



Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu  
Dyfed-Powys  
Police and Crime Commissioner

## Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

### Scrutiny Panel

### Dip Sampling Exercise

### Drug cases

## Panel Members' Findings & Feedback of Youth cases

December 2025



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## 1.0 Overview

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2025, members from the Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) scrutiny panel attended a meeting to review a selection of 8 adult and 7 youth cases involving a Drug 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 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2025.

Signed: 

Date: 25/03/2026

### 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:

- A meeting has been arranged for the Chair and Panel representatives to meet with the Force lead on Child centred Policing to discuss to discuss the inconsistent use of OoCR, and inappropriate use of Youth Restorative Disposal's in Dyfed Powys.
- Feedback provided to Officers where the Panel determined an inappropriate use of an OoCR.

### 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:

- The Panel raised concerns that within most of the cases reviewed the interviews conducted with the Youths were not compliant with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE).
- It was noted that the detail recorded within the logs could be clearer to outline the Officers rational.

### 6.0 Consideration of Youth cases

Panel members reviewed seven Youth cases. Of those, three had been issued with a diversionary, educational or intervention activity (outcome 22), two through a youth community resolution (YCR) and two by a Youth Conditional Caution (YCC).

Members' assessments were as follows:

<b>Members' assessment</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>
Appropriate	1
Appropriate with reservations	4
Inappropriate	2

### **Case 1**

The Panel discussed that whilst the Outcome 22 was appropriate in the circumstances for this case, reservations were raised in relation to the compliance with PACE as the AO was not interviewed appropriately in the presence of an appropriate adult (AA). The Panel agreed that whilst the Force are taking a Child centred approach to Policing, it is important to ensure they remain compliant with PACE. It was noted that this would be discussed in the Chair's meeting with the Force lead for Child centred Policing.

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

### **Case 2**

It was discussed that the AO was vulnerable and the offence in question was deemed low. The Panel also acknowledged the Officers proactive communication with the Youth Offending Team officer and the short amount of time it took to conclude. It was therefore deemed that the YCC issued was appropriate.

**Panel's Assessment: Appropriate**

### **Case 3**

The Panel determined that in the circumstances of the incident the outcome 22 issued was appropriate. However, reservations were raised in relation to the detail within the report and whether the interview conducted with the AO was PACE compliant.

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

#### **Case 4**

Whilst the Panel concluded that the YCR was appropriate in the circumstances presented, concerns were raised in relation to compliance with PACE and safeguarding. The Panel acknowledged that detail was recorded within the report around PACE compliance but noted that the AA was under the influence and was issued with an ACR for possession of cocaine. The Panel could not identify any safeguarding measures put in place for the AO and concluded that whilst the outcome may have remained the same, a more proactive approach should have been taken.

**Panel's Assessment: Inappropriate**

#### **Case 5**

After reviewing the case the Panel noted that the YCC issued was appropriate in the circumstances. However reservations were raised once more in relation to the PACE compliance as there was no detail recorded within the record.

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

#### **Case 6**

The Panel acknowledged the positive work undertaken by the Supervisor who corrected the Officer that an YRD could not be issued for a drug offence. It was agreed that whilst the outcome 22 was appropriate, there were reservations around the AO admitting to the offence without the presence of an AA.

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

#### **Case 7**

The Panel raised their concerns in relation to this case as the AO admitted to the offence whilst under the influence. Concerns were further raised in relation to the lack of detail within the record as to how the process was PACE complainant. The Head of Custody Services, Chief Inspector Jones raised how guidance has been written for Officers and this had been circulated Force wide recently. It was agreed that an action will be taken to share the Panel's findings with the Force lead for children.

