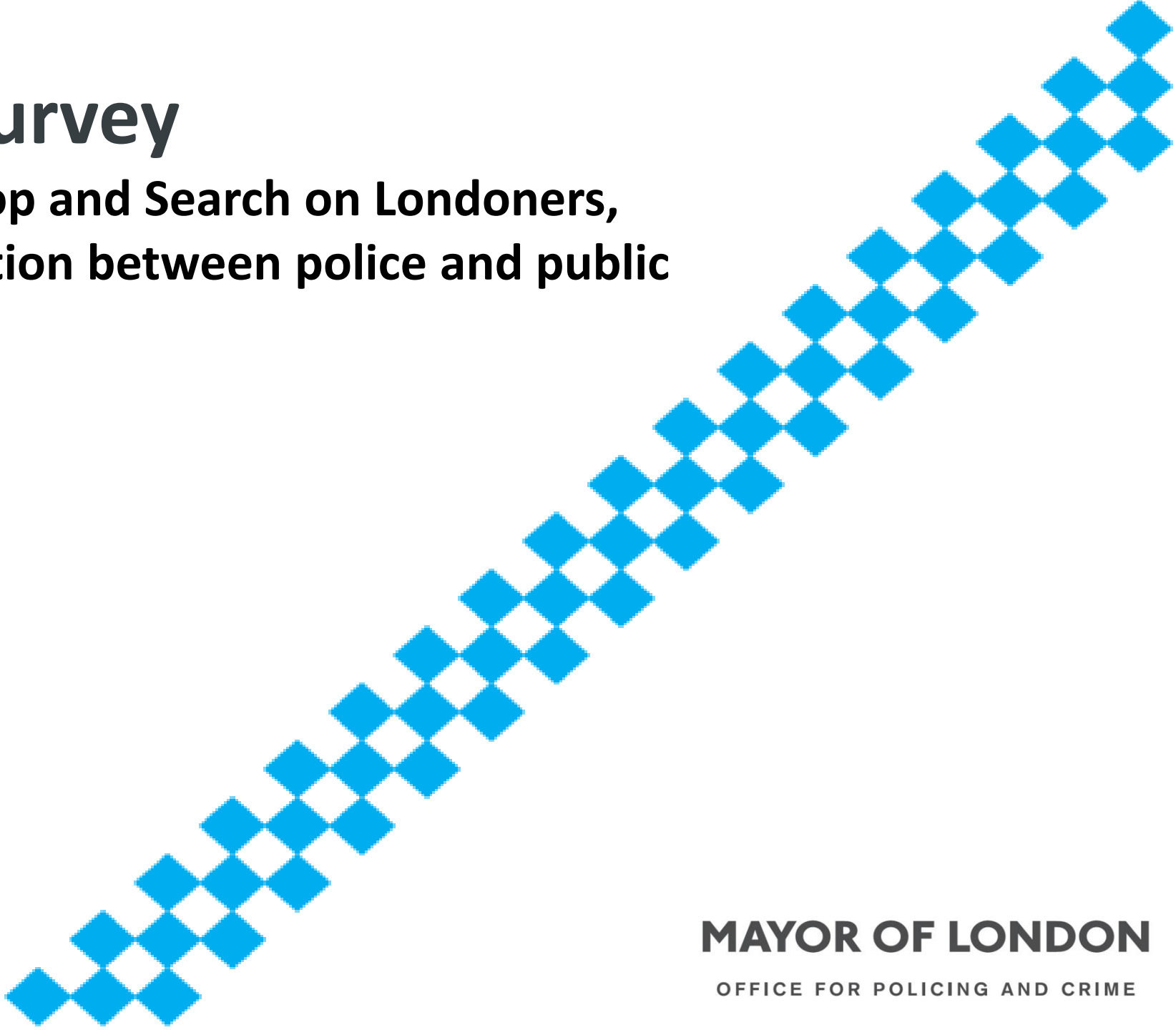


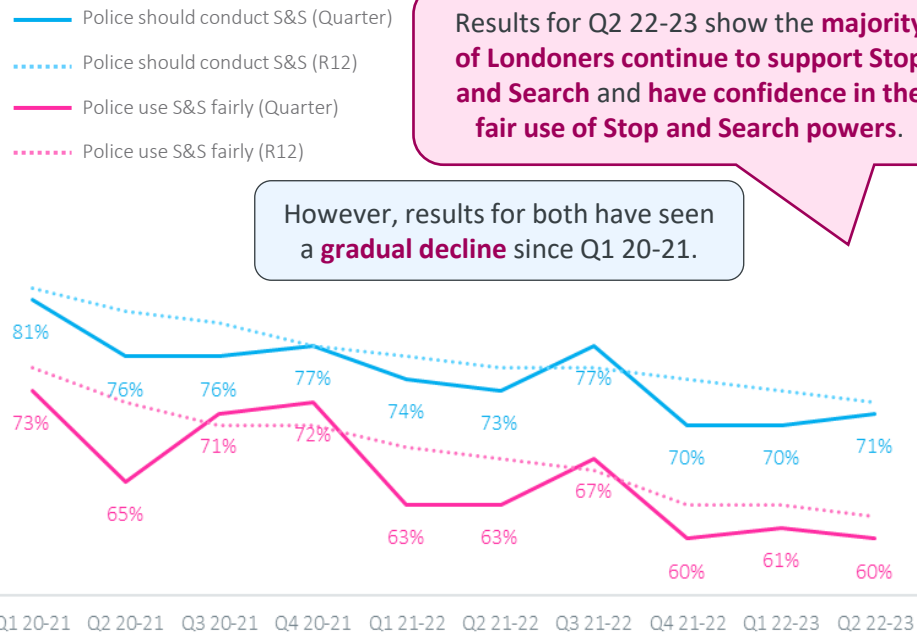
Public Attitude Survey

Exploring the impact of Stop and Search on Londoners,
and the role of the interaction between police and public

May 2023



Support for Stop & Search is declining; longstanding inequalities continue



However, results for both have seen a **gradual decline** since Q1 20-21.

