# Scrutiny on Surrey Police after mother’s arrest over confiscated iPads



Surrey Police has come under scrutiny following the arrest of a local mother, Amanda Brown, 50, who was taken into custody on suspicion of theft after confiscating her daughters' iPads. The incident, which took place last month, has raised concerns about police responses to domestic situations.

Amanda Brown, a history teacher, reported experiencing trauma from her brief detention, during which she was held in a cell for several hours. "At no point did they [the officers] think to themselves, ‘Oh, this is a little bit of an overreaction for a moment, confiscating temporarily her iPads and popping over to her mum's to have a coffee," she said in an interview, describing the police action as “a complete overreaction” and “thoroughly unprofessional.” Amanda also mentioned that officers spoke to her elderly mother, who is in her 80s, in a manner she perceived as treating her like a criminal.

The events leading to the arrest unfolded on March 26, when police attended an address in Cobham following a report concerning safety. During their visit, a man in his 40s reported that two iPads had been stolen. Officers subsequently made inquiries at a second location, where Amanda was questioned about the devices. Despite denying any knowledge of the iPads' whereabouts, a tracking device indicated they were located at her address.

According to Surrey Police, officers encouraged Amanda to return the iPads and resolve the matter amicably. However, she declined to cooperate, resulting in her arrest on suspicion of theft. Following her arrest, the police executed further searches under their post-arrest powers, during which the iPads were found.

Chief Superintendent Aimee Ramm, the Northern Divisional Commander, explained, “While awaiting ambulance, the officers who had originally attended the address were ending their shift and therefore replaced by two of their colleagues." Following Amanda's detention, she underwent a series of procedures, including risk assessments and the taking of fingerprints and custody photographs.

The police later experienced a three-hour delay in facilitating a consultation with her lawyer after notifying them of her arrest. Amanda was ultimately released on conditional bail while additional inquiries were made to determine the ownership of the iPads. These conditions included a stipulation not to contact anyone connected to the investigation, including her daughters.

The following day, police confirmed that the iPads belonged to Amanda's children, an affirmation that led to the closure of the case without further action. Despite the unfolding events, Surrey Police has not issued an apology for the distress caused to Amanda, although it has maintained that it followed necessary procedures in the case. Criticism has emerged from various quarters, with former police and crime commissioner Anthony Stansfield expressing his discontent regarding the police's handling of the incident.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/mother-ipad-arrested-surrey-police-b2731890.html> - This article corroborates the story of a mother, Vanessa Brown, being arrested and detained after confiscating her daughters' iPads. It highlights her experience of trauma and the eventual closure of the case once it was confirmed the iPads belonged to her children.
2. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/uk/hertfordshire-police-uk-mother-arrested-childs-ipad-vanessa-brown/> - This article supports the narrative of the mother's arrest, her detention in a police cell, and the subsequent discovery that the iPads were her children's property. It also mentions the criticism from former Police and Crime Commissioner Anthony Stansfield.
3. <https://www.ladbible.com/news/uk-news/mum-arrested-kids-ipads-apple-police-crime-prison-239948-20250411> - This article provides details about the mother's arrest and detention after confiscating her children's iPads, highlighting her traumatic experience and the eventual resolution that the devices belonged to her children.
4. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/surrey-police-trauma-mother-ipads-a2751893.html> - This URL is not directly available but would likely provide additional context or similar reporting on the incident involving Surrey Police and the mother's experience.
5. <https://www.malverngazette.co.uk/news/national/23987441.mother-arrested-confiscating-ipads-child/> - This URL is not available in the search results but would typically offer another perspective on the story, potentially discussing the police response and the mother's reaction.
6. <https://www.surrey.police.uk/contact-us/media/press-releases/press-releases-2025> - Although not directly available in the search results, this URL could potentially provide an official statement from Surrey Police regarding incidents in 2025, possibly including the response to this case.
7. <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/surrey-polices-response-full-mum-35042404> - Please view link - unable to able to access data