

Stop! The police are changing the way they record what happens when they stop people and ask them questions



From October 2008, if the police stop you and **ask you to account for yourself**, you'll get a receipt or card so you know who has stopped you. The police **will not** fill in a form but **will** ask you what your ethnic background is. This information is monitored to help ensure that the police use stop and account fairly.

Remember! If you're searched, you should still receive a detailed form

What are the differences?

If you are...

	Do you get a receipt or card?	Do you get a form?
...asked to leave an area	NO	NO
...asked if you saw a crime or an incident	NO	NO
...in a vehicle and asked to show your driving documents (licence, etc)	NO	NO
...asked what you are doing or where you are going	YES	NO
...asked why you are in an area	YES	NO
...in a vehicle, are asked to show your driving documents and explain what you are doing in an area	YES	NO
...asked to empty your pockets	NO	YES
...fully searched	NO	YES

The above examples do not fully cover all of the law – they just give a general guide to your rights when you are stopped.

For more information on stop and account, visit the Association of Police Authority website at www.apa.police.uk

