



Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg yn ogystal â Saesneg.

This document is available in Welsh as well as English.



**Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu  
Dyfed-Powys  
Police and Crime Commissioner**

## **Select Committee Review**

**Dyfed-Powys Police and partners' crime and anti-social behaviour intervention, prevention and engagement services for young adults, aged 18-25.**

**Summary Report Appendices**

**April 2026**

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**These Appendices accompany the Police and Crime Commissioner's Select Committee Summary Report.**

## **Appendix A – Learning from DPP's Task and Finish Group**

DPP launched a review of prevention, intervention and engagement services for children and young people up to the age of 18 in January 2025. The intention of the review was to consider the capacity, capability and effectiveness of current practices.

The aim was to identify how DPP can enhance the current prevention of children entering the criminal justice system through early intervention, prevention and engagement in a collaborative approach with partners, thus enabling our children and young people across the Dyfed-Powys Police area to thrive and fulfil their potential.

DPP utilised evidence-based research to demonstrate the imperative need for effective early intervention and prevention for children and young people to successfully reduce crime, the number of victims and overall policing demand.

The earlier intervention is delivered, the higher the chance of success in ensuring children and young people can contribute to, and be supported by, a safer, more prosperous police service area.

Children up to the age of 18 make up 20.9% of the population of the Dyfed-Powys Police area, and therefore prevention, intervention and engagement with this distinct age category is deemed compulsory within the delivery of the Dyfed-Powys Police prevention strategy.

Key learning points identified from the review included the need for:

- an expansion of the Schools Police Service, promoting opportunities for positive police engagement and support with all children and young people across local communities;
- increased awareness, understanding, and application among DPP officers and staff of child-centred policing principles and practices, recognising, upholding and promoting children's rights. This includes awareness of opportunities for early intervention and prevention by Dyfed-Powys Police and partners;
- increased awareness and understanding of the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and trauma on an individual and community level, empowering DPP officers and staff to recognise and respond in a way that builds on children and young people's trust and confidence in policing;
- enhancement of the data monitoring capability relating to children and young people, in support of;
- a revised governance and management structure to ensure an appropriate, timely and consistent service for children and young people in our communities; and
- closer partnership working in support of shared aims and objectives relating to children and young people.

The implementation phase has begun, and further updates will be made available in line with the communications strategy as progress along this exciting journey develops.

## Appendix B – Mapping of existing crime and ASB intervention, prevention, and engagement services across the Dyfed-Powys area.

### Dyfed-Powys area

#### **INTACT**

**Who:** Dyfed-Powys Police; multi-agency partnership.

**What:** Working alongside partners to tackle Serious Violence and Organised Crime (SVOC) across Dyfed-Powys Police Force area. INTACT are an Early Intervention & Prevention Team, who engage with Children, Young Persons and Vulnerable Adults who have been identified as 'at risk' either by police or by partner agencies. Following the 4P plan to PREPARE, PROTECT, PREVENT and PURSUE.

**Age range:** children, young people and vulnerable adults.

**Objectives:**

1. Provide an early intervention service to protect those most at risk of engaging in SVOC as victims or offenders.
2. To provide training, awareness, and problem-solving opportunities to communities to become 'intelligent'.
3. To support the planning, delivery and evaluation of operations and intensification periods across the Force area.
4. To develop practice, resilience, and relationships across the Neighbourhood Policing model.
5. In partnership, understand the scale of SVOC threats, putting measures in place to mitigate risk, designing out vulnerabilities.

Link: No direct website; Dyfed-Powys Police's INTACT programme highlighted as innovative and effective approach to tackling serious violence by APCC ([dyfedpowys-pcc.org.uk](http://dyfedpowys-pcc.org.uk))

#### **Boxing INTACT**

Boxing INTACT is a boxing intervention for young people who have been identified by the INTACT team as vulnerable to exploitation or harm. They also learn useful skills to help them in everyday life such as discipline, managing emotions and calming strategies that come hand in hand with boxing.

The intervention is designed to be an engaging and innovative diversionary activity for young people who may be at risk of falling into wrong crowds or paths. As well as boxing training, sessions are delivered on the risks of County Lines – a term used to refer to the distribution of drugs across the country, where many young and vulnerable people are exploited and pulled in to work for dealers higher up the criminal chain.

#### **Premier League Kicks**

**Who:** Swansea City AFC Foundation, Police and Crime Commissioners, South Wales Police, Dyfed-Powys Police, Youth Services, local councils, schools and other sports providers.

**What:** Swansea City AFC Foundation's PL Kicks initiative is a national programme that uses the power of football and sport to regularly engage children and young people of all backgrounds and abilities in football, sport and personal development – providing a trusted, positive influence in high-need areas.

The project delivers free weekly sessions, giving young people aged 8-18 across South, West & Mid Wales the opportunities to play in football activities, whilst young people aged 16-25 have the opportunity to become volunteer officials or coaches.

Although the immediate emphasis of the programme is football, the Foundation coaches work in partnership with other local organisations to support young people with the challenges they face in their day-to-day lives and improve safety and community cohesion for their local neighbourhood.

**Age range:** 8-18, 16-25

**Objectives:**

1. Identify children and young people (aged 8-16) who are at risk of (or are involved) with crime and disorder, enabling them to become involved with the PCC Kicks programme as a method of positive engagement with the community/police.
2. Engage with parents, carers, and family members as they congregate to spectate at the football sessions, providing a great opportunity for community engagement, and community intelligence gathering by police and partners.
3. Allow children and young people to be active, do something useful with their time.
4. Allow children and young people to participate in something which is in the heart of the community, and in the presence of NPT officers and staff.

**Link:** <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/sports-participation/premier-league-kicks>

**Safer Streets projects**

**Who:** Dyfed-Powys Police, Police and Crime Commissioners and partners

**What:** The Home Office Safer Street Fund has been designed to reduce levels of Acquisitive Crime (AC), Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in disproportionately and persistently affected areas of England and Wales and develop the evidence base to inform future investment and commissioning decisions.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys has worked closely with respected partners to develop several robust interventions that meet the fund criteria for each round of the Safer Streets Fund.

**Schools Theatre Bystander in Education programme**

The first intervention is a Schools Theatre Bystander in Education programme. Step In, Speak Up is a bilingual educational performance visiting schools across the force area to help children understand what constitutes sexual harassment, violence, and discrimination in an age-appropriate way, and how to act as upstanders for victims.

**Age range:** Students aged 14-18

**Objectives:** Designed to shift social norms through challenging undesirable behaviour.

**Vulnerability Awareness and Bystander training, support and intervention**

The second intervention is Vulnerability Awareness and Bystander training, support and intervention aimed at individuals aged 16-23 in Higher and Further Education by raising awareness and understanding of social norms related to VAWG.

**Age range:** 16-23 in Higher and Further Education

**Objectives:** Raising awareness and understanding of social norms related to VAWG.

**New Pathways**

**Who:** New Pathways

**What:** New Pathways are funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys to deliver training as part of the Violence Against Women and Girls and the Safer Streets initiative, to those working with young adults aged 16-25.

**Objectives:** They deliver five different courses aimed at young people and anyone working with young people.

**Age range:** 16-25

**Link:** [Children & Young People - New Pathways](#)

### **Phoenix Project**

**Who:** Welsh Government sponsored intervention in conjunction with Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

**What:** The Phoenix Project is a Welsh Government sponsored intervention that is aimed at young people aged between 11-25, who have either offended, are on the cusp of offending, or vulnerable. It challenges existing attitudes and promotes independent thinking in young people by using fire service activities to develop personal attributes such as working as a team, exploring physical and mental limits, and promoting and educating young people about the role of the fire and rescue service. The Phoenix Project is accredited by Agored Cymru.

**Age range:** 11-25

**Link:** <https://www.mawwfire.gov.uk/eng/children-young-people/phoenix-project/>

### **Pobl**

**Who:** Pobl Offender Diversion Scheme

**What:** The Dyfed-Powys Diversion Scheme aims to deal with criminal behaviour much sooner during an individual's offending journey by tackling the root causes of crime and related health and community issues. Its aim is to reduce the number of victims of crime by offering a four-month program of interventions to eligible offenders rather than prosecuting them.

**Age range:** 18+

**Link:** [Dyfed-Powys Police & Crime Commissioner](#)

### **Promo Cymru**

**Who:** Ceredigion County Council funded through the Serious Violence Duty (OPCC).

**What:** Exploring Online Safety: Understanding and Tackling Online Threats Affecting Young People in Dyfed-Powys by supporting the Dyfed Powys Serious Violence and Organised Crime Partnership in tackling serious violence affecting children and young people, particularly the threat of the online space and the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

This discovery work will provide a snapshot of crucial insights into young people's online experiences, identifying risks and opportunities for intervention and the prevention of online harms in the Dyfed Powys area. The findings will help shape future policies and service development, ensuring that youth services, educators, and stakeholders can better support young people in navigating online spaces safely and effectively.

**Age:** 11-25

### **DDAS**

**Who:** Drug and Alcohol Services for Dyfed

**What:** Operating in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, the aim of the Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service is to reduce harm caused by substance misuse to service users, people close to them and the wider community. Dyfed's Drug and Alcohol Service also works to identify criminals and engage with them from the time they are arrested until their sentence and maximise the proportion of individuals who succeed in completing treatment programmes.

**Age range:** 18+

**Link:** [DDAS - Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service - Barod](#)

### **Kaleidoscope CAIS**

**Who:** Drug and Alcohol Services for Powys

**What:** The objective of Kaleidoscope Powys is to reduce harm caused by substance misuse to service users, people close to them and the wider community. Kaleidoscope also works to identify and engage with offenders from the time they are arrested to their sentence and maximize the proportion of individuals who successfully complete treatment programmes.

**Age range:** 18+

**Link:** [Kaleidoscope Powys - Kaleidoscope](#)

## **Carmarthenshire**

### **Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service**

**Who:** Carmarthenshire Youth Support Services, Carmarthenshire County Council

**What:** The service provides a robust range of support, from open access to specialised support, enabling children, young people and young adults (aged 8-25 years) to access what they need, when and where they need it so that they can reach their full personal, social, and educational potential.

The Youth Support Service comprises of four teams, three of which are youth support teams (the fourth is the youth justice team):

- Universal Support Team
- Targeted Youth Support Team (aged 10-18)
- Targeted Youth Support Team (aged 16-25)

#### ***Objectives:***

#### **Universal Support Team**

The team is responsible for open access provision including delivery of activities to support community safety and to reduce anti-social behaviour.

#### **Targeted Youth Support Team (16-25):**

The team is responsible for the delivery of a range support for children, young people, and young adults aged 16-25 years and their families.

The team works with individuals, families, and groups who can be affected by a broad range of issues associated with:

- Family relationships.
- Physical health issues (including substance misuse and alcohol misuse).
- Emotional and mental health issues.
- Homelessness prevention and support.
- Not being engaged in in education, employment, or training (NEET).

**Link:** <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/youth-support/> and [Youth Support Service - Carmarthenshire Family Information Service](#)

## Ceredigion

### **Ceredigion Youth Service**

**Who:** Ceredigion Youth Service, Ceredigion County Council

#### **The Community Youth Work and Prevention Team**

The Community Youth Work and Prevention Team offer Intervention Projects in collaboration with multi agencies and external providers to deliver specific short term/targeted programmes for young people who are medium to high-risk groups with a potential threat of accessing the Justice System.

**Age range:** Project Inspire (ages 17-25), Mobile Provision – Youth Centre Van (ages 11-25)

#### **Project Inspire**

The Inspire Programme targets ages 16-25 where the aim is to engage with those that are/at risk of becoming NEET as this cohort is likely to offend. We utilise our centres to offer drop in provisions alongside workshops and activities to meet young people's personal and social development. This is offered in three parts of the County: North, Mid and South. They also offer detached/ mobile, outreach and pop-up youth work targeting rural and deprived areas to offer young people support and provisions. The activities and workshops that are offered to young people involves personal and social development, money management, focusing on resilience, confidence and wellbeing, focusing on education, employment and training opportunities.