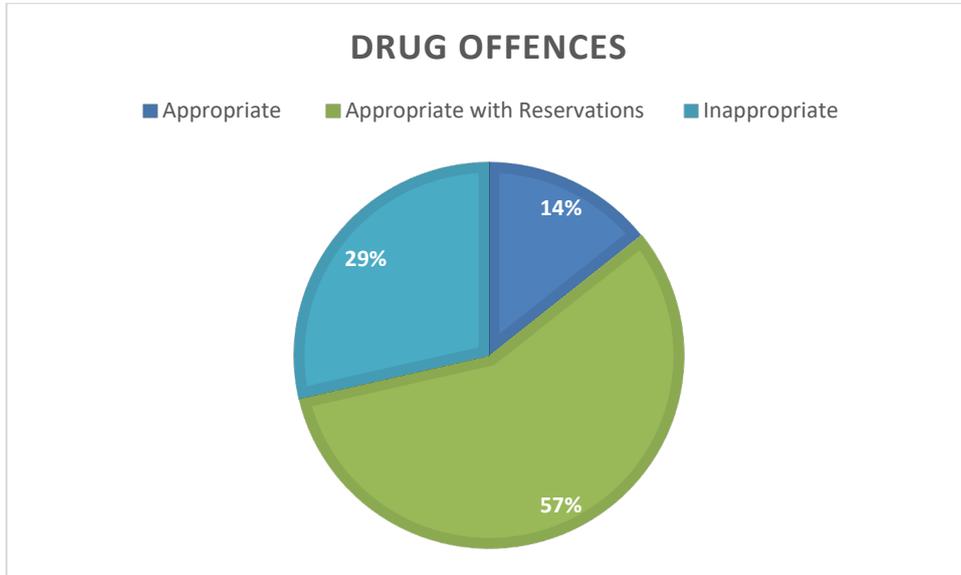
**Panel's Assessment: Inappropriate**

#### **Action 1**

Panel's findings to be shared with Dyfed Powys Police's leads on Child Policing in relation with the lack of PACE compliance.

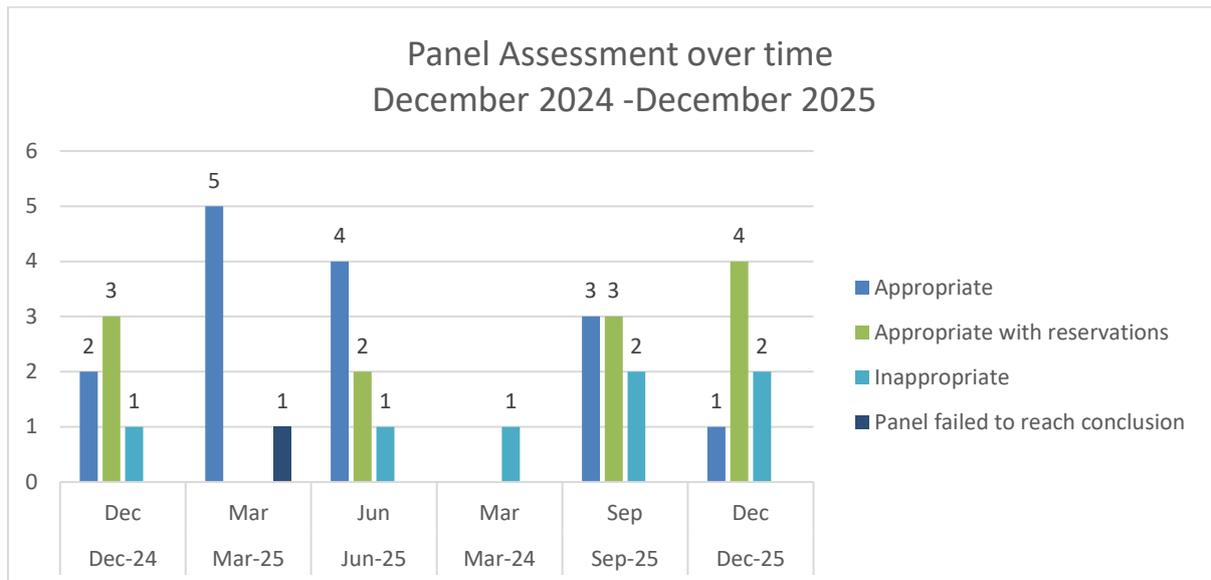
### 7.0 Panel’s assessments to date

The chart below demonstrates the Panel’s assessment of Youth cases of Drug cases considered at the most recent meeting:

