc4675fc75%7C2b0f1af29e024cfb982fc61fd716ee98%7C0%7C0%7C638462719757858835%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Tp1wNwMlcl0PlyZUPMMc0O8klMAJmfCj0Tcr19IzVM0%3D&reserved=0

I require the following information held by your force in respect of:

A) The value of the compensation awarded to the PCSO for injuries sustained or any other personal injury, public liability or civil claim that may have been settled as a result of this incident.

B) Any accolades, benefits or compensation awarded to the PCSO as a result of the incident.

West Midlands Police will neither confirm nor deny the existence of any relevant data by virtue of Section 40(5B) - Personal information

C) The powers the PCSO was acting under to demand the driver must immobilise his vehicle and remain on the spot under suspicion of possession of cannabis and powers to stop the vehicle from leaving the scene of a private car park.

Police Constables and PCSO's have the power to stop vehicles believed to be acting in a manner that causes alarm, distress or annoyance by virtue of s.59 of the Police Reform Act 2022. This power talks about Constables, but the power is also shared with PCSOs. The location of this incident would be included in the application of such a power. Also, PCSOs have the same powers provided under Common Law to all citizens; which includes the use of force to defend themselves or someone else, defend property, prevent crime, and carry out a lawful arrest.

D) The force's policy on PCSOs taking action which puts them in harm's way.

Please see attached the relevant section of the PSCO deployment policy which covers their decision making/risk of harm.

E) The purpose of publishing the incident to YouTube? Is it to warn drivers that they must remain detained by PCSOs if they suspect they are in possession of cannabis? To celebrate the PCSOs actions? Or for some other for some other purpose, if so please state that purpose.

Our Corporate Communications Department have advised the rationale was to praise the PCSO who chased a driver after nearly being run over.

Internally the focus was on the support for officers who are attacked, and also guidelines for officers on dealing with criminals in cars.

F) Why comments are turned off for the video.

G) When the comments were turned off.

In terms of F and G, Comments are disabled by default on our YouTube channels