

OFFICIAL
September 2025

SCRUTINY PANEL REPORT



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Dyfed-Powys
Police and Crime Commissioner

Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

Scrutiny Panel

Dip Sampling Exercise

Stalking & Harassment

Panel Members' Findings & Feedback of Adult cases

September 2025

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1.0 Overview

On the 29th of September 2025, members from the Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) scrutiny panel attended a meeting to review a selection of 7 adult cases and 8 youth cases involving Stalking and Harassment offences which had been dealt with by way of an OoCR. 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 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 29th of September 2025.

Signed:



Date: 16/12/2025

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 on cases where the panel determined that the OoCR was inappropriately issued.

5.0 Areas for improvement

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

- Timeliness of completing cases.
- Consideration to be given to the alleged offenders (AO) previous offending history. Within case number 4 the panel determined that the AO had an extensive previous history for offences of a similar nature therefore the OoCR was inappropriate.

6.0 Consideration of Adult Cases

All seven adult cases had been dealt with through an Adult Community Resolution (ACR).

Members' assessment	Number of cases
Appropriate	3

Appropriate with reservations	3
Inappropriate	1

Panel Members' observations are detailed below.

Case 1

The Panel noted that the case was in relation to a low-level neighbourhood dispute with both parties making allegations. A discussion ensued regarding the possible need for intervention activity as it was noted that the AO may suffer from substance misuse. Although, the Panel concluded that within the circumstances of this case the OoCR was appropriate.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate

Case 2

The Panel determined that the use of the OoCR in the circumstances was appropriate as the AO's had no previous offences and had issued an apology. Although the Panel noted that the AO had initially denied the offence in the first instance and that the case took 6 months to complete. It was therefore considered that whilst the OoCR was appropriately issued improvements could had been made to the timeliness.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Case 3

The Panel noted that this case focused mostly on the common assault element rather than the harassment. It was determined that the OoCR issued was appropriate in the circumstances, but the Panel queried whether the crime had been incorrectly recorded and therefore had reservations.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Case 4

It was noted that the AO had an extensive previous history for offences of a similar nature. The Panel also noted that the AO had received a conditional caution for assault in 2024 and therefore determined that the OoCR was inappropriate.

Panel's Assessment: Inappropriate

Action 1: Panels findings for case 4 to be provided to the officer(s).

Case 5

The Panel noted that the injured party (IP) was supportive of the OoCR, and an apology was provided. It was determined that as the offence was low level and the first and only incident the OoCR was the appropriate outcome.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate

Case 6

It was determined that the OoCR was handled appropriately as the AO provided a full admission to the offence and apologised to the IP. The Panel praised the swift action undertaken by officers and the detailed log provided.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate

Action 2: Feedback to be provided to officer(s) in respect of case 6 as the panel determined it as best practice.

