



**28 April 2023**

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys response to  
An Inspection of How Well the Police Tackle Serious Youth Violence**

It is reassuring to read that the report found early evidence that Violence Reduction Units may be reducing violent crime. It's important to note that Dyfed-Powys is not one of the areas that received Home Office funding for Violence Reduction Units, however the report does provide wider recommendations and findings that are of interest to the community, as outlined in the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Plan. One of our priorities is to ensure that harm is prevented to individuals and communities caused through crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability.

I am confident that Dyfed-Powys Police have a significant focus on ensuring that officers are trained in the use of Outcome 22 and are working to ensure that it is used appropriately. It is also reassuring that data in relation to young people's involvement in serious violence will be collated in more depth and analysed as part of the Serious Violence Duty.

In answer to two of the recommendations raised within the report:

**Recommendation 3**

**By 31 March 2024, chief constables should make sure their officers are trained in the use of Home Office crime outcome 22.**

- The Force has been delivering an enhanced training package around outcomes, including Outcome 22, to officers within the organisation, including newly introduced officers and newly promoted sergeants, which will continue via the work of the Learning and Development Services department.
- Following recent guidance, the application of Outcome 22 to less serious offences involving young people is to be raised for discussion at the next Tactical Supporting Victims Group and Crime Data Integrity Group (May 2023). The Force position at present is to apply Outcome 22 for the following:
  - Referral to Youth Offender Team (YOT) – where it is not linked to another formal outcome e.g., a referral to YOT as part of a Youth Conditional caution would still be recorded as a Youth Caution.
  - Cease and Desist Order – where one has been given with the aim of education and diversion away from offending.
- A new outcomes document and poster has recently been designed and disseminated to each of the Local Policing Area (LPA) Commanders and Chief Inspectors to ensure that their Sergeants are all aware of this document.



#### **Recommendation 4**

**By 31 March 2024, chief constables should make sure their forces, through data collection and analysis, understand the levels of racial disproportionality in serious youth violence in their force areas.**

- Dyfed-Powys Police will ensure that they collate and analyse data in relation to young people as part of the Serious Violence Duty, including data on characteristics, such as ethnicity. This will allow the Force and partners to monitor any potential disproportionality.

The response received from the Force has reassured me that a significant amount of work has been undertaken to improve the focus on the use of outcome 22 and comprehensive data analysis for serious youth violence. I have been assured by Dyfed-Powys Police that these actions should result in an improvement in these areas in future. My office is currently working with the specified authorities to support the implementation of the Serious Violence Duty. I will be closely monitoring the delivery of their responsibilities over the coming months.