#### **Mobile Provision – Youth Centre Van**

Early Intervention - creating opportunities for engaging with children and young people identified as being vulnerable or at risk due to their current living situation and associated behaviours i.e., experiencing poverty, exposure to drugs and alcohol and suffering with mental health due to isolation and loneliness.

Prevention - preventing young people from being exposed to risky behaviours which could affect their health, wellbeing and development, and associated impact on their family and wider community.

Community Empowerment and Resilience - incorporates the two previous themes because both early intervention and prevention services need to contain a sustainable model based on the needs of the community.

**Link:** [Support for Children, Young People - Ceredigion County Council](#)

## Where and when do we work?

The youth service works in a lot of different ways. We have full-time school-based and community-based youth workers. Below is a breakdown of our youth work offer in Ceredigion:

Early individual and group-based support	Universal provision	Targeted and needs-led interventions	Participation, rights and information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emotional, social, mental and physical wellbeing courses</li> <li>• Personal and social development projects</li> <li>• Accredited learning</li> <li>• Goal setting</li> <li>• Thematic campaigns, initiatives and enterprises</li> <li>• Online provision</li> <li>• Life skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth clubs and after-school programmes</li> <li>• Evening, weekend and school holiday programmes</li> <li>• Sport and outdoor adventure</li> <li>• Health and wellbeing projects</li> <li>• Drop-in and pop-up activities</li> <li>• Day trips and residential experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach, detached and mobile activities</li> <li>• Structured thematic projects</li> <li>• Preventative and diversionary provisions</li> <li>• Harm reduction/awareness raising</li> <li>• Nurture and enrichment programmes</li> <li>• Arts and crafts programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSHE/thematic workshops and campaigns</li> <li>• UNCRC awareness</li> <li>• Youth Council and youth forums</li> <li>• Volunteering</li> <li>• Citizenship</li> <li>• Celebration events</li> <li>• Digital engagement</li> <li>• Youth exchanges</li> <li>• Events and fun days</li> </ul>

## Pembrokeshire

### Pembrokeshire Youth

**Who:** Pembrokeshire Youth, Pembrokeshire County Council

**What:** Pembrokeshire Youth is an integrated service comprising of the Targeted Youth Team, Youth Support Team, Community Youth Team and the Youth Justice Team. The service provides non-formal, informal and structured opportunities and experiences for young people aged 11 – 25, enhancing their personal, emotional, social and political development.

Pembrokeshire Youth offers advice and guidance and supports young people to reach their full potential.

### **The Community Youth Team**

The Community Youth Team aims to provide young people aged 11 - 25 with universal access to opportunities, activities and youth clubs within the community, based on a voluntary relationship.

**Age range:** 11–25-year-olds

The service aims to:

- Deliver a range of programmes and activities relating to curriculum specialities e.g. citizenship, arts, sport, IT, health, Welsh language and culture, in youth club settings
- Provide non-formal and informal educational opportunities and experiences to enhance the personal, social and political development of young people
- Deliver accredited programmes e.g. DofE, Agored Cymru, Sports Leadership, Heartstart
- Provide access to relevant advice, information, support and guidance

- Facilitate youth forums to enable young people to develop their voice, influence and place in society
- Provide young people with opportunities to be involved in decision-making processes
- Issue based workshops
- Residential opportunities
- Holiday programmes and activities
- Volunteering opportunities
- Support young people who are NEET
- Work in partnership with members of the community to encourage young people to become active citizens and make a contribution to their local environment

### **Substance misuse team**

Pembrokeshire Youth operate a substance misuse service for young people under 18 whose alcohol or illegal substance use has brought them to the attention of, or at risk of being involved with, the criminal justice system. The team also offer preventative group work and information sessions in the community, schools and other educational settings. This work is also available to young people under 25 and is delivered by Choices.

### **Youth Homelessness Team**

The Youth Homelessness Prevention Team aims to support, educate and upskill young people to avert homelessness. Where this is not possible, they look to ensure these situations are rare, brief and unrepeatable. To do this, they facilitate a wide range of help and support.

### **Youth Outreach Team**

Pembrokeshire Youth Outreach Team supports Young People aged 16-25 who are not in education, training or employment to overcome barriers that prevent this. They support Young People to identify their needs and use engagement activities, group work and 1:1 work. They also support those in education and training to maintain their placement.

**Link:** [Pembrokeshire Youth - Pembrokeshire County Council](#)

### **The Hive Youth Project**

**Who:** Garth Youth Club

**What:** The Hive Youth Project is based in Haverfordwest and has implemented a Cruyff Court. This is a multi-functional sporting and activity project providing a safe space for the community to train, play, develop and improve emotional health and wellbeing. Families residing in the area experience high levels of in work poverty and child poverty is prevalent. This results in families unable to access, participate in or support their children in sporting opportunities.

The project was delivered through funding from a number of organisations including Street Games Wales, Sport Wales and the Cruyff Foundation. The project is at the heart of the community and aims to reduce antisocial behaviour, improve public confidence and reduce harm in line with the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan.

**Age range:** None specified

**Link:** [The Hive Youth Project](#)

## Powys

### ***Powys Youth Service***

**Who:** Powys Youth Service, Powys County Council

**What:** Youth Services for Children, Young People and Families

### **The Powys Youth Intervention Service**

The Powys Youth Intervention Service is a voluntary service offering short to medium term help and support to young people aged 11 - 25.

**Age range:** 11-25

### **Detached Youth Work Team**

Offering young people aged 16-25 in Powys one-to-one support to get to their next step.

**Age range:** 16-25

### **Powys Youth Service Open Access Team**

The Powys Youth Service Open Access Team offers a wide range of services to young people aged 11-25. These are delivered by a dedicated team of professionally qualified youth workers throughout Powys who have a broad range of backgrounds and experiences. The service is voluntary based and is open ended in nature.

**Age range:** 11-25

### **Cynnydd**

Cynnydd is a project that supports pupils aged between 11 and 18 who are identified as being at great risk of disengaging from education. This could be due to attendance, attainment, behaviour or other reasons. Supporting this group of young people helps them complete their formal education and progress to further learning, training or employment.

**Age range:** 11-18

### **Junior Start Well Board**

The Junior Start Well Board is a group for young people between the ages of 11 – 18 years old meet up to talk about anything that matters to children and young people in Powys.

**Link:** [Children, Families and Young People - Powys County Council](#)

### **Powys Young Person's Substance Misuse Service**

**Who:** Adferiad Recovery

**What:** Adferiad offer support for young people aged between 10 to 18 years regarding their own substance use including drugs, alcohol, smoking, vaping, steroids, or energy drinks. They also offer support for young people who are affected by loved one's substance misuse, by delivering educational sessions to schools, youth clubs, or any youth groups, and provide a mentoring scheme to help divert the young person away from negative influences and provide them with opportunities to attend a variety of activities with members of staff or trained volunteers.

**Age range:** 10-18-year-olds.

**Link:** <https://adferiad.org/services/powys-young-persons-substance-misuse-service/>

### **ReKindle**

**Who:** Rekindle Charity

**What:** Rekindle is a young person's mental health charity, supporting those aged 16-25 years old. To ensure that all young people have ready access to good mental health support. Intended outcomes are also to encourage young people away from criminal activity including the threat of county lines.

Rekindle's core services are:

- 1-2-1 Recovery Support: Tailored support encompassing every aspect of a young person's life; housing, relationships, work, volunteering, training, finances, confidence building, life skills, resilience, and more. Young people build skills and receive advice, guidance and practical support to overcome any challenges that may be barriers to good mental health.
- Counselling: Talking therapy gives young people a safe and non-judgemental space for them to talk about things that are troubling them.
- Activities: A chance for young people to connect with others, build confidence and try something new. For example, creative workshops with the Oriel Davies gallery, cooking classes, walking groups, yoga and physical activity opportunities. All services are free, and they receive funding via donations and grants.

**Age range:** 16-25

**Link:** <http://www.rekindle.org.uk/about-rekindle/>

## **Best Practice in Other Areas**

### **Cleveland Divert**

Cleveland Divert aims to divert individuals who have committed a first-time or low-level offence away from the criminal justice system by addressing the underlying causes of the offending behaviour. Divert were the recipients of the Adults and Policing Category at the Howard League Community Awards in October 2021.

[Cleveland Divert | Centre for Justice Innovation](#)

Cleveland Police Custody Navigators (employed by South Tees YJS) engage with young people aged 10-25 involved in, or at risk of, serious violence. Navigators engage with young people at a time when they are potentially willing to engage with offers of support. Evaluation is ongoing, but in the first year the Custody Navigators have seen only 6% reoffending rate for first-time offenders (College of Policing, 2024a)

[Custody Navigators for young people | College of Policing](#)

### **Surrey Police**

Safer Streets initiative - Police visibility

Surrey Police noted an 18-month campaign to tackle nuisance behaviour saw violent crime and offences linked to youth-related crime drop by 75% in the town in that time.

[Surrey Police campaign leads to drop in Guildford crime - BBC News](#)

## **Leicestershire Police**

### Outreach workers

Leicestershire Constabulary deployed non-uniformed street outreach workers (employed by Turning Point Leicester) to deliver targeted engagement with under-25s, and referrals to reduce crime and ASB. An evaluation has been undertaken by Cambridge Centre for Evidence Based Policing.

*“The number of crimes in the targeted hot spot 11 months before the intervention compared to the 11 months during the intervention suggests that the deployment of the street outreach service significantly reduced the number of crimes and the harm caused by serious violent crimes. There was a reduction in both the frequency and severity of crime:*

- *the number of crimes dropped by 39% from 416 to 252 incidents*
- *the harm measure decreased by 36% from 60,314 to 38,421.”*

[Turning Point – the street outreach service | College of Policing](#)

### Young Driver Safety Training

Although not specifically for the 18-25 age range, the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Commissioner provides funding to The Under 17 Car Club Charitable Trust to support the delivery of its Pathfinder educational programme in the county.

The intensive, one-week driving course is available for 15 to 17-year-olds and equips young drivers with essential road safety skills before they obtain their full driving license, increasing their confidence and competence before they venture on to the roads.

New figures show Pathfinder drivers are involved in significantly fewer road collisions than their peers and have fewer convictions. They also perform better in their driving tests than those who have not completed the course.

[Safety training for young drivers is helping to save lives, says PCC](#)

## **West Yorkshire**

### Targeted social media messaging

West Yorkshire Police’s Project Spotlight developed targeted engagement with young people in specific postcode areas via social media. This created a deterrence and used nudge messaging, as well as raising awareness and encouraging reporting. Academic evaluation is ongoing, but WYP identified a 39% reduction in serious violent crime in three hotspot areas, as well as a significant engagement with social media.

[Project Spotlight](#)

## **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

Police and Crime Commissioner Darryl Preston invited the county’s six Community Safety Partnerships to each bid for up to £16,500 of national Serious Violence Duty to deliver diversionary activity in their area during the after-school period, when youth-related violence and anti-social behaviour is more likely to occur. These youth projects are designed to reduce risk-taking behaviour and divert young people towards positive activities in their communities.

Over 1,350 young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have taken up free sports and creative arts activities as part of a multi-agency mission to reduce vulnerability to serious violence.

Activities range from football sessions and open-mic events through to street art workshops and boxing training – all under the supervision of trusted adults. Many also combine sessions with one-to-one support and mentoring to boost confidence and self-esteem.

[PCC uses national funding for after-school activities to help divert young people away from serious violence](#)

### **Scottish Violence Reduction Unit**

Targeted social media messaging

Scottish Violence Reduction Unit's 'You Decide' campaign was refined to target 18–24-year-olds in areas of Glasgow near three specific hospitals via Instagram and Snapchat. This supplemented in-person support provided by hospital navigators by providing options and information and was co-developed with people with direct experience of repeat violent victimisation. The campaign aimed to show that there was a 'way out', using marketing videos based on real-life experiences and with voiceovers matching the local accent and vocabulary.

