Factors Affecting Decision Making

- **Bias** (Availability Bias and Confirmation Bias)
- "**Groupthink**" (Janis, 1972) a style of thinking shown by group members who try to minimise conflict, the pressure of having to reach a decision and keep the group happy overshadows the need for a quality decision
- **Information Overload** if there is too much evidence for the Jury to take in, the final decision may not take it all into account
- **Analysis Paralysis** over thinking a situation so a decision can never be reached

Police Decision Making

- Police have to make objective decisions
- they are made under pressure (e.g. Terrorist attack)
- Research found that police are more likely to stop and search a speeding car or one driven by teenagers (Philips & Sobol, 2012)
- Police have been criticised for using race as a decision making factor when conducting Stop and Search (Bowling & Philips, 2007)

National Decision Making Model

Designed to provide a simple, logical and evidence based approach to making policing decisions