



Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg yn ogystal â Saesneg.

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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 Youth 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 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 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 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 was provided to officer(s) in Youth case 3 on the importance of submitting RJ1 forms in a timely manner.

5.0 Areas for improvement and rearing themes

The following areas for improvement & rearing themes were identified during the review of the youth cases:

- Panel members identified that young girls previously unknown to services becoming involved in negative group behaviour is becoming an issue of concern across the Dyfed-Powys area.
- Members identified some cases which lacked detail within the paperwork.

6.0 Consideration of Youth Cases

Panel members reviewed eight Youth cases. Of those, two had been issued with a diversionary, educational or intervention activity (outcome 22), one through a Youth Restorative Disposal (YRD), one through a Youth Conditional Caution (YCC) and the remaining three through a Youth Community Resolution (YCR).

Members' assessments were as follows:

Members' assessment	Number of cases
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Appropriate	5
Appropriate with reservations	2
Inappropriate	0
Failed to reach a conclusion	1

Case 1

Panel members agreed that this case was handled very well. There was a good write up throughout with appropriate endorsements from supervisors. Members suggested that this example should be highlighted as best practise. Therefore, the panel determined that this outcome was appropriate.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate

Action 1: Officer(s) to be provided with positive feedback relating to Youth Case 1.

Case 2

Members agreed that this case included good rationale and appropriate decision making in relation to keeping the child out of custody in line with taking a child centred approach. The write up was clear and the panel agreed that the conditions of the outcome were meaningful. A discussion was had about linking in with the YOT officers and the positives of this development. The panel deemed this outcome appropriate.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate

Case 3

Panel members agreed that this write up was not sufficiently thorough. It was difficult to follow the paperwork to understand the context due to missing rationale and chronological decision making. Panel members identified a common theme relating to young girls getting caught up in inappropriate behaviour when part of larger groups. Members agreed that this case was appropriate with some reservations due to the missing details.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Case 4

Panel members raised concerns about the use of a YCR rather than an outcome 22 given this was the AO's first contact with the youth justice system. An outcome 22 would have given the opportunity for bespoke diversionary work to be carried out with the AO. Members felt that if this incident did not involve other girls as a group then it is likely that an outcome 22 would have been given. Again, this links with the identified theme above. This outcome was deemed appropriate with some reservations.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate with reservations

Case 5

Panel members highlighted the positive action taken by the Inspector in this case. Overall, this outcome was deemed appropriate by the panel.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate

Case 6

The panel had a detailed discussion around the age of the AO and whether the outcome should have been a conditional caution instead. However, there was general consensus from the panel that the most appropriate child centred approach was taken by the officer in charge. There was discussion about driving offences more generally and the obligation for cases to be heard at court. It was agreed that the OPCC would link in with youth justice services to share information about the Gwent police pilot for young people in this space. Overall, the outcome was deemed appropriate.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate

Action 2: OPCC to link with Youth Justice to discuss the drive to change course and potential lobbying opportunities to scale up processes used in Gwent.

Case 7

The panel highlighted numerous issues with this case including the transferring of information for cases which need to be followed up out of area. Members also raised concerns about the use of custody for the child in this case. There was also a learning opportunity identified for the officer in charge in relation to ensuring that the child is engaged in the process before giving an OOCR. Due to the missing

information from services out of force area, the panel failed to reach a conclusion for this case.

Panel's assessment: Failed to reach a conclusion

Action 3: Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to Youth Case 7, and the requirement to ensure engagement of the child in the process.

Case 8

The panel flagged that an outcome 22 may have been more suitable in this instance. However, additional context was provided in relation to processes in Powys which would not have allowed this at the time. Powys have since updated their processes which means that future similar cases would be considered for an outcome 22 instead. Therefore, the panel was satisfied that this outcome was appropriate at the time.

Panel's assessment: Appropriate

7.0 Panel's assessments to date

Figure 1 demonstrates the Panel's assessment of youth 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.