[You Decide Team - Scottish Violence Reduction Unit](#)

### **Cardiff – multi agency**

Digital skills - Cardiff

Cardiff was recognised by UNICEF UK in 2023 for the work the council and other agencies have done to improve services, facilities and access to support for children and young people in the Welsh capital. This news came after youth services in Cardiff announced that they increased their reach by creating digital youth hubs with the help of young people in the city: [Digital youth work team \(cardiffyouthservices.wales\)](#).

The digital youth work team work with young people across the city online and in person to offer safe spaces to young people. This helps them meet new people, access support, and learn new skills, such as presenting, filming, editing, digital art, and content creation. They also work with partners to offer young people the opportunity to learn about a range of industries, including eSports, coding, film production and AI.

Media Academy Cymru

Media Academy Cymru (MAC), co-producing work with children and young people since 2010. MAC has been at the forefront of supporting children and young people (CYP) in Wales when they have needed support or somewhere safe to turn. MAC is internationally known for its work in diverting CYP from the criminal justice system, having created both 10-17 and 18-25 triage diversion programmes in Wales where previously there was none. To date, they have diverted over 10,000 CYP away from the criminal justice system.

Their partnership with Cardiff and Vale College over this period has allowed them to offer a holistic, accredited training programme, which offers a supported learning environment that aims to reduce all barriers to learning. Since 2010, MAC has worked with over 30,000 CYP from across Wales, from Monmouth to Carmarthen, in one of its main services.

## [MEDIA ACADEMY CYMRU - SWITCHING ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE](#)

Service tailored for 18-25 age bracket

The initial 18-25 project began in 2013 with a one-year pilot at Bridgend Youth Offending Service. Building on the initial project, further funding was secured from the Police Innovation Fund to establish, test and develop an 18-25 diversion scheme across the force area. The diversion pilot objectives were to identify if a diversion model for young adults could effectively reduce offending and support victims to move on from any harm caused. A number of organisations were involved in the development of the initial pilot: South Wales OPCC, South Wales Police, Youth Offending Services in the Vale and Cardiff, Media Academy Cymru, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Vale Centre for Voluntary Services and the Waterloo Foundation.

The overarching principle of this project was to improve the prospects for the 18-25 age group, testing the impact of early intervention following a first offence and seeking to achieve the same efficiencies and positive outcomes achieved in the 10-17 age group in a wide range of public services and areas of social and health concern.

### [18-25 Diversion scheme | Centre for Justice Innovation](#)

This evolved into the Women's Pathfinder Whole System Approach (and Wales Women's Justice Blueprint) & The 18–25 Early Intervention Service

### [Women's Pathfinder Whole System Approach & The 18–25 Early Intervention Service | Centre for Justice Innovation](#)

## **Swindon**

SMASH Youth Project

SMASH has been mentoring children and young people in and around Swindon and North Wiltshire for over 20 years. They are a small team of professional mentors working to provide safe spaces and practical support for young people. Inspire Swindon (part of the Community First Programme) will offer 15–25-year-olds, who are of NEET or at risk of NEET status, a mentoring service that provides personalised support to people with barriers and challenges. Our objective is to help them build their independence and move towards education & employment outcomes.

<https://smashyouthproject.co.uk/about-us/>

## **Northampton**

Recording Studio, Springs Family Centre

The Springs Family Centre, based in Spring Boroughs, Northampton, has been a hub of community spirit over the last 15 years, and has offered a 'safe haven' for young people to come and express themselves through sport, music and the arts. This has helped divert many of these young people away from criminal behaviour, and now with extra funding courtesy of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, they are set to expand their offering to young people in the neighbourhood.

<https://springsfamily.org.uk/project/338/>

### **Research on barriers to accessing sport-based activities**

Street Games recently published their findings on Youth Insight Report: 1,000 Voices. The report has been published to better understand the key issues and the similarities and differences amongst young people from low-income households. It involved a survey with 1,000 young people aged 11-24 years and a qualitative on-line forum to gather further insight and 'sense check' the segments created, in England.

<https://www.streetgames.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Youth-Insight-Summary-Report-1.pdf>

## Appendix C – Defining intervention and prevention

Definition source	Definitions
<p><a href="#">Home Office</a> (Serious Violence Strategy)</p>	<p><b>Universal intervention</b> Building resilience, critical thinking and life skills in young people.</p> <p><b>Early intervention</b> - Identifying and providing effective early support to children and young people who are at risk of poor outcomes. - Effective early intervention works to prevent problems occurring, or to tackle them head-on when they do before problems get worse. It also helps to foster a whole set of personal strengths and skills that prepare a child for adult life.</p> <p><b>Prevention</b> Awareness raising or education-based programmes E.g. Fearless.</p> <p><b>Early intervention</b> Diversionary youth outreach activities and programmes.</p>
<p><a href="#">Welsh Government and Future Generations Commissioner for Wales</a></p>	<p><b>Primary prevention</b> Building resilience – creating the conditions in which problems do not arise in the future. A universal approach.</p> <p><b>Secondary prevention</b> Targeting action towards areas where there is a high risk of a problem occurring. A targeted approach, which cements the principles of progressive universalism.</p> <p><b>Tertiary prevention</b> Intervening once there is a problem, to stop it getting worse and prevent it reoccurring in the future. An intervention approach.</p>
<p><a href="#">Public Health</a></p>	<p>Public Health categorises prevention into three categories:</p> <p><b>Primary prevention</b> Preventing crime before it happens.</p> <p><b>Secondary prevention</b> Immediate response to instances of crime.</p> <p><b>Tertiary prevention</b> Focusing on long term care and rehabilitation.</p> <p><b>Public Health Approach in Policing</b> A public health approach to policing focuses on the needs of a population or sub-population rather than on individuals, taking a view that prevention is better than cure, and dealing with root causes. It</p>

	recognises links between crime, policing and health problems, social exclusion, and inequality.
<a href="#">European Union Crime Prevention Network</a> (via Wales Safer Communities Network)	Prevention is <i>“ethically acceptable and evidence-based activities aimed at reducing the risk of crime occurring and its harmful consequences with the ultimate goal of working towards the improvement of the quality of life and safety of individuals, groups and communities”</i> .
<a href="#">Female Offending Blueprint for Wales</a>	<p><b>Prevention</b> Safeguarding women and children, tackling root causes of offending behaviour.</p> <p><b>Early Intervention &amp; Prevention</b> In addition to working with partners to tackle root causes of crime:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diverting women, where appropriate, away from crime and into women-centred, community-based, sustainable support services that meet their needs</li> <li>• Explore options for trauma-informed services which can best meet the needs of vulnerable women, and families, affected by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and at risk of entering the system, learning from the Enhanced Case Management (ECM) approach.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Youth Justice Blueprint</a>	Preventing children from entering the criminal justice system, minimising their contact with it and maximising opportunities for diversion is essential in supporting them to lead crime free lives.
<a href="#">Youth Justice Board and Welsh Government</a> (Youth Crime Prevention in Wales)	<p><b>Diversionsary intervention</b> Provided chiefly, but not exclusively, by universal services, and possibly focused on a geographic area of high crime, anti-social behaviour and deprivation, or that targets groups over-represented in the youth justice system.</p> <p><b>Targeted prevention intervention</b> Provided by partnerships that target individual children and young people identified as being on the cusp of offending, involved with anti-social behaviour or subject to a number of risk factors.</p> <p><b>Early intervention</b> Aimed at children and young people subject to Reprimands, Final Warnings and Referral Orders, with targeted action focused on children and young people at the early stages of their involvement with the criminal justice system.</p>

## Appendix D – Select Committee’s engagement with young people

To collect young people’s thoughts on the effectiveness, accessibility, and impact of crime and ASB intervention, prevention, and engagement services for those aged 18-25, a survey was developed by the OPCC.

The survey was open from the start of July to the end of September 2025 to ensure engagement with school, college, and university students at the start of the new academic year.

A total of 80 young people completed the survey. Below is a summary of the findings.

### Youth Survey Results

The Youth Survey ran from 1<sup>st</sup> July until 28<sup>th</sup> September. Initially the survey was planned to run until the 28<sup>th</sup> August, however a decision was made by the Select Committee Working Group to extend the deadline to ensure we were able to engage school, college and university students at the start of the new academic year.

A total of **80 young people** took part in this survey, with **76 responding in English** and **4 in Welsh**. Not all respondents answered every question, but the findings provide valuable insight into the views and experiences of young people across the Dyfed-Powys area.

#### Age

Seventy respondents shared their age. The majority were between **18 and 25 years old**, with the most common ages being **18 (12 respondents, 17%)**, followed by other late-teen and early adult age groups.

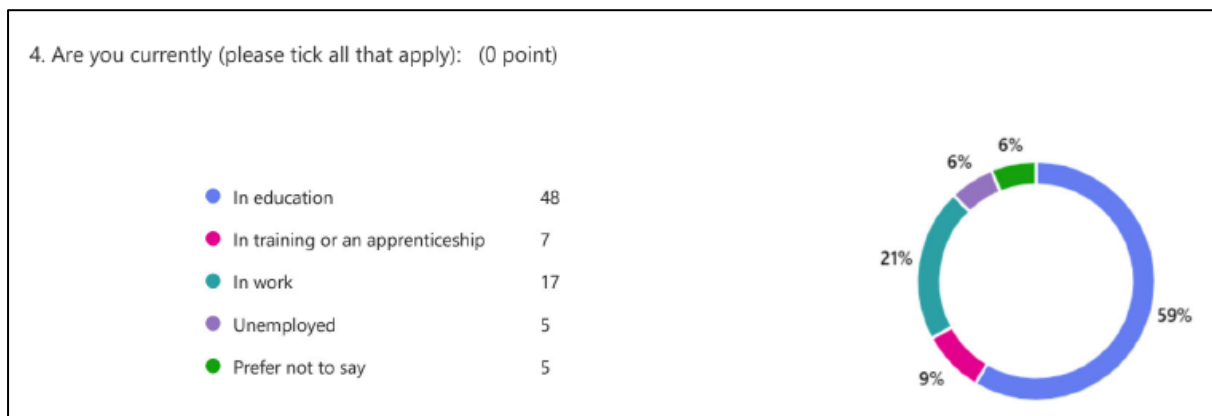
#### Where they live

Respondents were drawn from across the Dyfed-Powys area:

- Carmarthenshire – 11
- Pembrokeshire – 26
- Ceredigion – 12
- Powys – 21
- Other – 6

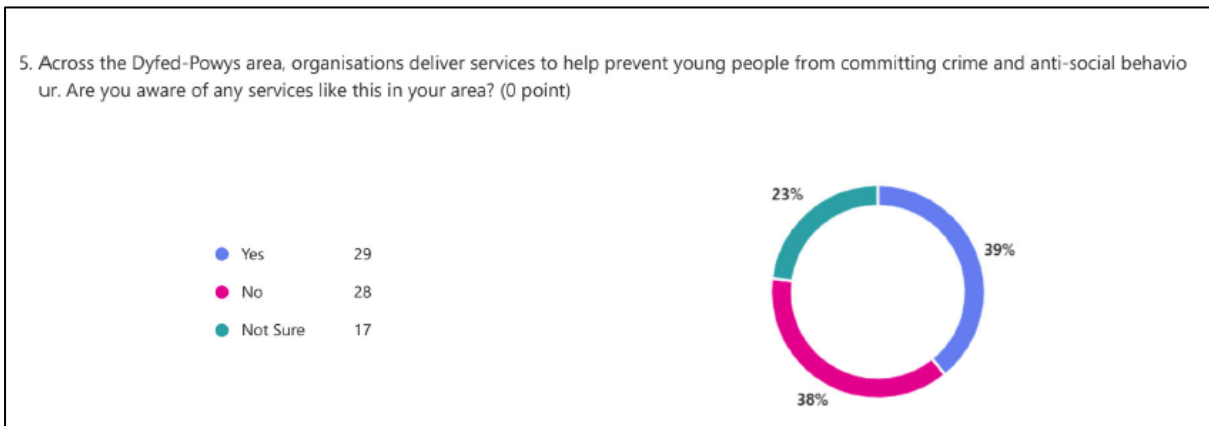
#### Current status

Young people described themselves as:



The above insights give us a clear picture of the young people who contributed to the survey and will help inform our understanding of their needs in the context of their age, location, and current circumstances.