Results for Q2 22-23 show the **majority of Londoners continue to support Stop and Search** and have confidence in the fair use of Stop and Search powers.

Believing Stop and Search is used fairly is related to trust.

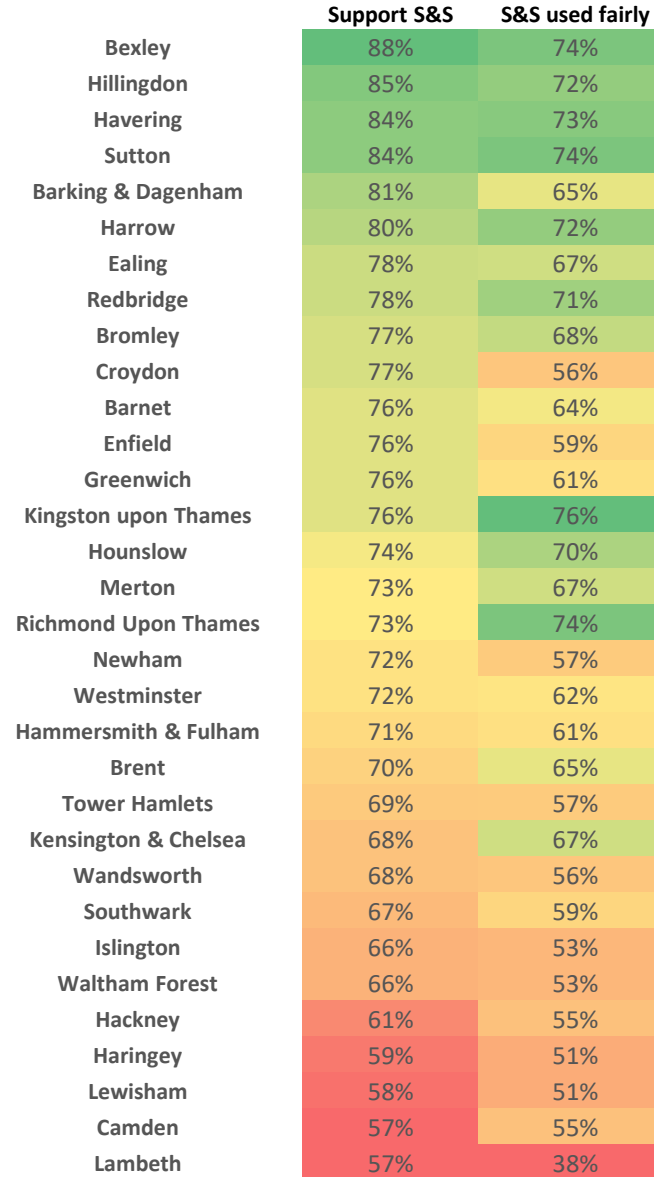
86% of those who believe the police use Stop and Search fairly trust the MPS, compared with 45% for those who do not feel it is used fairly.