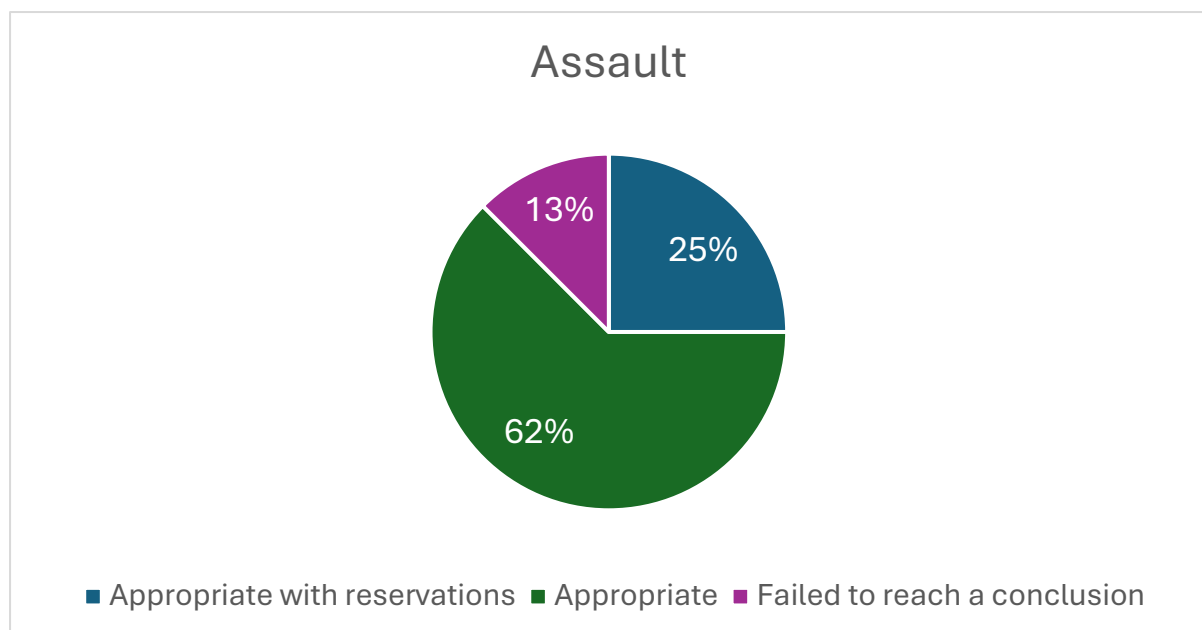
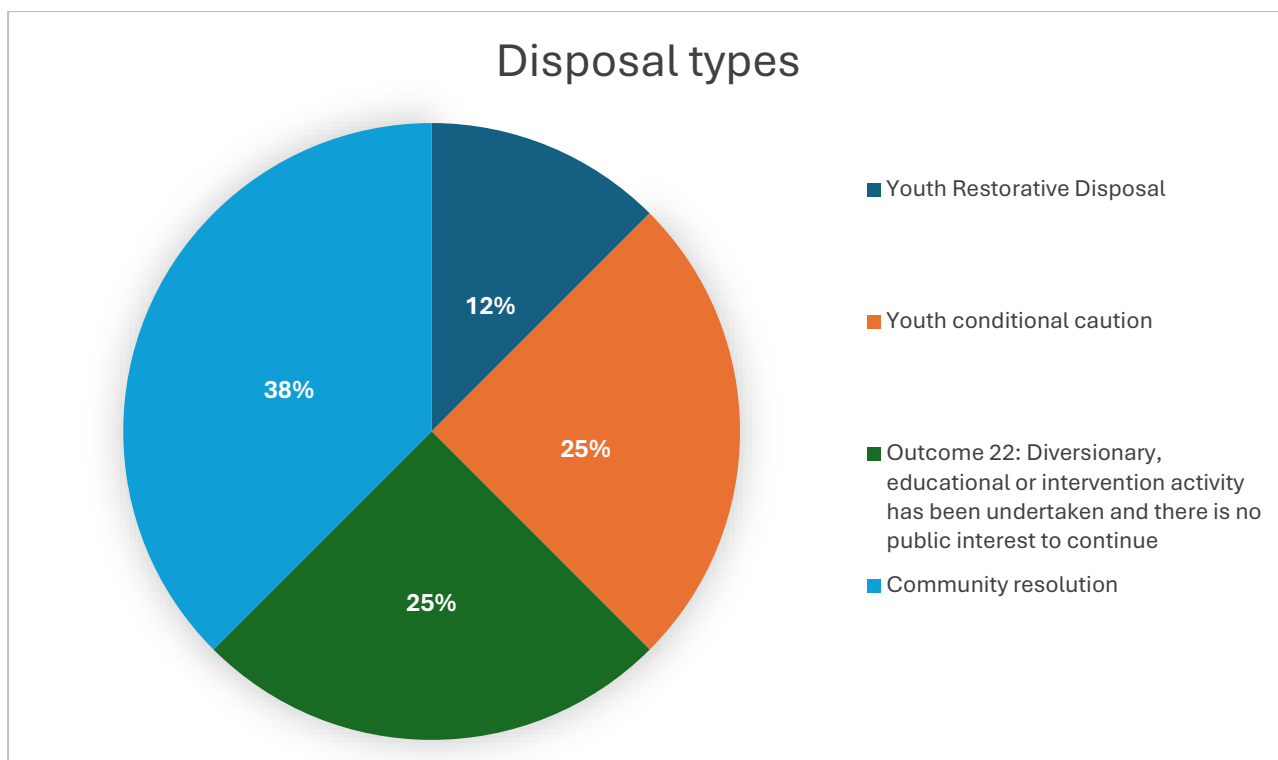


Figure 1



8.0 Ethnicity and Gender

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

Gender	Number noted
Female	4
Male	4

Ethnicity	Self-assessment	Officer's Assessment
White British	2	1
White - Welsh	2	0
White - North European	0	1
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	0	2
Not noted	4	4

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 -176	Officer(s) to be provided with positive feedback relating to Youth Case 1	complete
OOCR -177	OPCC to link with YOT to discuss the drive to change course and potential lobbying opportunities to scale up processes used in Gwent.	
OOCR - 178	Officer(s) to be provided with feedback relating to Youth Case 7, comment about engagement of the child in the process.	