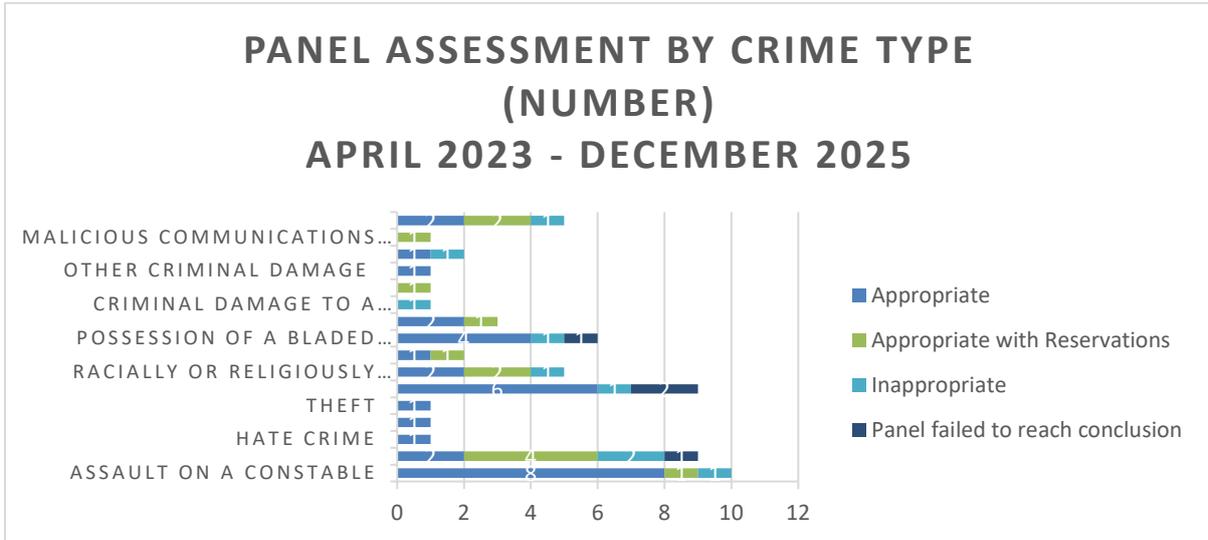


The Panel have considered a range of disposals. The disposals considered in December 2024 included 80% YRD’s and 10% YCR. In December 2025 42% were dealt with through a diversionary, educational or intervention activity (outcome 22), 29% through a YCC and 29% through an YCR.