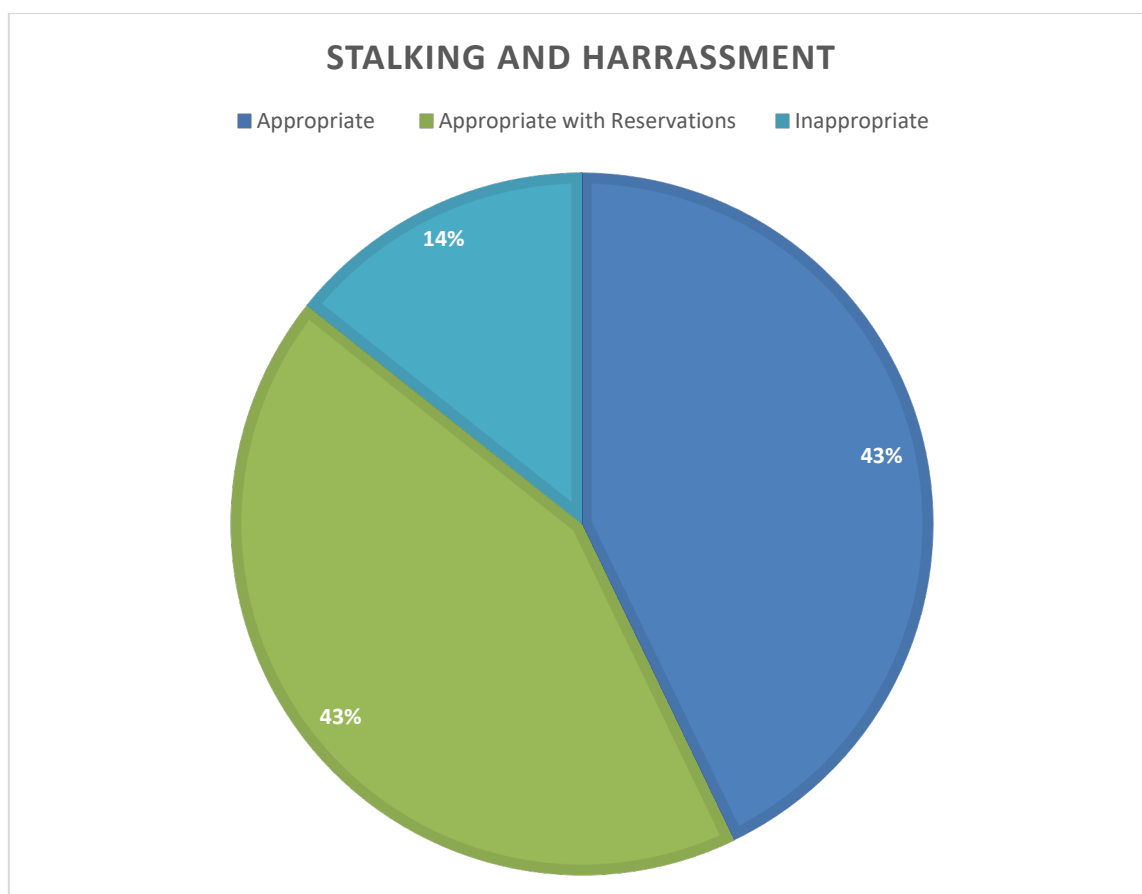
Case 7

The panel noted that the IP was supportive of the OoCR, but reservations were raised due to the AO's previous offences and convictions. It was therefore determined that the OoCR was appropriately issued but reservations around the AO's history.

Panel's Assessment: Appropriate with reservations

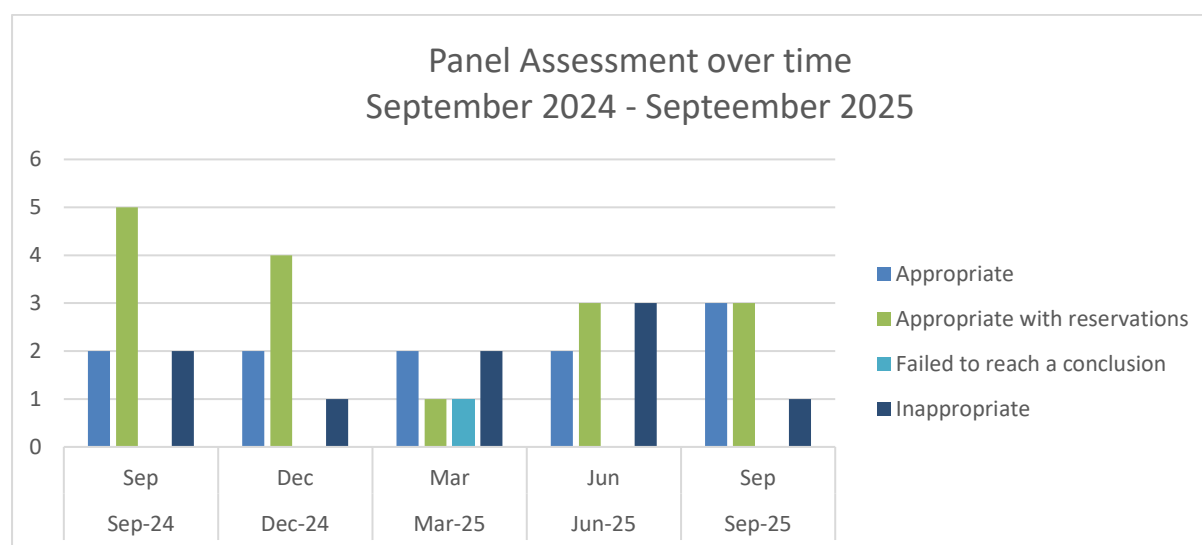
7.0 Panel's assessments to date

The chart below demonstrates the Panel's assessment of adult cases of Stalking and Harassment cases considered at the most recent meeting:

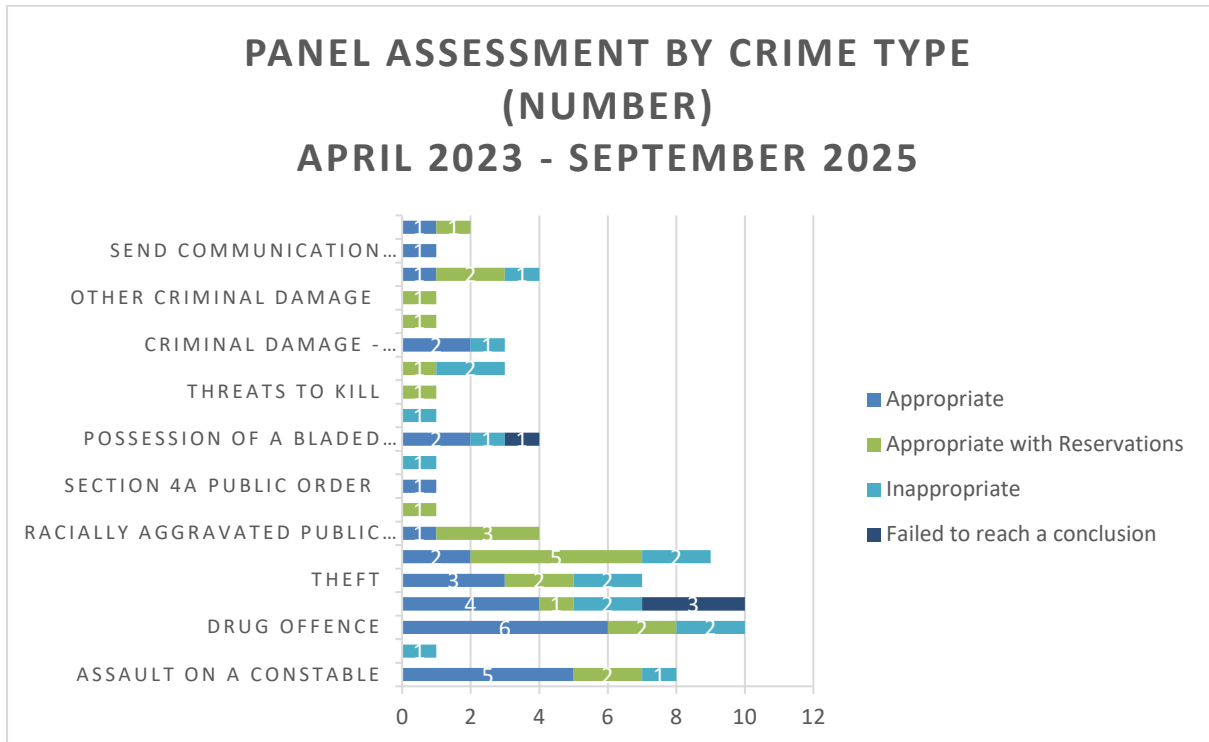


The Panel have considered a range of disposals. For September 2024 67% of the disposals considered were Conditional Cautions and 33% ACR. In September 2025 100% of the cases considered were dealt with via an ACR.