Longstanding inequalities by ethnicity have been seen for these questions. This pattern has continued for Q2 22-23.*

Percentage point gap compared to MPS result

	Police should conduct S&S	Police use S&S fairly
MPS	71%	60%
White British	+5pp	+1pp
White Other	+1pp	+6pp
Mixed	-16pp	-16pp
Asian	+6pp	+6pp
Black	-20pp	-18pp

In Q2 22-23, **less than half** of Londoners from a **Black** (42%) or **Mixed** ethnicity (44%) background were **confident the police use Stop and Search fairly**.



There is **borough variation** in both support for Stop and Search and confidence in the fair use of Stop and Search powers.

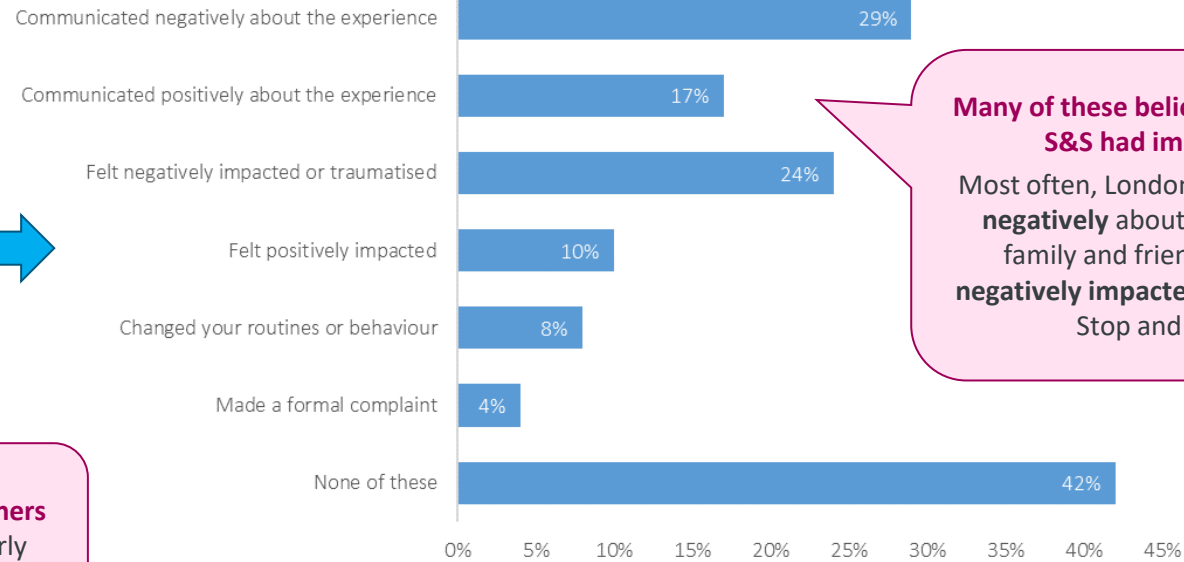


Residents in **Lambeth** are the least likely to support Stop and Search, or believe it is used fairly.