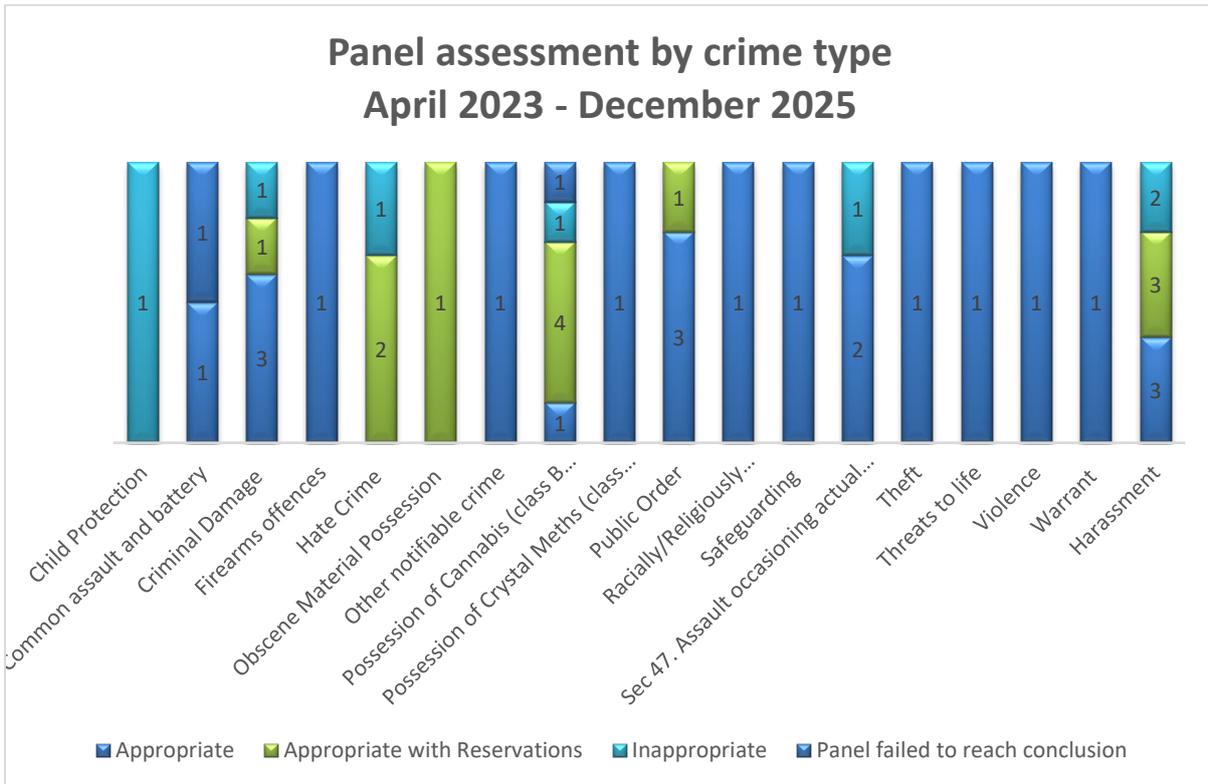
The change in the Panel’s conclusions reached over December 2024 –December 2025 can be seen in the graph below:



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

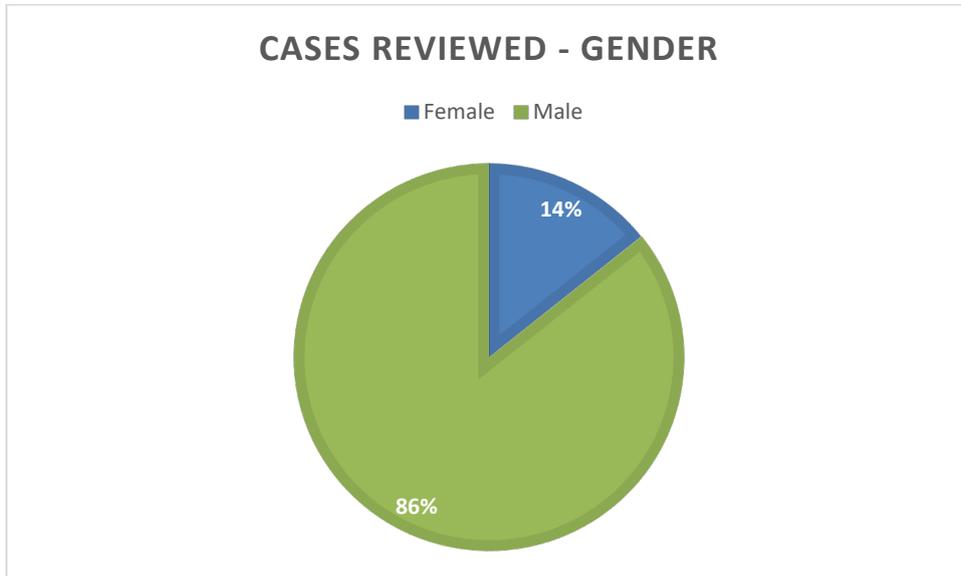


The following graph displays the actual number of cases assessed within each crime type and the resulting Panel opinions at their meetings between April 2023 and December 2025.



### 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.

Ethnicity Noted	Suspect's Self - Assessment	Officer's Assessment
White British	6	0
White – North European	0	6
Unknown	1	1

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 Shoplifting cases.

### 10.0 Actions

Action number	Summary	To be progressed by

OOCR – 165	Panel’s findings to be shared with Dyfed Powys Police’s leads on Child Policing in relation with the lack of PACE compliance.	OPCC/Force
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