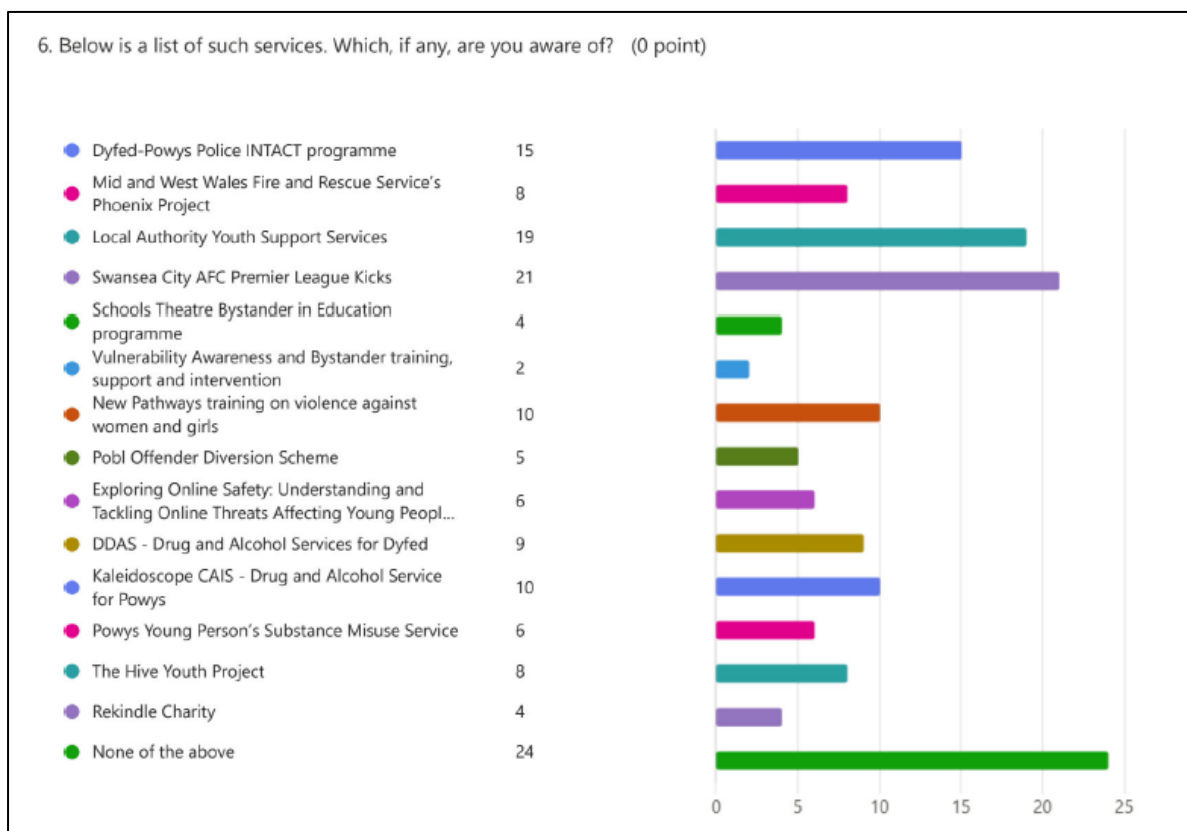
### Awareness of Support Services



When asked if they were aware of services designed to prevent crime or anti-social behaviour, 29 respondents answered yes, 28 answered no, and the remaining respondents were unsure.

When asked which services they were aware of, most commonly mentioned were:

- Local Authority Youth Support Services (19 respondents)
- Dyfed-Powys Police INTACT programme (15)
- Swansea City AFC Premier League Kicks (21)



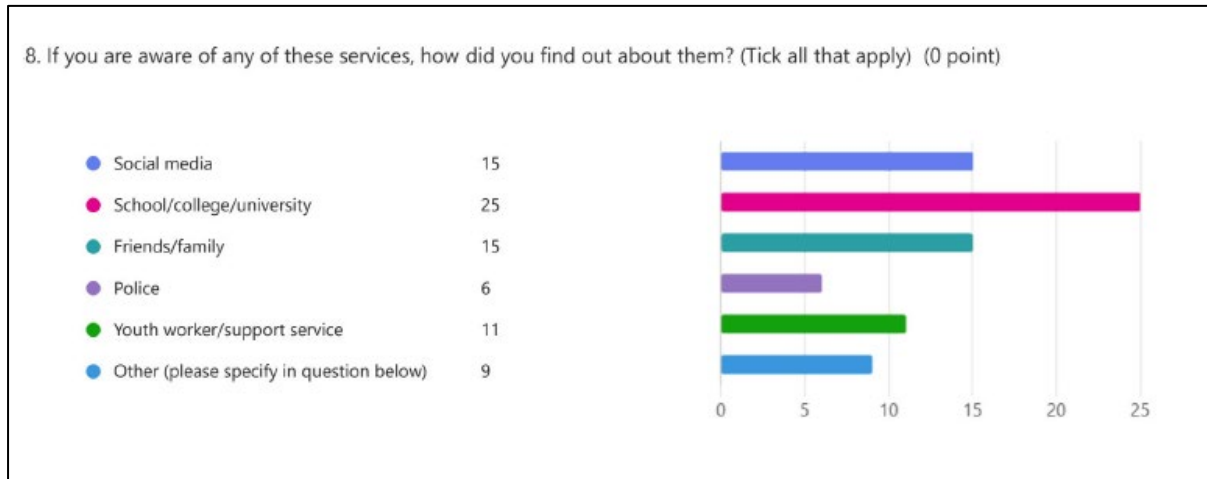
This suggests that whilst several local and national initiatives are recognised by young people, awareness is concentrated on a small number of services, with many others less widely

known. It is also important to note that the highest number of respondents were not aware of any of the services we had listed please.

In addition, **29 respondents** shared other services they were aware of, with common answers including **youth clubs** and **exercise groups**.

### Access to Services

When asked how they had heard about services, young people most often said:



### “Other” Responses

When asked to specify “Other”, young people mentioned:

- Family experience of services (e.g. *“My mother has had help from DDAS for her substance abuse issues”*)
- Learning through education or work (e.g. *“Alcohol and misuse projects through student nurse placements”*)
- School or workplace referrals
- Experience of offending (*“I offended”*)
- Referrals linked to personal experiences of crime (e.g. *“My daughter was assaulted last year and referred to New Pathways”*)

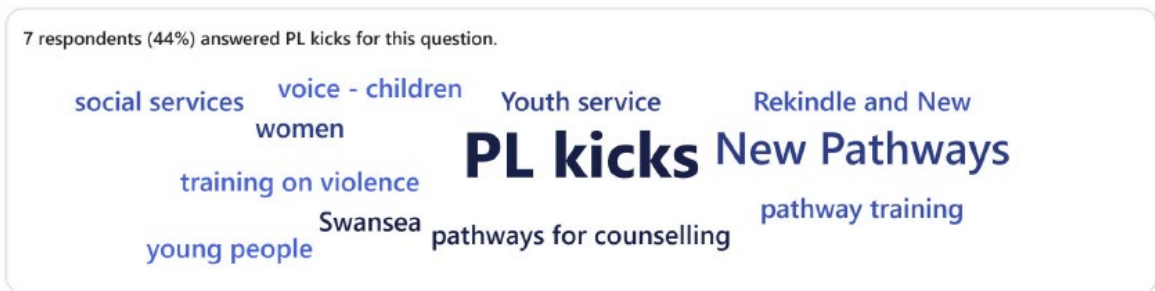
These responses suggest that while schools, colleges, and social media remain the **mainstream sources of information**, some young people only learn of services through **direct experience or personal crisis situations**.

### Use of Services

**15 respondents** said they had used a service, whilst **59 had not**.

Among those who had engaged, the most used was **Premier League Kicks (7 respondents)**.

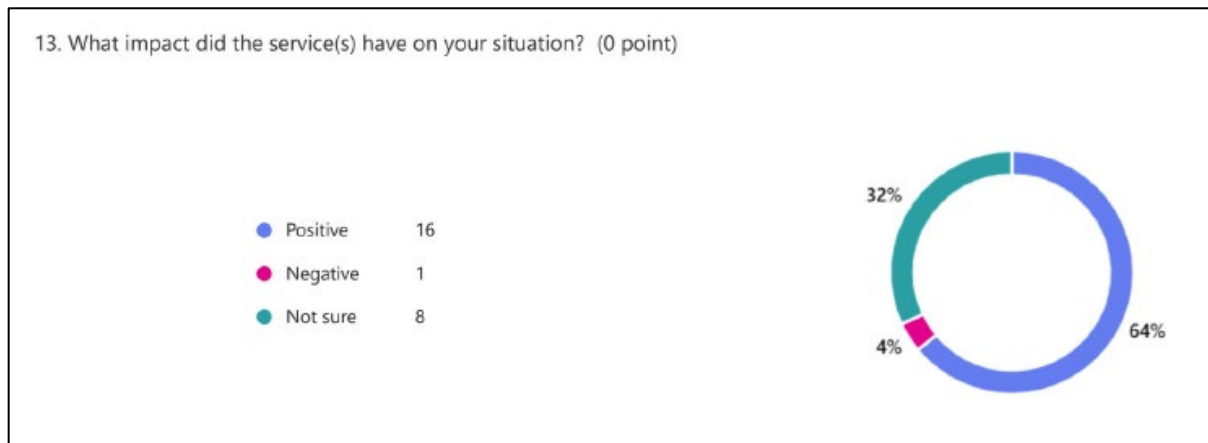
## Feedback on Services



When asked for their feedback on these services, respondents shared a range of views, including:

- “Amazing and helpful” **Rekindle and New Pathways**
- “It was really helpful ... helped me connect with people in the same situation”. **New Pathways’ Training on Violence against men and women**
- “Very good experience, lovely staff and great follow-up advice given”. **New Pathways for counselling**
- “I was arrested for anti-social behaviour ... the services aren’t long enough; I lost a worker I bonded with”. **Phoenix, Social Services, IFSS**
- “I think this is an excellent initiative as it is free for people to attend, removing barriers and enabling those who may be more inclined to participate in antisocial behaviour the opportunity to do something productive. It gives young people of the Aberystwyth area opportunities, which they wouldn’t be able to access otherwise.” **PL Kicks**

## Impact of Services



Comments highlighted the benefits of building trust, overcoming trauma, and creating positive opportunities, though a few noted shortfalls in follow-up support.

### Effectiveness of Services

17 respondents commented on whether services prevent crime/anti-social behaviour. Themes included:

- Services are effective “to a certain degree” but need wider promotion.
- Activities such as football initiatives “keep kids off the street”.
- Effectiveness depends on young people’s willingness to change.



Football initiatives were highlighted as particularly impactful in Aberystwyth, offering free, inclusive opportunities.



### Availability of Services

When asked if there were enough support services in their area:

**Yes – 33**

**No – 38**

Feedback pointed to long waiting lists, lack of visibility, and young people not being aware of what is available. Youth clubs, mental health services, and more proactive outreach were frequently suggested as gaps.