* Gaps of 5pp. or more are highlighted. Note low bases for Mixed ethnicity (n≈140) – results to be used with caution. Other ethnicity not reported due to very low bases.

Stop and Search has the potential to impact on Londoners, with some groups more likely to say they were negatively impacted by their experience...

Overall, one in ten Londoners said they had **personally ever been Stopped and Searched (S&S) in London** (10%).



Many of these believed their experience of S&S had impacted on them.

Most often, Londoners had **communicated negatively** about their experience with family and friends (29%) or had **felt negatively impacted or traumatised** by the Stop and Search (24%).

Emerging results also suggest different groups of Londoners are impacted by S&S in different ways – with particularly negative impacts seen amongst **Black Londoners**.

Table shows percentage point gap for measures compared with the MPS result above. Gaps of 5pp or more are highlighted. Colours are indicative of positive (blue) or negative (red) impact.

	Gender		Age		Ethnic Background		
	Male	Female	Under 35	35+	White	Black	Other Minority Ethnic
Communicated negatively about the experience	-1pp.	+4pp.	+7pp.	-5pp.	-4pp.	+11pp.	-2pp.
Communicated positively about the experience	+1pp.	-2pp.	0pp.	0pp.	+5pp.	-8pp.	-2pp.
Changed your routines or behaviour	0pp.	+4pp.	+5pp.	-3pp.	-2pp.	+4pp.	+2pp.
Felt negatively impacted or traumatised	-1pp.	+10pp.	+6pp.	-3pp.	-8pp.	+16pp.	+3pp.
Felt positively impacted	0pp.	+1pp.	0pp.	0pp.	+3pp.	-8pp.	+1pp.
Made a formal complaint	0pp.	+2pp.	0pp.	0pp.	-2pp.	+2pp.	+1pp.
None of these	+1pp.	-7pp.	-8pp.	+5pp.	+5pp.	-7pp.	-3pp.

Although *less likely* to be stopped in the first place, females were *more likely* to have felt **traumatised**.

Similarly, younger Londoners were also *more likely* to have **felt traumatised, to have communicated negatively to friends and family** and to have **changed their behaviour**.

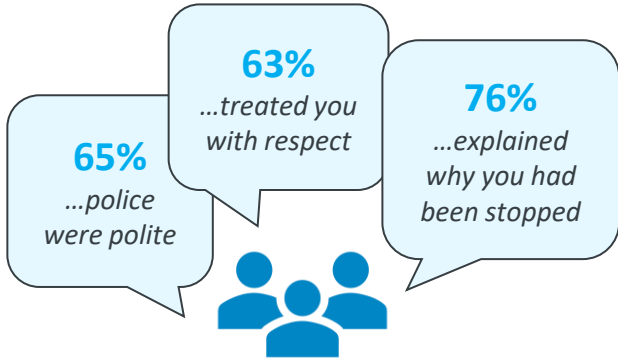
Black Londoners were also far *more likely* to have **felt traumatised or communicated negatively** about their experience of S&S, and were *less likely* to have felt positively impacted.

*Results for Q2 and Q3 2022-23. More detailed demographics breakdowns will be available in future when the number of respondents allows. Due to low base sizes, other minority ethnic groups have been combined.

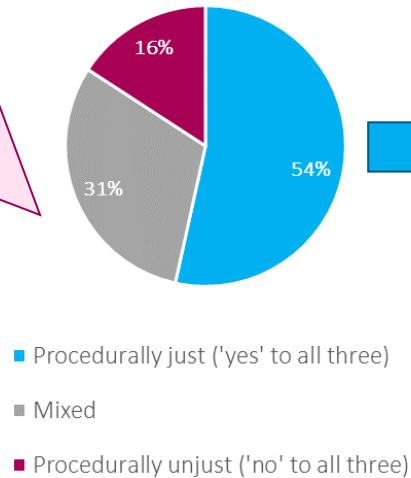
The impact of Stop and Search appears linked with how Londoners experience this interaction – but ‘procedurally unjust’ interactions can hold disproportionately negative impacts...

