

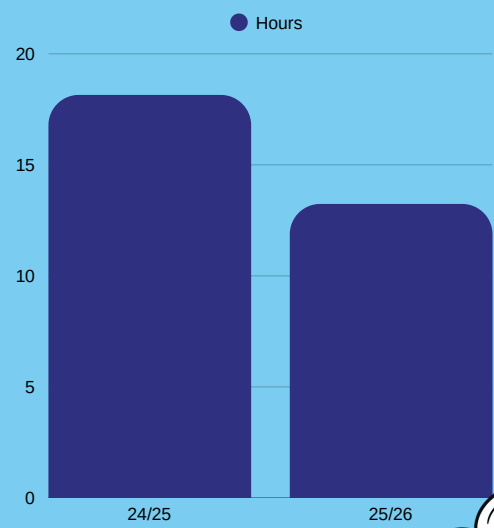
CUSTODY INDEPENDENT SCRUTINY PANEL (CISP)

The Dyfed Powys CISP was implemented in March 2024 to provide independent scrutiny of custody to ensure that Dyfed Powys Police are implementing police detention and custody procedures proportionately, lawfully and appropriately. This report summarises the Panel's activity between April 2025 and March 2026. It brings together quantitative data, key findings, and thematic insights across all four quarters.

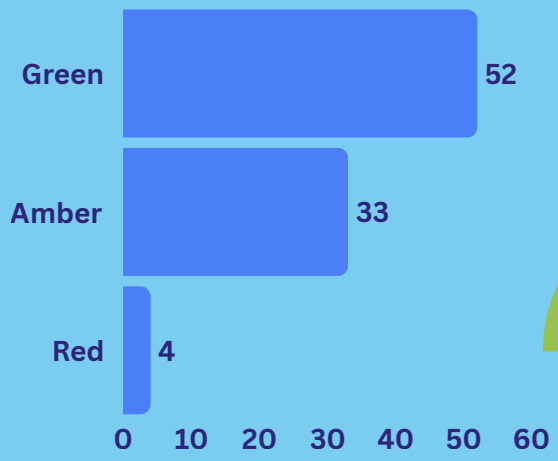


25-26 STATISTICS

Average detention time:



RAG rating:



Did you know?
There are 6 custody suites across Dyfed Powys

Areas identified for improvement have decreased by 6 when compared to 24/25



POSITIVE FINDINGS

Treatment, Dignity & Proportionality

- Consistently respectful treatment of detainees
- Strong use of de-escalation and welfare-focused decision-making
- Clear and proportionate justification in most cases involving use of force



Timeliness in Custody

- Significant year-on-year improvement
- 38 minutes average from arrival to detention authorisation. Nearly 5 hours reduction in total detention time compared to 2024-25



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Children in Custody

- Fewer children entering custody
- Most children released well before 12 hours due to new Force initiative.
- Additional Inspector reviews at critical points
- Improved completion of Children in Custody checklists
- Reachable Moments Project showing an early positive impact on safeguarding and emotional support



Women & Girls in Custody

Measure	2024-25	2025-26
Female officer	71%	83%
Officer introduced	33%	51%

- Positive increase in female officers being allocated and introduced to women and girls in custody

Observation, Welfare & Hygiene

- Observation levels set and adhered to in 96% of records
- Majority of detainees offered and/or used hygiene facilities
- Rights and entitlements provided in almost all cases



Support Services & Healthcare

- Most detainees offered or referred to support services
- Good partnership working with; Healthcare providers, Adferiad and Third-sector services

KEY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT



Quality & Consistency of Records

- Inconsistent documentation remains the most common issue
- Examples include; recording of female officer introductions, clear rationales for decisions already judged appropriate, the arrival or exit of third-sector services and provisions within custody



Women in Custody – Recording Gaps

- Records do not always show that detainees were offered same-sex engagement or offered menstrual products

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Children's Checklist – Quality Focus Needed

- Completion rates improved ✓
- Voice of the Child not consistently captured ✗
- Next phase: improving depth and quality of entries throughout detention



External Agency Delays

- Prolonged detention for some children due to limited out-of-hours and Children's Services capacity
- Outside police control, but delays must be clearly recorded and continued escalation through partnership governance required

Religious Provisions – Recording



- Difficulty in locating evidence that religious provisions are being offered within custody records
- Availability of all religious provisions have improved



OVERALL ASSURANCE STATEMENT

Custody practice across Dyfed-Powys Police continues to improve

- Fewer concerns raised
- Stronger safeguards for vulnerable groups
- Clear reductions in detention time
- Good use of force oversight



Remaining issues largely relate to how practice is recorded, not how detainees are treated

Looking Ahead to 2026–27



Key focus areas:

- Improving the quality of custody record entries
- Embedding Voice of the Child
- Continued monitoring of women and girls safeguarding
- Strengthening partnership responses for children