Gwent Out of Court Disposal Scrutiny Panel Minutes and Actions

21st February 2024

1. Attendees

Head of Strategy, Office of Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent Police

Out of Court Disposal Diversion Hub Officer, Gwent Police

Head of Criminal Justice Dept, Gwent Police

Offender Services Manager, Gwent Police

Deputy Force Crime Registrar, Gwent Police

Policy Officer, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Team Manager, Newport Youth Justice Service

Service Manager, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent YOS

Monmouthshire and Torfaen YOS

Legal Team Manager, HMCTS Gwent

Deputy Chair Youth Panel

Executive Support Assistant, Gwent Police

2. Apologies

Bench Chair of Independent Advisory Group Force Crime Registrar, Gwent Police Community Resolution & Restorative Justice Officer, Gwent Police Policy Officer, Office of Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent Police

District Crown Prosecutor, Magistrates – CPS Gwent

3. Panel Cases for Consideration

- 11 Youth cases and 9 Adult cases were selected for scrutiny.
- Of the 20 cases scrutinised, the panel agreed that the action taken on 15 were appropriate.
- Scrutiny panel members agreed that action taken on 2 cases was inappropriate with better options available.
- Out of the youth cases, 2 did not receive an OOCD and therefore, should not have been selected.
- Out of the adult cases, the panel agreed that the action taken on 1 was a split view.

1. Cases Overview and Outcomes							
Case No	Case Type	Offence	Disposal	Outcome	Comments		
1	Adult	Burglary Dwelling & Theft – No Violence	Adult Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	It was noted that the decision maker's rationale was not detailed enough.		
2	Adult	Non-fatal Strangulation	Adult Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Inappropriate	Insufficient information and therefore, the panel was unable to deem the outcome appropriate.		
3	Adult	Threats to Commit Criminal Damage	Adult Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Insufficient rationale.		
4	Adult	Drunk in Charge and Possession of Class C Drug	Adult Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Concerns raised around the offender already having 3 convictions however, it was clarified that the panel would only be reviewing the possession of Class C Drug offence.		
5	Adult	Offences Relating to Notification – SOA 2003 Sec 91	Adult Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Panel noted that the decision maker's rationale was of good standard.		

6	Adult	Allowing Dog to be Dangerously Out of Control	Adult Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Inappropriate	No gravity score recorded.
7	Adult	Theft Shoplifting	Adult Community Resolution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	None.
8	Adult	Attempted Theft	Adult Community Resolution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Sufficient rationale.
9	Adult	Allowing Dog to be Dangerously Out of Control	Adult Community Resolution	Split View	Some panel members voiced that it should have been a Conditional Caution at minimum. Other members of the panel stated that it was an appropriate outcome.
10	Youth	Sexual Offences	Youth Restorative Disposal	N/A	Panel was informed that this child did not receive an OOCD and therefore, should not have been selected for review by the panel.
11	Youth	Theft & Handling – Shoplifting	Youth Restorative Disposal	N/A	Panel was informed that this child did not receive an OOCD and therefore, should not have been selected for review by the panel.
12	Youth	Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear, Alarm or Distress	Youth Restorative Disposal	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	None.
13	Youth	Drug Offences & Fireworks	Youth Restorative Disposal – initially Community Resolution End Disposal	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Action: To review the Home Office recording rules of drug offences.
14	Youth	Possession of Article with Blade	Youth Restorative Disposal	Unanimous Agreement	None.

		or Point		Appropriate	
15	Youth	Theft & Handling – Shoplifting	Youth Restorative Disposal	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	None.
16	Youth	Violence Against the Person	Youth Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	None.
17	Youth	Burglary, Theft x2, Arson x2, Criminal Damage, Assault Police, Failure to Comply with Dispersal Order	Youth Conditional Caution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	It was confirmed that it is common for a number of offences to be listed under one OOCD.
18	Youth	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Youth Community Resolution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Although the youth did not comply, the decision at the time was appropriate.
19	Youth	Violence Against the Person	Youth Community Resolution	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Despite the number of offences this youth has had at such a young age and short period, the panel felt that this does not affect the decision that was made at the time with the information available.
20	Youth	Having an Article with a Blade or Point on School Premises	Youth Restorative Disposal	Unanimous Agreement Appropriate	Intervention was successfully completed.