Most Londoners who had been Stopped and Searched believed police were polite, treated them with respect, and explained why they had been stopped.

However, certain groups were *less likely* to say this – including females, younger age groups, and Black Londoners.

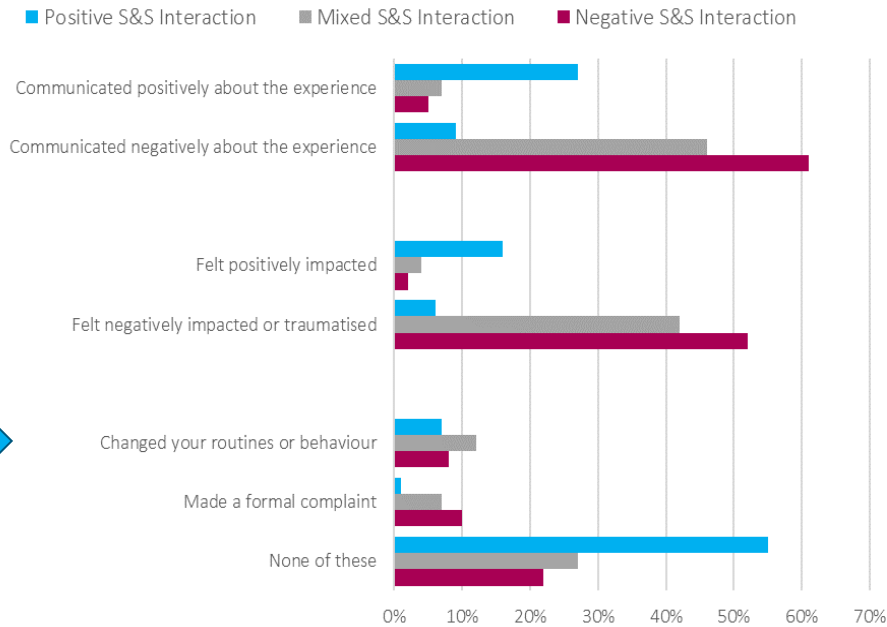


Just over half said ‘yes’ to all three of these questions – indicative of a **procedurally just** interaction. One in six said ‘no’ to all three – indicative of a **procedurally unjust** interaction.



	MPS	Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-64	65+	White	Mixed	Asian	Black	Other
Polite	65%	0	-3pp.	-5pp.	-10pp.	+6pp.	+7pp.	+8pp.	-7pp.	-3pp.	-19pp.	+8pp.
Respect	63%	+1pp.	-12pp.	-4pp.	-12pp.	+8pp.	+4pp.	+9pp.	-5pp.	-5pp.	-18pp.	+10pp.
Explained	76%	+4pp.	-12pp.	-3pp.	-1pp.	+3pp.	-2pp.	+4pp.	+7pp.	-3pp.	-12pp.	+7pp.

In turn, the nature of the Stop and Search interaction seems important in shaping its impact. Importantly though – whilst Londoners experiencing ‘procedurally just’ interactions were more likely to be positively impacted – ‘procedurally unjust’ interactions may have *disproportionately negative impacts*.



