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Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu
Dyfed-Powys
Police and Crime Commissioner

Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

Scrutiny Panel Dip Sampling Exercise

Assault Cases

Panel Members' Findings & Feedback of Adult cases

July 2026

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1.0 Overview

On the 1st of July 2026, members from the Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) scrutiny panel attended a meeting to review a selection of 8 adult cases and 8 youth cases involving Assault offences which had been dealt with by way of an OoCR. Where possible, the panel considered cases which involved an assault against an emergency worker. This report will focus on the panel's findings in relation to the adult 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 are 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 the 1st of July 2026.

Signed:



Date: 24/09/26

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:

- Feedback provided to officers to address the reservations highlighted by the panel members
- Feedback provided to officers where the Panel determined an inappropriate use of an OoCR.

5.0 Areas for improvement

The following areas for improvement were identified during the review of the adult cases.

- It was noted that the timeliness of conducting the investigation and issuing an OoCR could be improved for some of the cases reviewed. This was particularly an issue when the appropriate use of an Adult Community Resolution (ACR) was obvious from the outset, but the officer had taken a long time to issue one.
- Members highlighted the lack of victim signatures included on the forms as an issue.

6.0 Consideration of Adult Cases

Out of the eight adult cases considered by the Panel, two had been dealt with by an Adult Conditional Caution (ACC) with the other six cases being dealt with through an Adult Community Resolution (ACR). In assessing the appropriateness of their application, the panel concluded as follows:

Members' assessment	Number of cases
Appropriate	2
Appropriate with reservations	6
inappropriate	0
Failed to reach a conclusion	0

Panel Members' observations are detailed below.

Case 1

Members discussed the thorough clear engagement with children services and the positive steps taken by the officers to speak directly with the children. It was positive to see the constructive multi agency working carried out with in this case. However, members were concerned about the lack of a full admission from the alleged offender (AO) and it was questioned whether a conditional caution may have been more appropriate in this case. Therefore the panel deemed the outcome appropriate with some reservations.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Case 2

The panel noted that this case would have been eligible for an ACR from the outset, therefore in the interest of timeliness this could have been administrated at an earlier point. Members also highlighted that the form was not signed by the victim and therefore it was not clear whether the outcome was agreed by the victim. A discussion was held relating to the ability of officers to endorse a form as complete without a signature and it was agreed that Dyfed-Powys Police would look at an IT solution to this. Therefore the panel deemed the outcome appropriate with some reservations.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Action 1: Officer(s) to be provided with Panel's feedback on Adult Case 2 relating to timeliness of decision making, and lack of signature/narrative from the victim.

Action 2: Dyfed-Powys Police to raise IT query relating to Adult Case 2, and whether a process change could be implemented to avoid the closure of cases whilst signatures are outstanding.

Case 3

The panel considered the appropriateness of a conditional caution for this case and suggested that an ACR would be more suitable. It was noted that if a conditional caution is used more robust conditions should be put in place. Members also commented on the timeliness of this case and questioned whether later interviews with witnesses actually influenced the outcome. Therefore this outcome was deemed appropriate with some reservations around timeliness and the type of OOCR used.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Action 3: Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to Adult Case 3.

Case 4

The panel members noted that there was no Inspector authorisation for this case. Feedback was also given on the quality of the paperwork and the lack of detail included to provide context. The officer in charge should have also referred the AO to the diversionary scheme. Therefore, the outcome itself was deemed appropriate with some reservations.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Action 4: Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to the importance of including details in the narrative, the requirement to refer to the diversionary scheme and lack of Inspector authorisation in Adult Case 4.

Case 5

Members felt that the assault seem to be an afterthought in relation to this case and noted that the paperwork was unclear. Again, it was noted that a referral to the diversionary scheme would have been beneficial for the AO. The outcome was

also lacking an admission of the assault from the AO. The panel deemed this outcome as appropriate with some reservations.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Action 5: Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to Adult Case 5.

Case 6

The panel commented on the good use of the 9-point plan within this case. There was a discussion about the good, detailed write up. The panel deemed the outcome as appropriate.

Panels assessment: Appropriate

Case 7

Again, the panel commented on the good use of the 9-point plan to inform decision making. It was also deemed that the supervisor gave good rationale within the write up. However, members noted that it took a long time to issue the ACR. This outcome was deemed appropriate with reservations.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Action 6: Organisational feedback to be provided to Dyfed-Powys Police relating to timeliness in several of the cases.

Case 8

The panel agreed that this case was handled well. It was positive to see a full admission and agreement from the victim before the OOCR was administered. This case was deemed as appropriate by the panel.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate

7.0 Panel's assessment to date

Figure 1 demonstrates the Panel's assessment of adult cases of assault considered at the most recent meeting. Figure 2 gives an overview of the type of disposal used in the cases analysed by the panel.

