

Published on ACPO  
4 Dec

Security Classification:	<b>NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED /</b>		
Disclosable under FOIA 2000:	<b>Yes</b>		
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There are attachments to paragraphs:

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4<sup>th</sup> December 2009

**To: all Chief Constables and Commissioners**

Dear Colleague

**Stop and Search – Photography**

In light of the repeated furore in the press and other media this week concerning the use of stop and search powers and particularly where those stopped are engaging in photography I thought it might be useful to highlight recently issued ACPO advice in this area.

Statutory stop and search powers available to officers are varied. The use of these powers is detailed and regulated. The Race and Diversity Business Area issued Practice Advice on Stop and Search in Relation to Terrorism in December 2008. This Advice is quite explicit in relation to photography. Section 2.8 states

*"The Terrorism Act 2000 does not prohibit people from taking photographs or digital images in an area where an authority under section 44 is in place. Officers should not prevent people taking photographs unless they are in an area where photography is prevented by other legislation."*

I would be grateful if you would arrange for an appropriate briefing to be passed to officers engaged in stop and search and stop and account activity on the extent of the powers available and the issues raised recently regarding photography.

Yours sincerely

**Andrew Trotter OBE QPM**  
**Chief Constable**  
**Chair of ACPO Media Advisory Group**

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