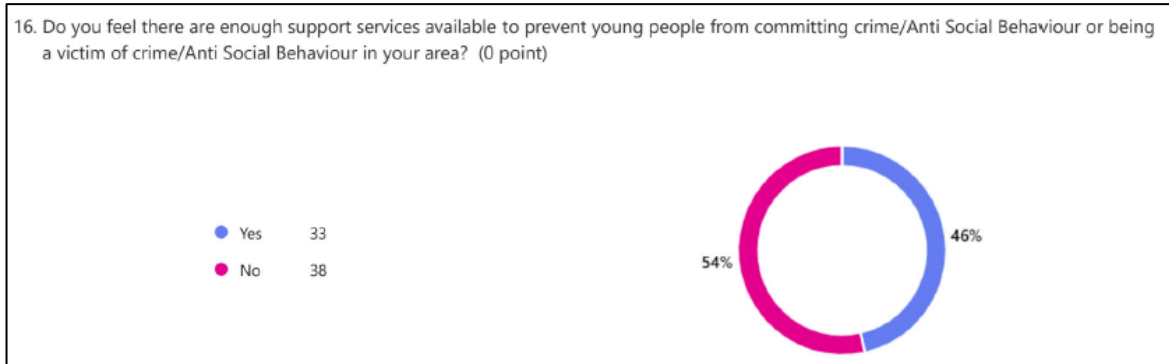
Respondents shared a range of views, including:

*“I feel there are enough available, but they haven’t reached the group they intend to reach as there is not enough coverage about them for them to fully understand the support system.”*

*“I don’t think it’s a lack of support services that are preventing young people from committing crime/being a victim of crime. I think regardless of how many support networks there are, Anti-Social Behaviour will remain in some level.”*

*“I think there is enough but not enough people know about them or how to access them.”*

*“I wasn’t aware of any of the services mentioned earlier in this survey so how are they engaging with the younger generation? We only receive the basic inputs for school liaison people in school.”*



### Improvements Needed

35 respondents suggested improvements, with recurring ideas including:

- Better promotion and awareness campaigns.
- More accessible services in schools and communities.
- Increased funding, resources, and frequency of provision.
- More youth clubs and social activities.
- Early intervention and more engagement from PCSOs/police.

Respondents shared a range of views, including:

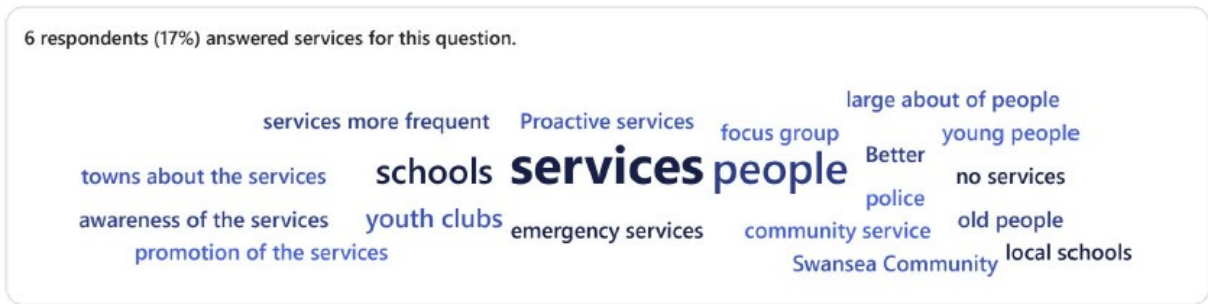
*“Allowing them to be more accessible, have incentives to use them, more overall coverage about what they are/do online and in streets etc.”*

*“Better promotion of the services available - whether that’s via social media or in person.”*

*“Really publicise, event, perhaps police officers in a van or a show where we could walk up and talk.”*

*“Be more engaging and active in the local schools. Introduce youth clubs where children can go to hang out safely.”*

### Support Needed for 18–25s

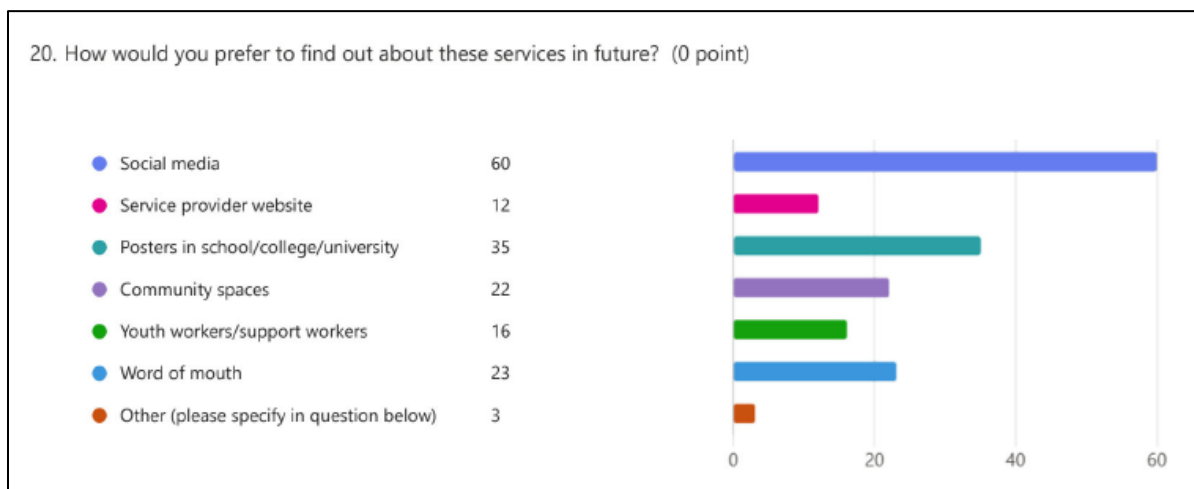


56 responses highlighted priority areas of support, with around **27% mentioning mental health**. Other needs included employment support, more accessible youth spaces, and greater outreach.



### Preferred Communication Channels

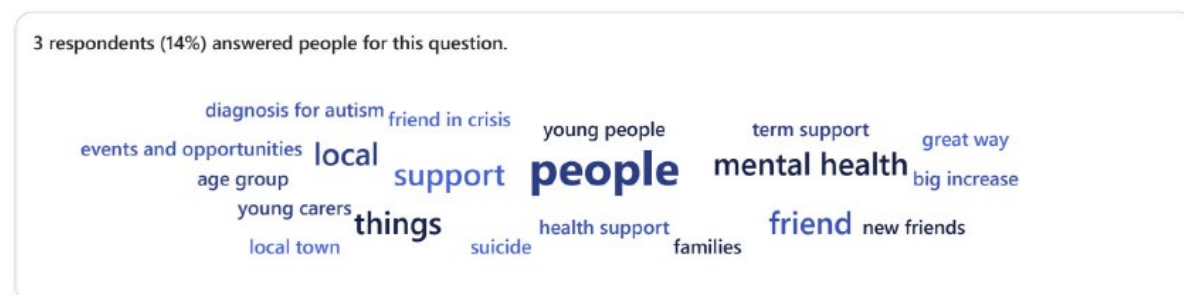
Young people said they would most like to find out about services via:



### Additional Comments

**21 respondents** provided further reflections, including:

- Concerns about rising mental health issues and suicide among young people.
- Calls for more consistent NHS mental health support.
- Positive feedback on the role of sport in supporting mental health and community connection.
- Frustrations with gaps in diagnosis/support processes for young people with additional needs.



## **Demographics**

### **Gender Identity**

Respondents identified their gender as:

**Female – 29**

**Male – 34**

**Non-binary – 4**

**Prefer another term – 0**

**Prefer not to say – 7**

### **Ethnicity**

The majority of respondents described their ethnicity as **White British (including Welsh)**, with smaller numbers identifying as mixed heritage. Responses were as follows:

**White British (including Welsh) – 61**

**White Gypsy or Irish Traveller – 1**

**Any other White background – 1**

**White and Black Caribbean – 1**

**White and Black African – 1**

**White and Asian – 1**

**Any other mixed background – 1**

**Prefer not to say – 7**

### **Disability**

When asked if they had any form of disability:

**Yes – 12**

**No – 54**

**Prefer not to say – 8**

### **Sexual Orientation**

Respondents reported the following:

**Heterosexual – 49**

**Gay – 1**

**Lesbian – 2**

**Bisexual – 4**

**Other – 9**

## **Prefer not to say – 9**

### **Summary**

The survey launched on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and was promoted through emails to schools, colleges, universities and youth contacts, social media, and posters/ leaflets at events.

Uptake was relatively low with promotion mainly running during the summer holiday period. The length of the survey meant that not all respondents answered all questions. For future engagement a shorter survey at a different time of year may encourage greater participation.

Most survey respondents were aged 18-25 and resided/studied/worked across all four counties.

While services such as Local Authority Youth Support Services, the INTACT Programme and Premier League Kicks were recognised, overall awareness of services was low. Many young people had not heard of the available support.

Those who had engaged with services described them as positive, supportive and inclusive, though concerns were raised about short-term provision and lack of visibility.

Respondents highlighted mental health support, youth clubs and better promotion of services as key priorities for the future.

## **Appendix E – Select Committee Hearing**

### **The questions submitted to DPP ahead of the Hearing were as follows:**

1. Please provide the Select Committee with an update as to progress made against HMICFRS areas for improvement relating to the visibility and accessibility of neighbourhood policing teams, and Dyfed-Powys Police's approach to engaging and communicating with the different communities within Dyfed-Powys, specifically young people aged 18-25.
2. What is your understanding of the offending profile for 18-25-year-olds for the Dyfed-Powys area?
3. What steps is Dyfed-Powys Police taking to ensure offending/reoffending by 18–25-year-olds is effectively being prevented?
4. What are the Neighbourhood Policing and Prevention Teams witnessing in terms of the impact of crime and ASB intervention, prevention, and engagement services for young people aged 18-25, within their policing area?
5. What is the impact of your crime and ASB intervention, prevention, and engagement services for young people aged 18-25?

### **The questions submitted to the local authority witnesses ahead of the Hearing were as follows:**

1. What steps are the Youth Support Services taking to ensure offending/reoffending by 18-25-year-olds is effectively being prevented?
2. What is the impact of the Youth Support Services' crime and ASB intervention, prevention, and engagement services? How do you measure the impact?
3. How effectively are Youth Support Services collaborating with partners to deliver crime and ASB intervention, prevention, and engagement services?
4. How effectively are Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) identifying methods of developing and implementing effective action to reduce crime, ASB, and disorder committed by 18-25-year-olds, and directing resources to address them?
5. Please share best practice in terms of your local CSP initiatives aimed at reducing crime and disorder committed by 18-25-year-olds. How did you measure the impact of the initiatives?
6. Are there areas for improvement / inspection findings specifically relating to 18-25-year-olds which you would like to bring to the Select Committee's attention in terms of progress and improvement, or barriers to improvement?

### **The evidence submitted by DPP witnesses at the Hearing is summarised as follows:**

- With regards to improving visibility, accessibility, and engagement with communities, witnesses spoke of recent changes to their Neighbourhood Policing and Prevention Teams' (NPPT) engagement activity. However, little reference was made to specific engagement with young people aged 18-25. Police engagement with this cohort is vital as they currently do not regularly receive visits from police officers as those under 18 do through the School Liaison Officer initiative.
- Witnesses acknowledged a gap in engagement with young people in further and higher education in the 18-25 age group: There is currently no dedicated team focusing on this age group, unlike with school-age children through the Task and Finish Group referred to earlier in this report. One of the recommendations from the Task and Finish Group's review

is to implement an initiative whereby there is a focus on engagement with young people in further and higher education, and those who are home-schooled.