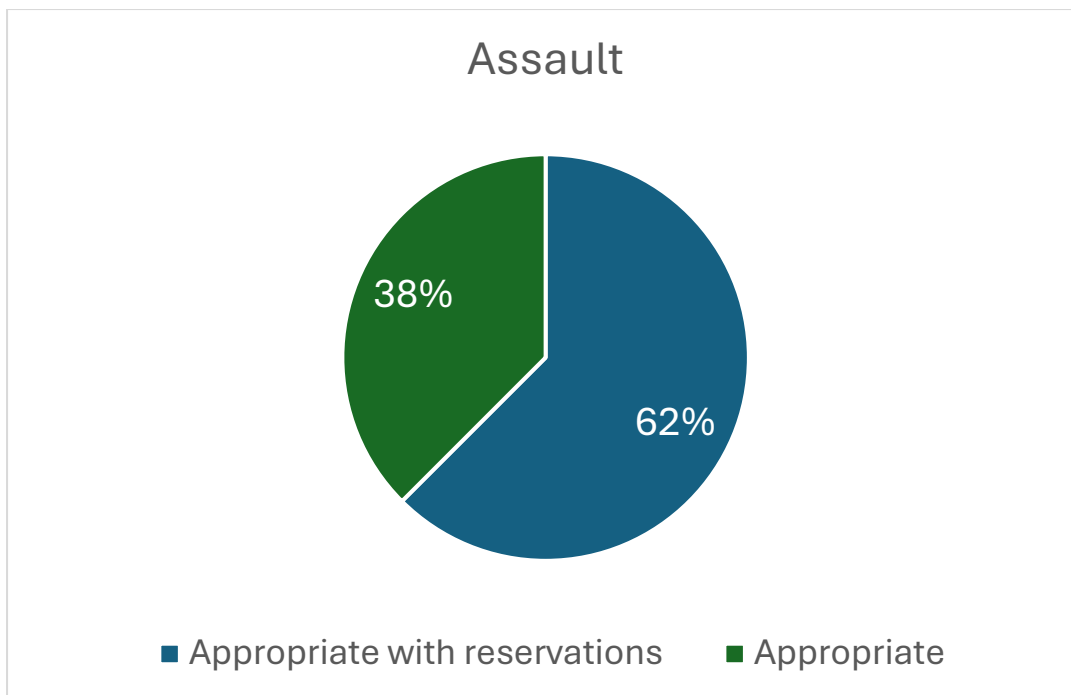


Figure 1

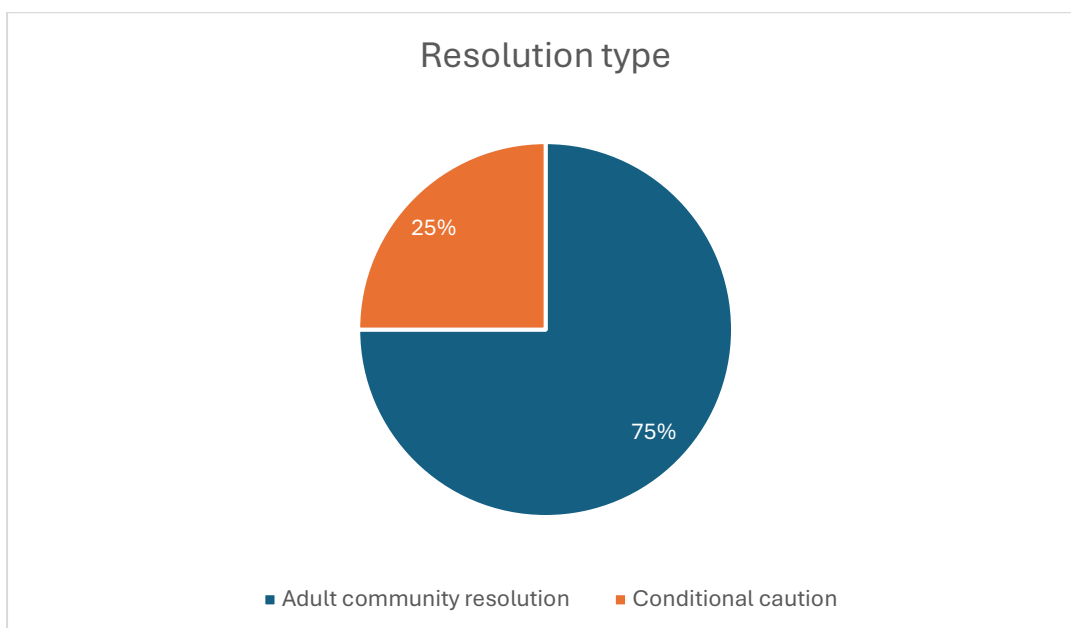


Figure 2

8.0 Ethnicity and Gender

The following tables show the breakdown of cases by gender and ethnicity:

Gender	Number noted
Female	4

Male	4
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Ethnicity	Self-assessment	Officer's Assessment
White British	6	0
White - North European	0	6
Not noted	2	2

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 a review of cases involving Theft and Burglary at the next meeting.

10.0 Actions

OOCR - 170	Officer(s) to be provided with Panel's feedback on Adult Case 2 relating to timeliness of decision making, and lack of signature/narrative on victim's thoughts	
OOCR - 171	Dyfed-Powys Police to raise IT query relating to Adult Case 2, closing down when signature still outstanding	
OOCR - 172	Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to Adult Case 3.	
OOCR - 173	Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to the importance of including details in the narrative and lack of Inspector authorisation in Adult Case 4	

OOCR - 174	Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to Adult Case 5	
OOCR - 175	Organisational feedback to be provided relating to Adult Case 7	