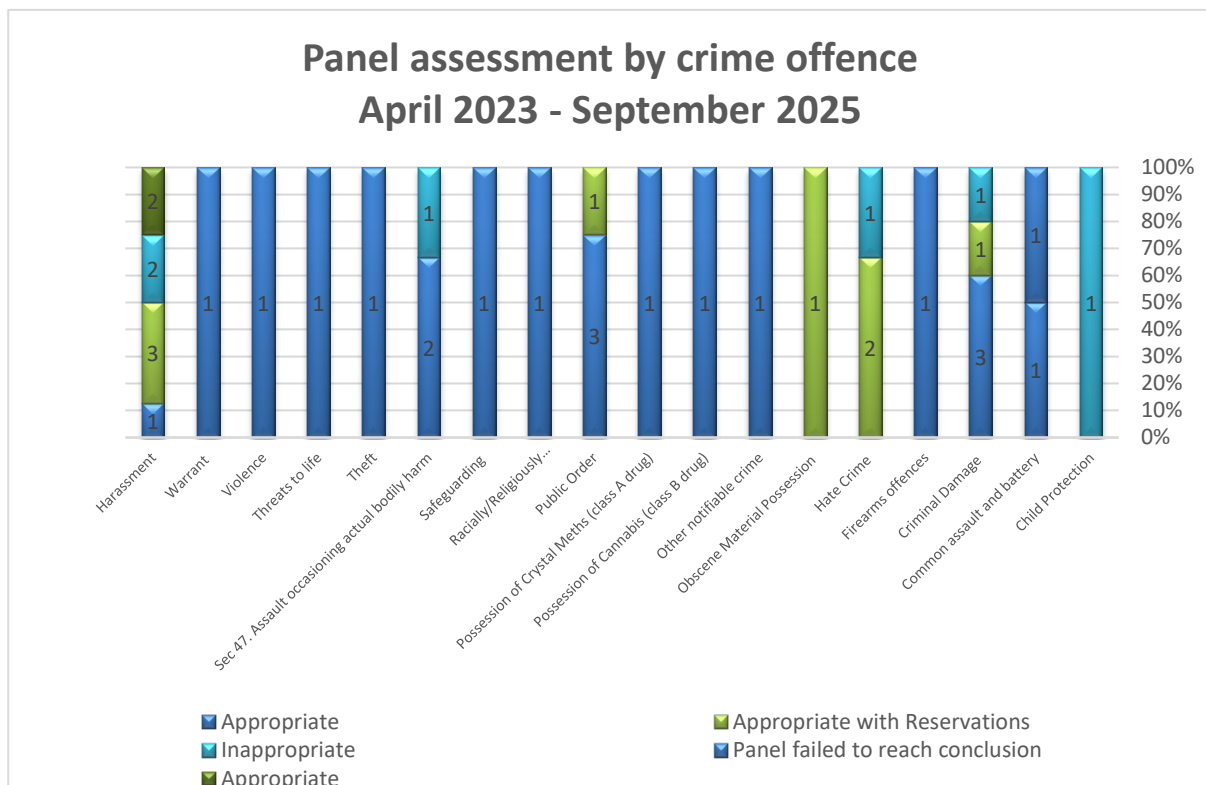
The change in the panel's conclusions reached over September 2024 – September 2025 can be seen in the graph below:



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

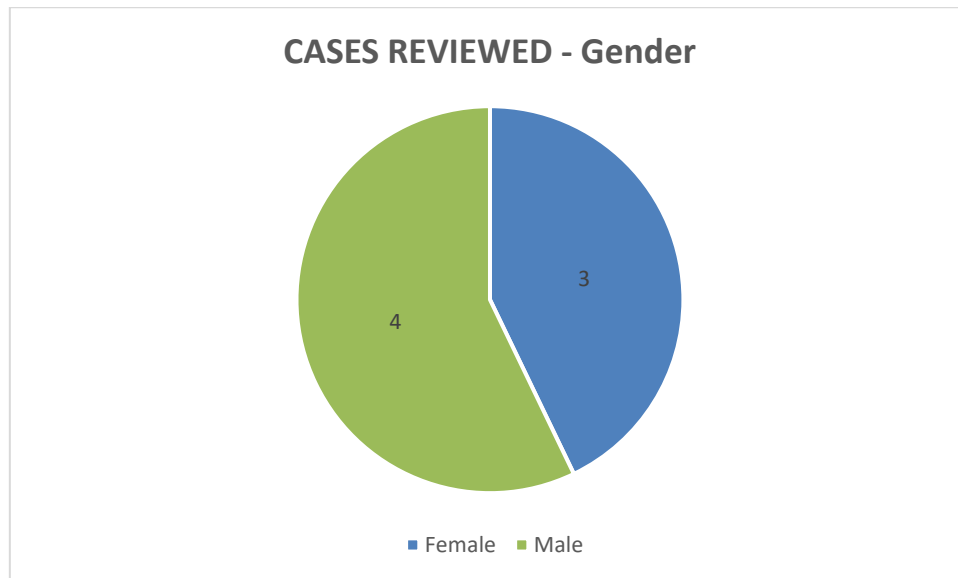


The following graph displays the actual number of cases assessed within each crime type and the resulting Panel opinions at their meetings between April 2023 and September 2025.



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

In one of the cases reviewed, ethnicity was not recorded. 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 drugs cases at the next meeting.

10.0 Actions

Action number	Summary	To be progressed by
OOCR – 159	Panel’s findings for case 4 to be provided to the officer(s).	OPCC
OOCR - 160	Feedback to be provided to officer(s) in respect of case 6 as the panel determined it as best practice.	OPCC