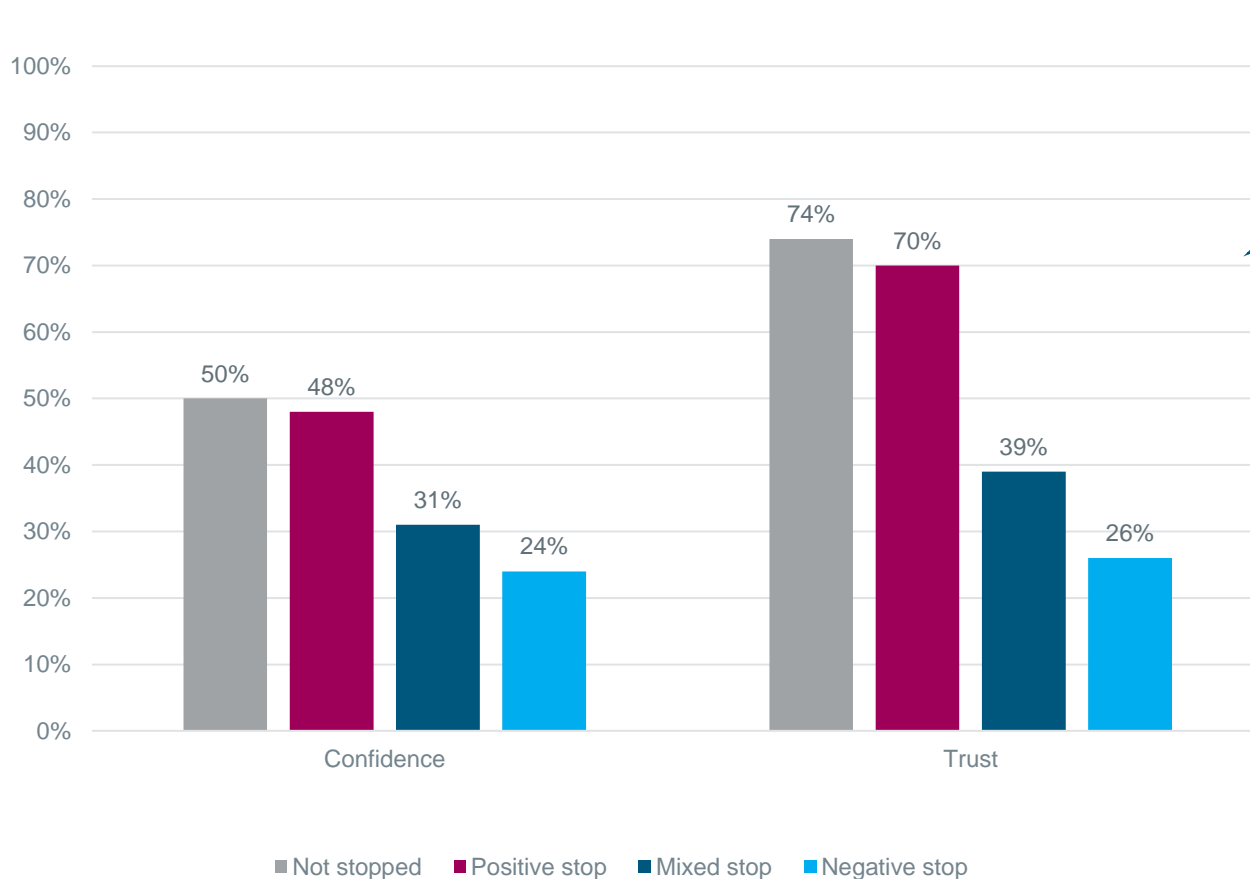
To illustrate, around a quarter of Londoners who reported **procedurally just interactions** said they had **communicated positively**, while over one in six felt **positively impacted** by their experience.

However, amongst those reporting **procedurally unjust interactions** nearly two-thirds had **communicated negatively**, while *half* said they had **felt traumatised** – revealing a disproportionately greater impact.

This asymmetry aligns with wider research – supported by the PAS – that has documented *disproportionately detrimental impacts* of negative encounters on **wider perceptions of police** (e.g. Trust).

'Procedurally unjust' interactions are also associated with low levels of trust and confidence

Looking at trust and confidence of Londoners who have never been Stopped and Searched, those who experienced a positive ('procedurally just') stop, those having a mixed experience and those experiencing a negative ('procedurally unjust') stop, clear differences emerge...



