

Gwent Out of Court Disposals Scrutiny Panel Minutes and Actions

27th January 2021

1. **Attendees (via Teams)**

Head of Strategy, Police & Crime Commissioner
Out of Court Disposals Manager, Gwent Police
Chair of Gwent Youth Panel
Senior Legal Manager, South Wales and Gwent Magistrates Courts
District Crown Prosecutor, SE Wales Magistrates Court Team
District Crown Prosecutor
Service Manager, Monmouthshire and Torfaen YOS
Diversion Hub Manager, Gwent Police
Force Crime Registrar, Gwent Police
Head of Offender Services
Head of CJD, Gwent Police

2. **Apologies**

Independent Advisory Group
HMCTS
Service Manager, Newport YOS
Service Manager, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent YOS
Criminal Justice Manager, Gwent Police

Governance Officer - Gwent Police (Actions were updated from the meeting recording)

3. **Panel Cases for Consideration**

- 10 cases were selected for scrutiny of which 5 of which were identified as youth cases.
- Of the 10 cases scrutinised, the panel agreed that the action taken in 9 of the cases was appropriate.
- Scrutiny panel members agree that action taken in 1 case was inappropriate and better options were available.

- The findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel will be shared to both the Youth Offending Service and Newport Youth Bureau

4. Cases Overview and Outcomes

Case No	Offence	Disposal	Outcome	Category	Comments
1	Shop lifting	Community Resolution	Appropriate	N/A	None
2	Homophobic hate crime	Youth Community Resolution	Appropriate	2	Although there was more than 1 incident, it was more than 18mths since previous intervention. Likelihood is referral order would have resulted in the same outcome.
3	Criminal damage	Youth Community Resolution	Appropriate	2	None
4	Criminal damage	Youth Community Resolution	Appropriate	2	The victim's views should have been explored to establish if the incident had been perceived as a hate crime or not.

5	Violence without injury	Youth Restorative Justice – passed to School Liaison Officer to deal with in conjunction with the school	Appropriate	N/A	Concern was raised that there has been multiple reports over a prolonged period of time. OIC to confirm if the victim was referred to Connect Gwent for support services and to explain why a referral was not made to the Youth Offending Service.
6	Sexual assault	Youth Restorative Justice	Inappropriate	N/A	Concern raised that 4 occasions were disclosed, potential targeting of a vulnerable person and offender understood consequence and impact of their actions. More emphasis could have been placed on the victim's views given their willingness to undertake an ABE interview. Feedback to be given to YOS that a referral to CPS would have been the more appropriate action because of the number of occasions that were disclosed, the potential targeting of a vulnerable person and threats made by the offender.

7	Possession of cannabis	Cannabis Warning	Appropriate	N/A	None
8	Criminal damage	Community Resolution	Appropriate	N/A	Feedback to be given to the Officer that payment for the criminal damage from the offender to the victim should have been arranged via a third party and not paid directly to the victim.
9	Commercial burglary	Community resolution	Appropriate	2	None
10	Possession of cannabis	Cannabis Warning	Appropriate	N/A	None