- DPP has invested in a community engagement APP. Whilst in its infancy, the APP will enable officers to access demographic information and target engagement at specific communities. It was proposed that this could include the 18-25 cohort.
- DPP referred to a recent youth survey, which was led by their School Liaison Officers and aimed at children and young people up to the age of 25. The survey, which received over 1,800 responses, asked young people what it was that they needed from DPP. The top response submitted by the young people was prevention, followed by responding to calls and dealing with ASB and substance misuse.
- The PCC stated although 10% of the Dyfed-Powys population falls within the 18-25 age category, for the 2024 calendar year, 16% of all crimes were committed by the 18-25 cohort. The PCC acknowledged the 'crime curve' from adolescence into early 20s/30s, and queried what work is undertaken by DPP to understand the offending profile for this cohort.
- DPP noted that the 18-25-year-old age group is not an outlier in one specific type of crime but advised that they are an outlier with regards to mental health concerns and support requirements. On the day of the Hearing, DPP hosted a Mental Health Conference to understand why this is the case, and to ascertain what can be done to improve the position. The PCC shared a concern that there is a lack of capacity across partner agencies to deal with mental health matters.
- DPP witnesses spoke of a current initiative whereby perpetrators of drug offences are referred into diversionary schemes. 30% of referrals into the scheme are from the 18-25-year-old cohort and work is ongoing to instigate an evaluation of such community resolutions.
- In relation to the prevention of offending/reoffending by 18-25-year-olds, DPP witnesses confirmed that within the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme, there was no bespoke initiative for this age group, but that all over the age of 18 are eligible for IOM.
- The overall aim of DPP's IOM programme is to reduce reoffending, support rehabilitation and protect the public from harm. Criminogenic needs are addressed, and offenders managed through IOM are directed to services which will support desistance from further criminal activity. Nationally, the 18-25-year-old cohort are the lowest represented age group within IOM.
- It was suggested by witnesses that DPP's intervention, prevention and engagement services ought to be prioritised towards those aged under 18, as the work undertaken with them at that age will naturally be transferred into the 18-25 age group. It is also at that younger age that they make long-term decisions linked to their peers and environment outside of school.
- A Select Committee member queried whether DPP experiences barriers in the delivery of their prevention, intervention, and engagement work for the 18-25 cohort. Witnesses reiterated the primary concern for policing must be children, but that the national Children and Young Persons Policing Strategy 2024-2027 extends to the 18-24 age group. DPP intends to review the Strategy, and if in line with the findings of this Select Committee review, they will consider how they can evolve and expand their current strategies to capture the 18-25 age group.
- DPP acknowledged that there are areas for improvement in their partnership working in the delivery of these services.

- DPP witnesses highlighted potential opportunities for DPP and partners to utilise artificial intelligence (AI) to prioritise intervention, prevention, and engagement with specific individuals, but added that barriers include data sharing agreements and funding.
- A Select Committee member queried how DPP's good news stories are promoted, and questioned how information on community engagement, specifically with 18-25-year-olds, is communicated to the public. DPP witnesses spoke of NPPT Facebook accounts, flyers, and the new community engagement app. The PCC highlighted newsletters and news articles as a valuable way to share information with members of the public.

**The evidence submitted by Local authority Youth Support Services and Community Safety Partnership (CSP) witnesses at the Hearing is summarised as follows:**

- There are a range of youth support services currently available for 18–25-year-olds including an integrated service across Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, with the intention to introduce such an approach in Ceredigion.
- This integrated approach, recognised as best practice, allows joint working in engaging and supporting young people from youth justice to youth work, and from youth work and justice to those known to Probation, in areas such as resettlement.
- All local authorities focus on providing safe accommodation for young people and aiding with the transition of living independently through initiatives such as the Tenancy Skills Programme in Pembrokeshire.
- Pembrokeshire Youth Support Team's work focuses on youth homelessness and accommodation, as well as substance misuse.
- Whilst the Pembrokeshire Youth Support Team supports the Youth Justice Team with young people up to the age of 18, their support can be extended to those transitioning to Probation services. However, routinely, those over the age of 18 are transferred to Probation.
- Pembrokeshire County Council have a youth worker at Pembrokeshire College and outreach youth workers who engage those not in education, employment nor training. Witnesses confirmed that this is replicated across the other local authority areas. The impact of these initiatives is measured through engagement levels with young people.
- Witnesses reported difficulties engaging young people over the age of 16, despite services such as youth clubs being available up to the age of 25.
- The youth service in Ceredigion comes under the umbrella of 'early help services', which also encompasses housing needs and family parenting support. A holistic approach is adopted with all referrals, considering the needs of the family unit. The referral rate for 18-25-year-olds is low, with a higher number being for school-age children.
- In Ceredigion, there are designated support services for 18-25-year-olds, albeit limited services as most the referrals are for younger children. There is a lack of a universal provision for 18-25-year-olds.
- Ceredigion County Council's representative emphasised that many young people in the county suffer from rural poverty which affects their mental health. Reoccurring themes for referrals into youth support services is substance misuse and mental health.
- The PCC recognised mental health as a recurring theme for 18-25-year-olds, and witnesses emphasised the need to focus on neurodiversity alongside mental health.
- Carmarthenshire County Council's representative shared information on the Channel and Prevent Multi-Agency Panel: Early intervention and prevention activity which supports and

helps young people who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Wrap around support is provided to individuals identified by local agencies.

- When asked how the impact of intervention, prevention, and engagement services is measured, witnesses agreed that it is difficult to do so. The Ceredigion representative did however state that the low rate of statutory cases for youth justice demonstrates the impact of their preventative work pre-18.
- In Ceredigion, work is being undertaken to measure the impact of online services, where an evaluation is also underway of prevention work through ASB hotspot funding.
- Witnesses suggested that nationally, youth justice needs to consider how the impact of services is measured. The PCC recognised the challenges of measuring the impact of prevention work, not just within youth justice, but also in policing.
- Witnesses spoke of the numerous funding streams utilised for the delivery of services: They are asked to submit a report on service outcomes for each funding stream. Both qualitative and quantitative information is included.
- Reoffending rates for under 18s are captured by Local Authorities, but not for over 18s.
- In Pembrokeshire, the management information system allows the identification of changes in the life trajectory of an individual as a result of intervention and prevention services, but that there is difficulty in quantifying this. Verbal case studies were provided at the Hearing, but it was confirmed that such good news stories are not routinely conveyed in performance reports.
- In Carmarthenshire, an evaluation of the transition from youth services to Probation has been undertaken. A small number of cases were considered in terms of the outcome, the transition preparation, attendance at meetings, and the length of transition. As a result of this a transition policy/agreement was established with Probation. The learning was utilised to change the way of working.
- When asked about collaboration, witnesses spoke positively of the multi-agency set up of Youth Offending Teams and Support Services, referring to staff seconded to the teams from external agencies, such as the police and probation services.
- The PCC specifically queried the relationship with the police. Witnesses advised of strong operational relationships and collaborative training across the youth services. Witnesses did however note a high turnover in police representatives, both at operational and strategic level meetings, which poses a challenge in working in partnership.
- Collaborative working with local businesses was discussed, with witnesses reporting a positive relationship and regular meetings to discuss engagement, education, and training opportunities through the Work Engagement and Progression Framework.
- Witnesses referred to the importance of multi-year funding commitments to enable them to deliver their service and retain the workforce.
- A Select Committee member queried the availability of services for young people residing on the border between local authority areas. Witnesses did not view location as a barrier to service provision and provided examples of young people accessing services in their neighbouring local authority area. For example, young people in North Pembrokeshire accessing Ceredigion services. To ensure cross-border matters are considered effectively, regular regional meetings are held, and all have access to a regional referral form.
- In terms of activities undertaken as part of the CSPs, concerns were raised by witnesses regarding the INTACT project, in that it was not co-designed within CSPs, but very much a police-led initiative. The PCC referred to the work of DPP's Task and Finish Group

reviewing services for young people, noting that the initiatives coming from the review required greater collaboration and closer partnership working with CSPs.

## Appendix F – Open Call for Evidence

The Open Call for Evidence was open for submissions from the start of July 2025 to the end of September 2025.

Through this process, the Select Committee sought to gather views on what is working well in terms of current services for young people aged 18-25, and what improvements may be required.

The submission of evidence was not mandatory, and instead, was an open request for information, evidence, and opinions.

Unfortunately, this approach did not effectively enable the Select Committee to gather evidence on existing services, as only two organisations responded: RAY Ceredigion and HMPPS.

### RAY Ceredigion

I would like to submit evidence in the form of the lack of support available in Ceredigion since the end of Covid as reflected in this Inspection Report <https://hmiprobation.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/document/an-inspection-of-youth-justice-services-in-ceredigion/>.

I have worked alongside and with the Youth Justice preventions over the past 25 years and have seen a steep decline in provision since the end of Covid and a lack of understanding, as evidenced in the report, of the needs of young people at risk.

Under previous local authority leadership we had a strong preventions workforce and activity agenda, not perfect as it tended to be north of the county mainly so less support from mid county down, but there were multiple activities on a weekly basis, all outside of school hours, there were drama groups at the University in Aberystwyth, music workshops there toom bike rides, girls groups, coasteering etc all of which I know had a positive preventative impact on young people's behaviour, by building their skills, allowing them to let off steam safely, and showing them respect and that adults could be relied on and trusted.

I would say that all of this has disappeared, and instead the support that is available is directed through schools which is completely the wrong method – the children and young people at risk of offending are most at risk when not in school, so removing support from evenings, weekends and school holidays, and instead challenging that funding into schools is counterproductive and using budgets, in my opinion, in an ineffective way.

The clue to reducing offending for 18-25 years olds is to start early, we need more youth provision (such as RAY Ceredigion and Aeron Arts are providing here in Aberaeron) that is open access, free of charge, providers free meals, and has an activity timetable that is creative and stimulating and most importantly inclusive.

In the youth sector we can tolerate behaviour that is not going to be tolerated in schools, and in order to ensure the inclusion of the children most at risk of offending this is important – they need potentially a more relaxed environment, more tolerant than that of schools in order to start to feel accepted and safe, and we can do this in the youthwork sector.

We have a junior youth club for 6-11y year olds one night a week and between RAY and Aeron Arts provision for 11-18-year-olds 4 nights a week and we are really busy.

So, my evidence submission is that we need to invest in out of school youth provision, both targeted and open access, that meets kids where they are – the old Ceredigion service had more than one minibus and collected from houses to ensure the most in need were included – the current Ceredigion system is wholly inappropriate and potentially ineffective.

## **HMPPS**

Thanks for the opportunity to respond to your written consultation submission regarding young adults. We have considered the areas in your questionnaire and write setting out some of our reflections as a key partner to this work with you.

Like you we recognised that this age group faces distinct challenges and HMPPS strives to address not only their criminogenic needs but also the social, emotional, and developmental factors unique to emerging adults. By fostering tailored interventions, strengthening multi-agency collaboration, and embedding trauma-informed practices, the service is working to create environments that promote resilience, support positive identity formation, and empower young adults with the skills needed to desist from offending.

HMPPS is delivering against a suite of strategic business plans, including the Reducing Reoffending Strategy and the Youth to Adult Transitions Framework, both of which explicitly address the needs of the 18–25 cohort. In Dyfed-Powys Probation Delivery Unit (PDU), this is supported by strong partnership working.

We believe that effective diversionary work with children and young people is also having a positive downstream impact on the 18–25 cohort. The strong relationship between Youth Justice Services (YJS) and MAPPA is a particular strength in Dyfed-Powys. Additionally, unpaid work (UPW) is being delivered in a way that supports both rehabilitation and community benefit and is embedded meaningfully across Dyfed-Powys, and we consider the education and training opportunities within UPW for young adults as part of their UPW hours.

Our practitioners focus on those young adults with care experience and the presence of Personal Advisors provided through local authority arrangements ensures continuity of support for those leaving care, with children's services consistently represented at partnership forums. The Dyfed Powys PDU has also benefited from the implementation of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) training and a trauma-informed approach across services. Furthermore, the Joint Intelligence Programme (JIP) has been instrumental in tackling serious organised crime and the exploitation of vulnerable young adults. All of which are key drivers in bringing about greater understanding of our cases and greater understanding of our staff to make positive changes to the people on probation.

Following the launch of your Police and Crime Plan, conversations were held with the PDU Head and Deputy to ensure strategic alignment. In parallel, the Blueprint Team participated in a working group with the Commissioner to explore how Blueprint activity could align with local criminal justice board priorities. This person-centred approach ensures that interventions not only reduce reoffending but also safeguard victims from repeat harm. The PDU's involvement in the delivery of strategic areas of the Police and Crime Plan is evidenced in the alignment of local priorities, including active engagement in local planning and delivery boards and groups, to collaboratively focus service improvement delivery in areas such as improved outcomes for

victims, prevention of victimisation, and the building safer communities overseen via MAPPA SMB and Offender management Boards such as Integrated Offender Management (IOM) and People Who Offend. This strategic governance and oversight activity now informs and drives an operational approach that ensure that sentence management and linked interventions not only reduce reoffending but also safeguard victims from repeat harm.