Those who reported experiencing a **procedurally just interaction** have similar levels of trust and confidence to those who have never been Stopped and Searched.

However, those who say their stop and search experience was mixed or negative ('**procedurally unjust**') are significantly less likely to report having trust or confidence in the police.

Of those experiencing a negative stop, just 24% say they have confidence in the police, and 26% trust the MPS.

A focus on what makes someone feel traumatised by Stop and Search – police treatment during the interaction seems key; over and above explaining the grounds for the search.

A quarter of Londoners who had been Stopped and Searched said that they had felt **'negatively impacted or traumatised'** by this experience (24%).



Further analysis sought to understand more about individual elements of the Stop and Search interaction that shape whether someone feels traumatised. Findings suggest that aspects of *police treatment* during the encounter may be particularly influential here – over and above explaining the grounds for the search.

Chart represents increased odds of feeling traumatised by a Stop and Search. Statistically significant predictors are in blue; non-significant predictors are in grey.

Holding other things constant, Londoners who believed the **police DID NOT treat them with respect** showed nearly 5x increased odds of feeling traumatised; while those who felt **police were NOT polite** showed 3x increased odds.

In contrast, once controlling for these things, **explaining the grounds for the search** was *no longer influential here*.

Similar patterns emerged across other impact measures – with elements of police treatment (respect/polite) often appearing *more influential* than whether the search was explained.

However, when controlling for police treatment, explaining the search **WAS** still influential in **feeling positively impacted** or **changing behaviour as a result** – perhaps as individuals may be more aware of the circumstances that led to their stop.



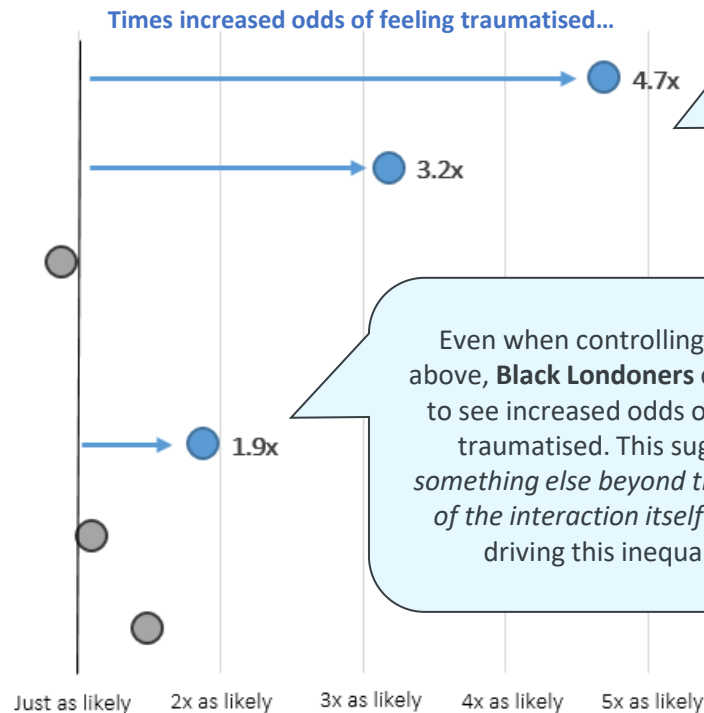
Even when controlling for the above, **Black Londoners** continued to see increased odds of feeling traumatised. This suggests *something else beyond the nature of the interaction itself* may be driving this inequality.

Interaction Measures

- Police DID NOT treat you with respect*
- Police were NOT polite*
- Police DID NOT explain why you were stopped

Demographic Measures

- Black Ethnicity (vs. White)*
- Aged under 35 (vs. 35+)
- Female (vs Male)



*To explore further, a series of logistic regression models were run predicting each of the S&S impact measures (including feeling traumatised) from interaction variables whilst controlling for demographics. Chart shows adjusted odds ratios for groups seeing statistically significant independently increased odds of feeling traumatised by a police stop and search.