

OFFICIAL  
September 2025

SCRUTINY PANEL REPORT



Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddau  
Dyfed-Powys  
Police and Crime Commissioner

## Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

### Scrutiny Panel

### Dip Sampling Exercise

## Stalking and Harassment

### Panel Members' Findings & Feedback of Youth cases

**September 2025**



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## 1.0 Overview

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2025, members from the Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) scrutiny panel attended a meeting to review a selection of 7 adult and 8 youth cases involving a Criminal Damage or Public Order offence which had been dealt with by way of an OoCR. This report will focus on the panel's findings in relation to the youth cases.

This meeting was conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams.

## 2.0 Background, purpose, and methodology

The purpose of the OoCR panel is to independently assess, scrutinise and quality control the use of OoCR by Dyfed-Powys Police. The panel can make recommendations, feedback on individual cases to officers, communicate findings, promote best practice, and identify potential policy development or training needs for consideration by the force or other agencies involved. The panel cannot change the original outcome of the case.

The panel membership consists of partners from within the Criminal Justice System which include, but not limited to, members from Dyfed-Powys Police, the OPCC, Probation Service, Crown Prosecution Service, Youth Justice Team and Magistrates bench.

The panel members collectively agree an area of focus for each meeting. They receive relevant case files two weeks prior to each meeting which have been randomly selected by the Panel Chair. The Panel then meets to discuss each case and where possible reach a conclusion as to the appropriateness of the disposal. In deciding this, the Panel considers the following criteria:

- The views and feedback from the victim and the offender.
- Compliance with force policy.
- Rationale for the decision and outcome.
- Potential community impact.
- Circumstances and seriousness of the offence.
- Potential alternative options that may have been available.

The Panel discuss each case and categorise them as one of the following:

- Appropriate use consistent with policy.
- Appropriate use with Panel Members' reservations.
- Inappropriate use or inconsistent with policy.
- Panel fails to reach a conclusion.

### 3.0 Approval by Panel Chair

I Carys Morgans (print name) can confirm that I have read the report, and that it fully represents the views expressed by the Panel during our dip sampling exercise dated 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2025.



Signed:

Date: 16/12/2025

### 4.0 Actions taken following previous panel meeting

As a result of the OoCR scrutiny panel's work, the following actions have been completed since the last meeting:

- The panel Chair met with the Force to discuss the need for a child centred policing lead. Since the meeting Dyfed Powys Police have appointed a lead.

### 5.0 Areas for improvement & rearing themes (youth cases)

The following areas for improvement & rearing themes were identified during the review of the youth cases:

- Inconsistencies of OoCR's being issued across the Force.
- Officers need to utilise and engage with the YoT officers more frequently.
- Timeliness of completing cases.

### 6.0 Consideration of Youth cases

Panel members reviewed eight Youth cases. Of those, one had been issued with a diversionary, educational or intervention activity (outcome 22) and seven through a youth community resolution (YCR).

Members' assessments were as follows:

Members' assessment	Number of cases
Appropriate	3

Appropriate with reservations	3
Inappropriate	2

### Case 1

The Panel noted that within the circumstances of this case the diversionary activity was appropriate for the AO. A discussion ensued regarding the inconsistent use of OoCR for youths across Dyfed Powys. The Panel discussed that for example case 3 is of a similar nature but the AO received a YRD. The Panel called for Dyfed Powys Police to review the inconsistencies.

#### Panel's Assessment: Appropriate

**Action 1: OPCC and Panel representatives to meet with the Force's Child Centred Policing lead to discuss the inconsistent use of OoCR, and inappropriate use of YRD's in Dyfed Powys.**

### Case 2

It was noted that the AO had previous convictions for offences of a similar nature and had previously been issued a YRD for battery. Therefore, the Panel agreed that the OoCR issued was inappropriate.

#### Panel's Assessment: Inappropriate

**Action 2: Panel's findings of the inappropriate use of the OoCR for case 2 to be provided to the officer(s).**

### Case 3

The Panel noted the in-depth investigation carried out for this case and noted that within the circumstances including no injured party (IP) then the OoCR was appropriate. Although the Panel compared this case with case number one and noted their concerns with the inconsistencies.

**Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations**

**Case 4**

It was noted that the IP was supportive of the YRD and that the AO showed remorse. The Panel discussed the young age of the AO and the importance of keeping youths out of the criminal justice system. It was therefore deemed that the OoCR was appropriate.

**Panel's Assessment: Appropriate**

**Case 5**

The Panel noted that the IP was supportive of an OoCR outcome. Although, the Panel raised concerns that the AO seemed to be targeting the IP and did not display any remorse. The Panel concluded that within the circumstances of this case the OoCR was appropriate but had reservations that any future offences must be dealt with through the courts.

**Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations**

**Case 6**

The Panel discussed in depth the circumstances of the AO who is known to the Youth offending team (YoT). It was noted that whilst the OoCR was procedurally correct and appropriate more could potentially have been done by officers such as liaising with the YoT.

**Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations**

**Case 7**

It was noted that the IP was supportive of the OoCR, and the AO provided an apology and paid compensation. It was therefore considered that the OoCR was appropriate.

**Panel's Assessment: Appropriate**

**Case 8**

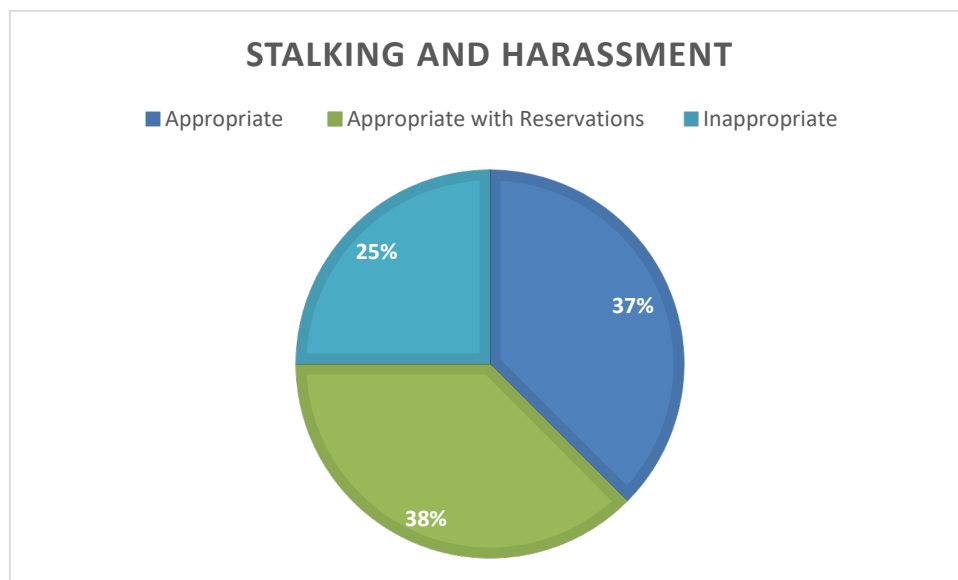
The Panel noted the severity of this incident and noted that a diversionary activity such as an outcome 22 would have been better placed. It was also discussed that the case had been recorded as an assault before being amended to harassment although it was noted it needed to be reclassified to a higher level. The Panel therefore determined that the OoCR was inappropriately issued.

### Panel's Assessment: Inappropriate

**Action 3: Panel's findings of the inappropriate use of the OoCR for case 8 to be provided to the officer(s).**

## 7.0 Panel's assessments to date

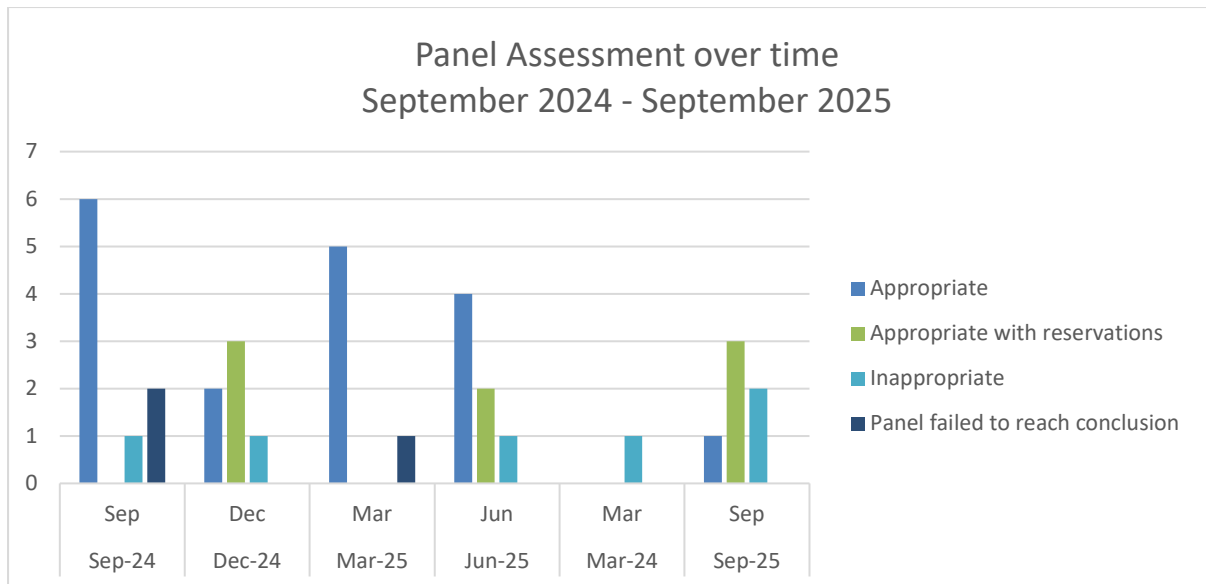
The chart below demonstrates the Panel's assessment of youth cases of Stalking and Harassment cases considered at the most recent meeting:



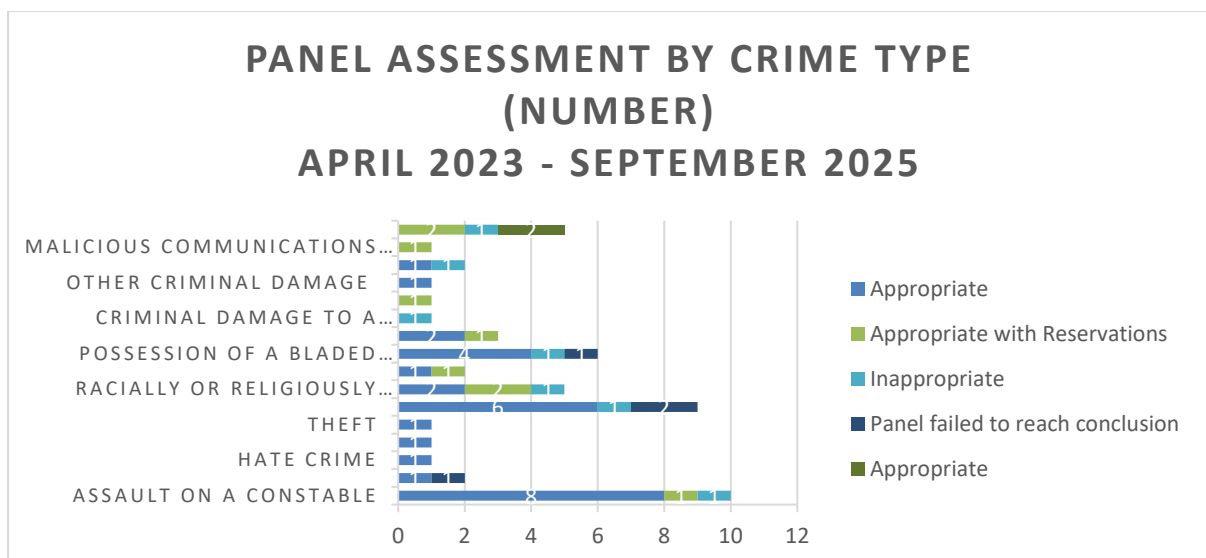
The Panel have considered a range of disposals. The disposals considered in September 2024 included 56% YRD's and 44% Youth community resolutions. In September 2024 99% of the cases considered were dealt with by a YRD with 1% through a diversionary, educational or intervention activity (outcome 22).

The change in the Panel's conclusions reached over September 2024 – September 2025 can be seen in the graph below:

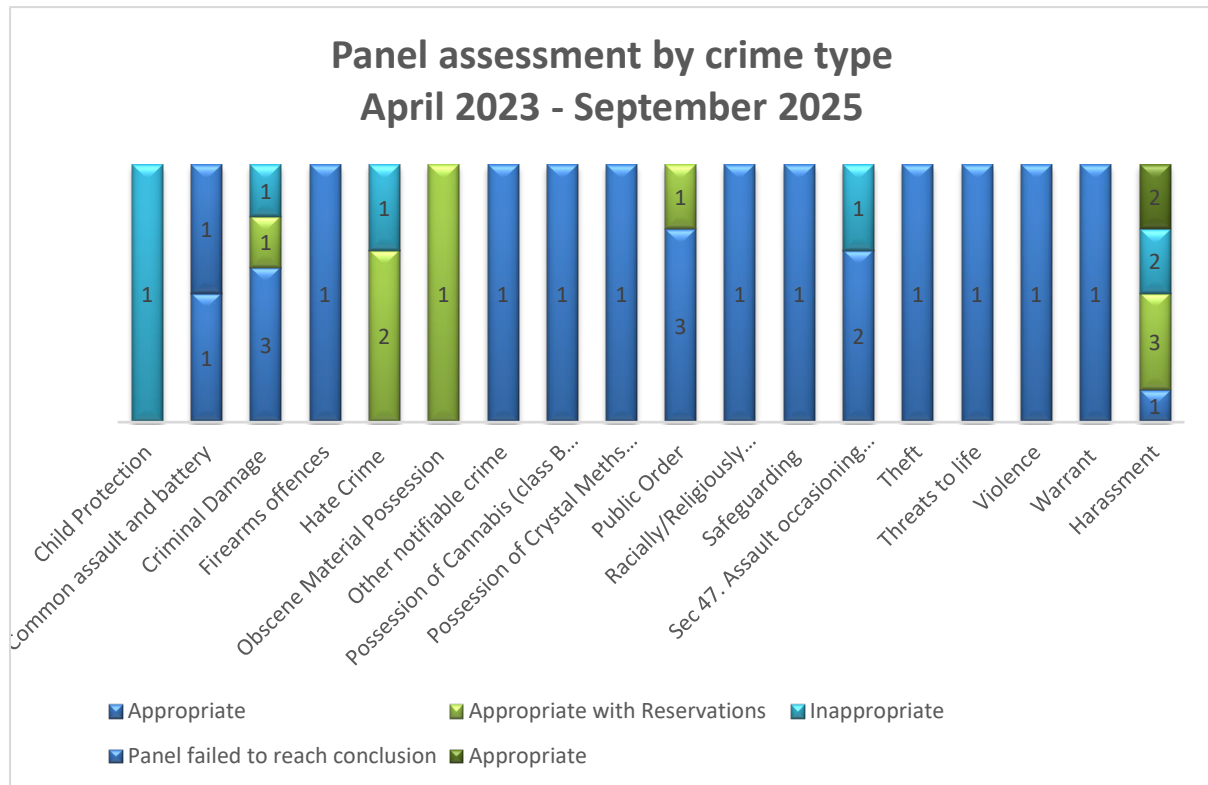




The graph below shows the breakdown by crime type as a percentage of cases considered between April 2023 and September 2025.

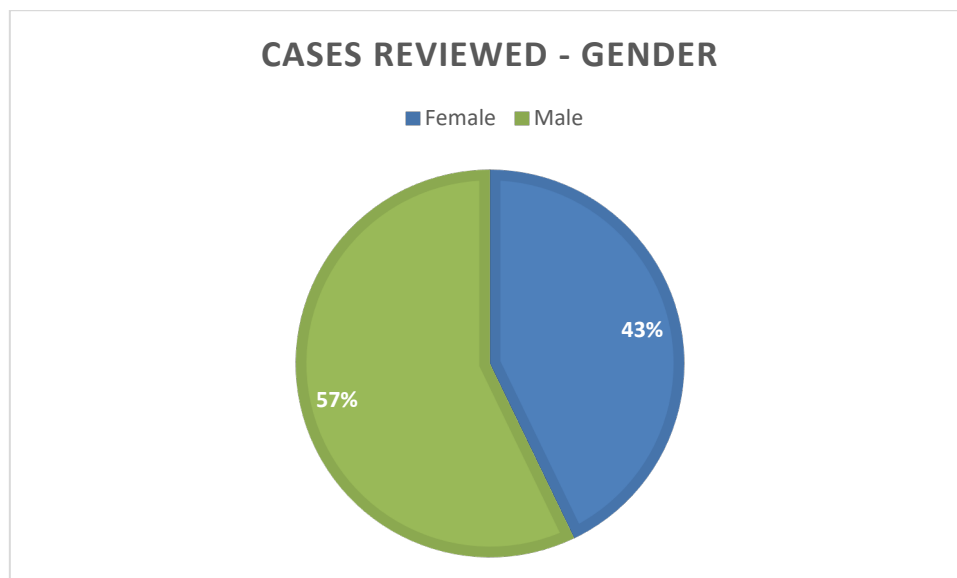


The following graph displays the actual number of cases assessed within each crime type and the resulting Panel opinions at their meetings between April 2023 and September 2025.



## 8.0 Ethnicity and Gender

The following chart shows the breakdown of cases reviewed within this meeting in terms of their gender:



The following table shows the breakdown of cases reviewed within this meeting in terms of ethnicity.

<b>Ethnicity Noted</b>	<b>Suspect's Self - Assessment</b>	<b>Officer's Assessment</b>
White British	8	0
White – North European	0	8
Unknown	0	0

There were no race or gender equality issues identified as part of the Panel's review.

### **9.0 Future Panel focus**

Following a discussion, it was decided by the Panel that they would like to focus on Drugs cases at the next meeting.

### **10.0 Actions**

<b>Action number</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>To be progressed by</b>
OOCR – 161	OPCC and panel representatives to meet with the Force's Child Centred Policing lead to discuss the inconsistent use of OoCR, and inappropriate use of YRD's in Dyfed Powys.	OPCC
OOCR – 162	Panel's findings of the inappropriate use of the OoCR for case 2 to be provided to the officer(s).	OPCC
OOCR - 163	Panel's findings of the inappropriate use of the OoCR for case 8 to be provided to the officer(s).	OPCC