Despite this positive work we are aware that challenges persist due to the rurality of Dyfed-Powys, which impacts service accessibility. The secure custody estate is also geographically distant and young people are often placed in Hillside or further afield, making family contact and continuity of care difficult. Transitioning young adults in custody often move to HMP Parc, which, while closer, still presents logistical and relational challenges. Our staff are sensitive to this and ensure that the resettlement planning really focusses on how we build social capital for young people on release through our reducing reoffending pathways. Despite this we know that housing people on release and maintaining that accommodation via the local authority or private landlords is a challenge. HMPPS have established homeless prevention taskforces, and these engage with all 22 local authorities across Wales, sharing data on those people at risk of homelessness at the earliest opportunity with local authorities so they can plan accommodation and prevent homelessness.

Like you, we are keen to understand the impact of our work on young adults. To do this we have internal management information and performance data that allows us to monitor impact of the activities we undertake with young adults. We also monitor this via our activity in the community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), the Regional Safeguarding Board and other regional partnership meetings. These forums enable multi-agency intelligence sharing and joint responses to emerging risks.

We know we cannot take this activity forwards alone, so collaboration is key, and this is a real strength in Dyfed-Powys.

HMPPS Enjoys strong collaborative relationships with the various youth offending teams cross the PDU, whilst the numbers of young people that transition during the period of an actively managed sentence a small, there is effective cooperation or collaboration in and around the transfer of such young people into the adult sentence management framework. All young adults transitioning from custody to the community are placed into (IOM) arrangements to ensure that additional support is in place.

We know that young adults have distinct profile of needs, and we have ensured that our commissioned services provide bespoke and tailored services and approaches to meet the specific needs. Our practitioners use maturity assessments to understand the maturity of the individual and tailor responses to this via a person-centred approach. Whilst probation has undergone many policies and practice changes this year, HMPPS Wales has remained focussed on the orders starting right and ensuring that the interventions are delivered early in the sentence to have the most impact. This is known as our “Start right” approach.

Recent findings, both locally and nationally (HM Inspectorate of Probation – Thematic Inspection of Probation Services for Young Adults (2021), highlight the importance of maintaining young adults within their local communities. This premise is supported across wider literature and findings for this cohort and is very much built into our resettlement work for those released from custody and in our sentence plans for community cases where we look to build social capital. In Dyfed-Powys, this is particularly critical due to the rural context

and the strength of local networks. Schools, police, and community services often have long-standing relationships with these individuals, which supports reintegration and reduces the risk of reoffending. The region's approach is tailored to its geography and crime profile, with a strong emphasis on preventing exploitation and supporting community reintegration.

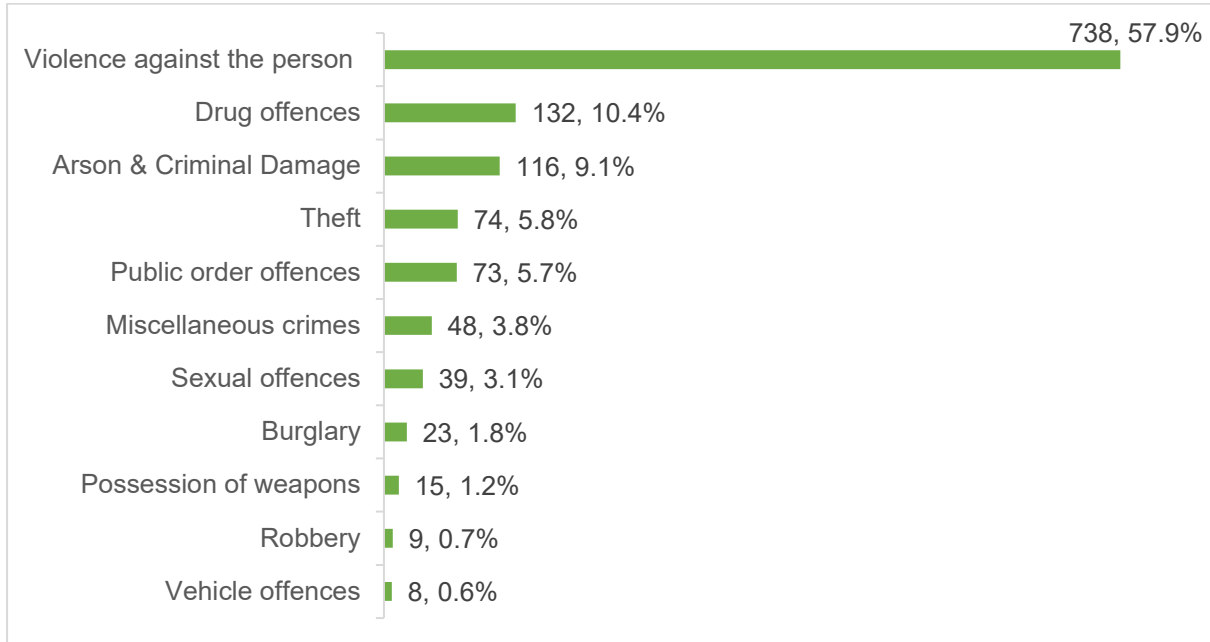
We are also keen to build on the learning from innovative hub models, such as the Young Adult Safer Wales Hub in Cardiff and the Newham Hub in London, both of which offer integrated, trauma-informed, and person-centred approaches to supporting young adults. These models align closely with the recommendations from national thematic findings and provide a blueprint for future development.

We hope this correspondence provides useful insight into our work with young adults in Dyfed-Powys. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information or clarification.

## Appendix G – Offences committed by 18-25-year-olds during 2024

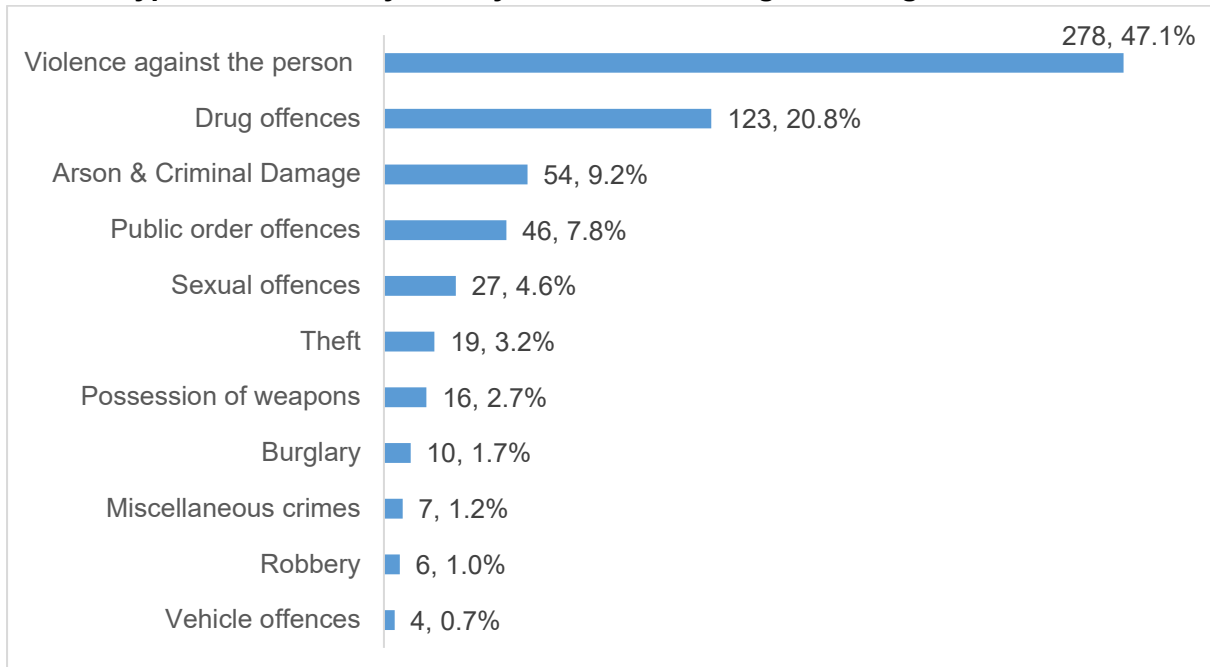
The following four graphs set out the offence types committed by the 18-25 cohort during 2024.

### Offence types committed by 18-25-year-olds in Carmarthenshire during 2024



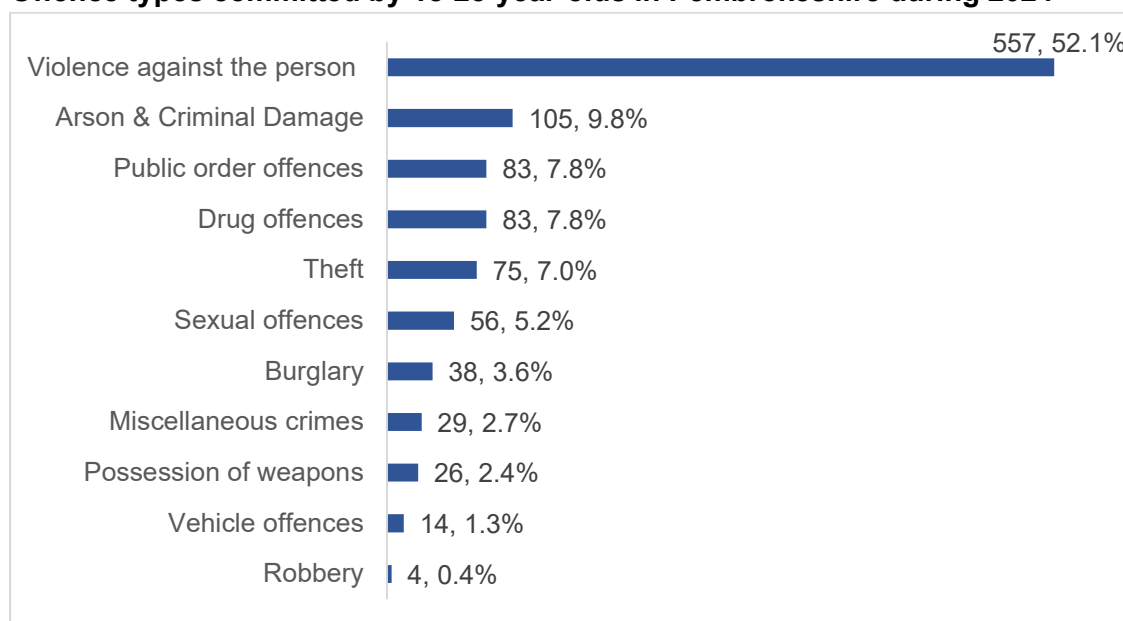
Source: DPP Power BI

### Offence types committed by 18-25-year-olds in Ceredigion during 2024



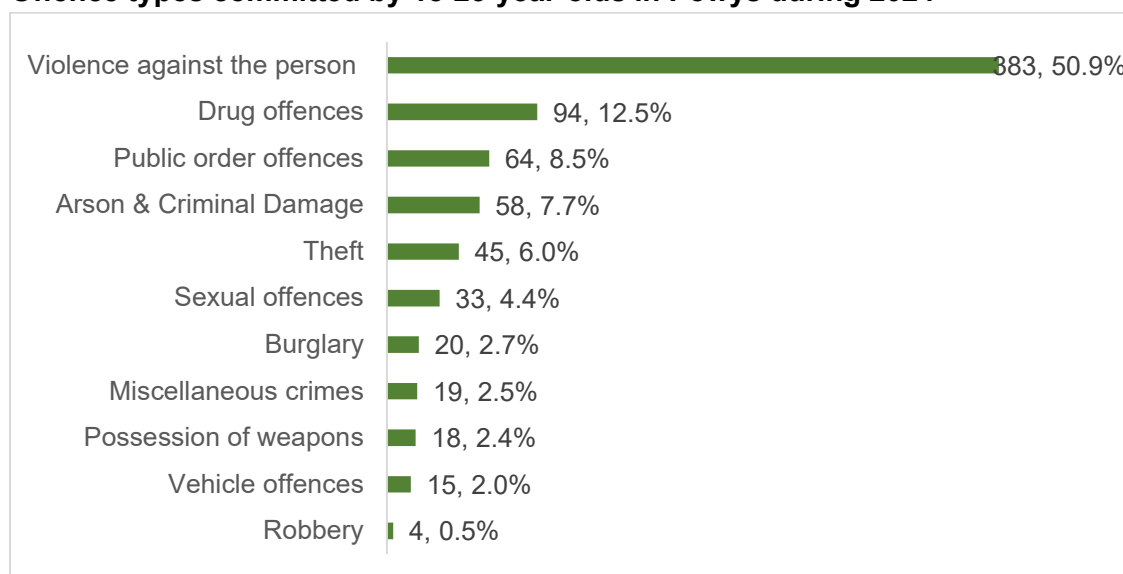
Source: DPP Power BI

### Offence types committed by 18-25-year-olds in Pembrokeshire during 2024



Source: DPP Power BI

### Offence types committed by 18-25-year-olds in Powys during 2024



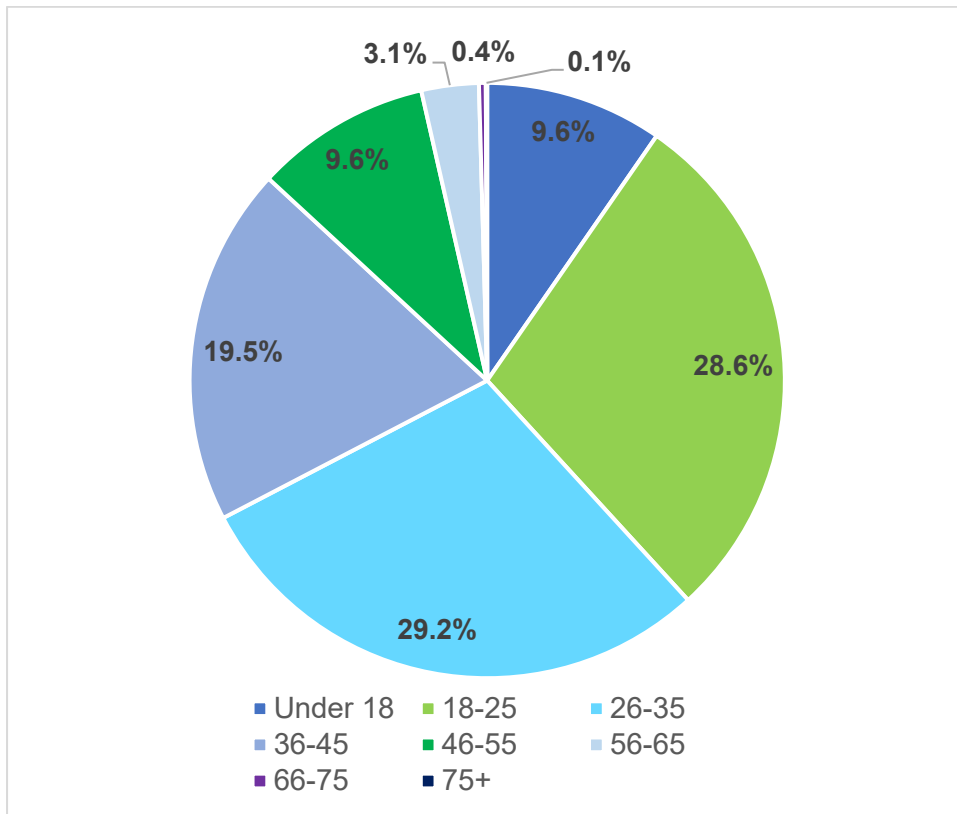
Source: DPP Power BI

### 'Violence Against the Person' sub-category offences

	Death or serious injury caused by illegal driving	Stalking and Harassment	Violence with injury	Violence without injury
<b>Carmarthenshire</b>	0.3% (2)	30.2% (223)	21.3% (157)	48.2% (356)
<b>Ceredigion</b>	0.0% (0)	28.4% (79)	29.5% (82)	42.1% (117)
<b>Pembrokeshire</b>	0.2% (1)	32.0% (178)	23.7% (132)	44.2% (246)
<b>Powys</b>	0.3% (1)	35.0% (134)	28.2% (108)	36.6% (140)
<b>Unknown</b>	0.0% (0)	60.0% (15)	12.0% (3)	28.0% (7)

Source: DPP PowerBI

## Appendix H – Possession of controlled drugs offences, 2024, by age group



## Appendix I – OPCC Dip Sampling Report

### 1.0 Overview, Background, Purpose and Methodology

As part of the ongoing work of the Police and Crime Commissioner's first [Select Committee review](#), staff from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) completed a dip sampling scrutiny exercise. Cases of ASB where the alleged offender was aged 18-25 were considered, with a focus on intervention, prevention and engagement services considered and deployed. Twenty-six cases were reviewed.

OPCC staff conducting the scrutiny exercise were specifically asked to consider the following:

1. Interventions and orders applied in terms of offender management (for 18–25-year-olds).
2. How the offender management processes safeguarded vulnerable young people at risk of offending and/or victimisation.
3. Whether the officers investigating the case sought specialist advice from sources such as Youth Offending Teams, Social Services, INTACT and other youth/young adult services.
4. Whether the intervention, prevention and engagement services used within the cases were/are effective.
5. Collaboration between DPP and external partners (such as commissioned services).
6. The quality of police contact.
7. Investigation standards.
8. The visibility of officers in relation to ASB prevention (to include timeliness, response etc).

### 2.0 Review findings

#### Positive findings

- In several cases, OPCC staff highlighted the positive collaboration between the police and partners: Housing Associations, Environmental Health, Social Services, community mental health services, and in one case (8), the alleged offender (AO)'s support worker.
- Diversionary referrals were processed for the AO in case 8.
- Within case 3 it was identified that whilst an adult community resolution was issued the AO was provided with the relevant diversionary information.
- The records reviewed for case 6 demonstrated a detailed investigation. It was clearly evidenced that the officer in charge undertook all reasonable enquiries and their rationale and recording was clear.

#### Areas for improvement

- Problem-oriented policing (POP) plans were consistently queried by the Supervising officers when a POP plan was in place. The panel questioned the effectiveness around these plans.
- With regards to the records considered, the level of detail provided within some was lacking, officers' rationale on their decisions was not always clear, and some spelling errors were identified.
  - Due to the lack of detail and recording in one of the cases, it was unclear what the outcome was and whether the investigation had in fact been completed.

- OPCC staff identified missed opportunities for diversionary activity in several cases. For example, in one case it was identified that there was a missed opportunity for diversionary activity in relation to substance misuse. The panel queried whether Rural Crime Teams aware of the diversionary schemes available.
- Within another case the collaboration between the Neighbourhood Policing and Prevention Team (NPPT) and the operational response officers noted on the log was not considered effective as there was a considerable delay in providing updates.
- Concerns were raised around the timeliness of finalising investigations that were considered as low-level cases; albeit offences which still impacted the victims.
  - Along the same vein, police updates to victims were not always completed in a timely manner.
- Supervisor reviews on the police records were sometimes very delayed and lacking in detail.
- OPCC staff queried the consistency of an awareness and understanding of diversionary and intervention opportunities across the different police teams.
- Within one case, the AO had not long turned 18. OPCC staff considered whether diversionary support would have been sought if the AO was still 17.
- Safeguarding was deemed to be an afterthought for officers in many cases.
- In one case, OPCC staff felt that that there was a missed opportunity to signpost the AO to substance misuse support services.
- OPCC staff questioned whether the outcome in one of the cases was acceptable. Also noted was the lack of NPPT engagement with the officers in charge, and poor timeliness in completing this case.

### 3.0 General Comments and Observations

Observations	Force Response
<p>Can a Victim Needs Assessment (VNA) be completed even if the victim does not support an investigation, to ensure safeguarding is in place for those most in need?</p>	<p>A Victim Needs Assessment (VNA) can be completed in all circumstances and an update to the crime recording system has recently been made which mandates the assessment at the time of recording a crime. The officer is asked whether the victim was spoken to at the time of completing the VNA. This means that even if DPP is unable to contact victims, officers must consider the needs of the victim in addition to the type of crime, injury and vulnerability of the victim with the information already known. The level of service that the victim is entitled to will be determined and recorded. Where the victim is not supportive of an investigation, a VNA may still be suitable as the needs of the victim may be support from services rather than from the investigation itself. A</p>

	VNA should be added to all crimes recorded.
<p>Within the 26 cases reviewed, mental health and substance misuse appeared consistently for 18–25-year-olds. Does this reflect what DPP is seeing? If so what intervention and prevention activity is currently being done?</p>	<p>DPP is seeing an increase in mental health and suicide for all age categories, not just 18-25-year-olds. This trend has been on an upward trajectory since the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>In the past year, DPP has established both strategic and tactical mental health groups and held our first ever dedicated Mental Health conference in July of 2025, with multiple partners and internal stakeholders in attendance. Several areas for improvement have emanated from this which are now being worked on in the tactical/strategic groups.</p> <p>We have also just started work on a new mental health and suicide prevention strategy for the force.</p> <p>We have increased our scrutiny and oversight of the data, including that held by partners, to ensure we maximise our effectiveness in dealing with this issue.</p> <p>NPPTs will also hold a problem-solving group for every POP plan. Where we see mental health is a factor, appropriate partners from mental health services will be engaged in the Problem-solving group for that case.</p>
<p>In many of the cases missed opportunities for diversionary signposting/activity were identified. What training on such activity do officers undertake?</p>	<p>We have recognised in the Prevention, Intervention and Engagement review, that this is gap for us.</p> <p>To that end, as part of the Gold model we have had approved, a dedicated trainer and analyst will be employed to specifically train officers on this area, as there is a training gap for us here.</p> <p>Regarding ensuring young people are identified and referred for the most appropriate intervention services, the dedicated analyst will be given a specific terms of reference, to identify the most appropriate individuals requiring intervention based on specific metrics, i.e. number of missing episodes, involvement</p>

	<p>in a specific number of crimes or incidents of ASB etc.</p> <p>Work is also ongoing at this time to build an appropriate package for the dedicated trainer to deliver to all operational staff.</p>
<p>Out of the cases reviewed 38% were from Powys and 31% were from Carmarthenshire. Has DPP identified any specific concerns with ASB by 18-25 age group in these counties?</p>	<p>The 18-25 age category does not feature as a prominent age category, whereas under 18 does. However, the force has its intervention and prevention programme INTACT, which seeks to prevent offending/ reoffending of individuals up to the age of 25 years.</p> <p>Over a recent 12-month period, 104 individuals have been referred into and accepted on the INTACT programme, with 18.3% of individuals showing as not having re-offended since been referred into the programme.</p> <p>26% of the individuals remained on the programme between 3-6 months.</p> <p>4 of those referred in were between 18-25 years of age. The force fully evaluates all POP plans and ASBRI records, with learning disseminated monthly. POP and ASBRI reports are produced monthly, to support in the identification of trends/patterns. The force has also just renewed its ASB policy and implemented several positive changes to the way it records ASB. This has resulted in increased incidents of ASB being recorded, which was expected and has brought us in line with the level of ASB incidents being recorded before changes to Crime Data Integrity compliance were introduced, which impacted the accuracy of ASB and the recording of it. To prevent offending/reoffending around ASB, the force has prioritised implementing improvements required for all forces around how ASB is recorded and dealt with. 8 recommendations were highlighted by the HMICFRS in October 2024, 5 of which being directed towards policing.</p>