



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

This document is available in Welsh as well as English.

Partners with



BWRDD CYFIAWNDER TROSEDDOL
DYFED POWYS
DYFED POWYS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD



Dyfed-Powys

Local Criminal Justice Board

Annual Summary

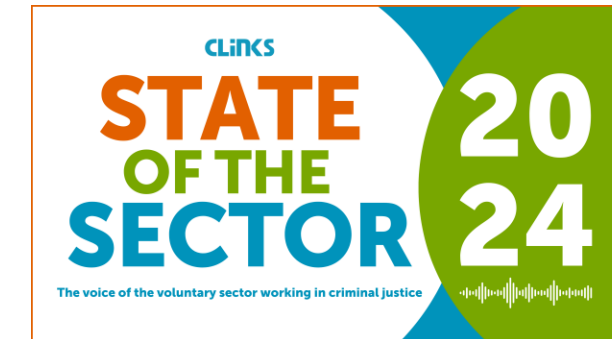
2025-26



Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu
Dyfed-Powys
Police and Crime Commissioner

Partnerships

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out in law the reciprocal duty on Police and Crime Commissioners and other Criminal Justice agencies to work together to provide an efficient and effective Criminal Justice System for police force areas.



Witness Service.



Overview

Dyfed Powys Criminal Justice Board **Vision**

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Dyfed Powys, including improving the experience for victims and witnesses and building confidence in the system, as a whole.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is at the heart of the local criminal justice board for a safe, just and inclusive Dyfed-Powys area. Celebrating the diversity of the Dyfed-Powys area and ensuring that the principles of equality and inclusion underpin all the work that is conducted.

Board Priorities

The Board has a four-year delivery plan which runs from April 2025- March 2029. This aligns with the timeframe of the Police and Crime Plan and gets reviewed annually.

The Board feeds into the All-Wales plan whilst also focusing on local priorities within these areas.

Victims and Witnesses

We aim to understand and address the needs and vulnerabilities of victims and witnesses at all points within their criminal justice experience.

People Who Offend

We aim to understand and address the vulnerability and /or multiple complex needs of people who have offended.



Commitments

Anti-Racism

A commitment was made by members to support the [All-Wales Criminal Justice Race Action Plan](#), ensuring that its priorities are embedded into everything that the LCJB and their organisations do.

Members have signed up to take personal responsibility for individual development and awareness of anti-racism issues.

Youth Justice

The Board support the Youth Justice Service to deliver their Youth Justice Plans to achieve better outcomes for children and young people.

This is achieved through:

- Engagement
- Identifying regional challenges related to criminal justice
- Resolving regional challenges and problem solving
- Sharing good practice
- Supporting the local and national join up with the adult youth justice systems

A regional representative of the Youth Offending and Prevention Teams sits on the LCJB and acts as our conduit to ensure Youth Justice consideration in all that the Board discusses.



PRIORITY 1 – VICTIMS & WITNESSES



Victims' Code of Practice - Compliance



The [Victims' Code of Practice](#) (VCOP) focuses on victims' rights and sets out the minimum standard that organisations must provide to victims of crime.

Under the code it is a victim's right "to be referred to services that support victims and have services tailored to (their) needs".

The Police and Crime Commissioner has a duty to review criminal justice organisations' compliance with the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime.

In order to effectively monitor organisations compliance with these rights the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) were due to publish a set of metrics whereby information from criminal justice agencies would be shared with PCCs to meet the legislative duty.

These metrics have not as yet been published and the previously suggested 2027 commencement date for the duty is now unlikely.

The MoJ have announced that they need to review options and understand Home Office reforms before setting clear timelines.

The Ministry of Justice has launched a consultation on proposed updates to the Victims' Code, which will run until April 2026. The consultation is seeking views on the following areas:

- New expectations for needs assessments, so that criminal justice agencies effectively assess and deliver for victims;
- A new framework for how and when agencies should directly engage with child victims;
- The right points at which to communicate with victims about case information during the criminal justice process;
- Improving how and when victims are given opportunities to participate.

The consultation will also look to make sure that the Code's rights are clear – so that agencies can be held to account for delivering them – and will explore ways to ensure victims of all ages know about the Code and can understand their rights. The government has said it will work with young people and experts to develop a child-friendly version of the Victims' Code.

The OPCC/APCC (Association of Police and Crime Commissioners) and Partner organisations are currently drafting responses to this consultation. This will not be an LCJB wide response, but updates will be shared with LCJB once the MoJ have concluded the consultation process and published what the updates will be.

Despite there being no official metrics Dyfed-Powys have endeavoured to assess compliance and are planning a dip sampling exercise commencing in April. Dyfed-Powys Police are providing data where available and we are continuing conversations with criminal justice organisations at an All-Wales level to address the reporting gap.



Special Measures

SAFE VIDEO LINK EVIDENCE FACILITY



Safe Video Link Evidence Facilities mean you don't have to give your evidence in a court room. Facilities are in safe and secure locations, away from court, and based in supportive surroundings. You would give your evidence via a secure computer link which is viewed in the court room. You will be questioned via this link.



WHERE CAN I DO THIS?

There are facilities all across wales including North Wales, Gwent, Cwm Taf Morgannwg, Western Bay, Mid & West Wales, Cardiff and the Vale

WHY WOULD I GIVE EVIDENCE REMOTELY?

Victims and witnesses of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence cases may feel safer and more protected not being in the same building as the perpetrator and their family/friends



IS IT COVID-SECURE?

Yes - all facilities have been checked and adhere to strict Covid-19 guidelines



Remote Evidence Sites - These sites are **HMCTS*-approved locations away from courtrooms** where vulnerable or intimidated witnesses can give evidence at a Crown Court trial via live video link. These locations temporarily become an extension of the courtroom during proceedings.

[Video Guide – English](#)
[Video Guide - Welsh](#)

[Safe Video Link Evidence Facilities](#)



- Aberystwyth
- Llanelli
- Haverfordwest

*His Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service



Victim & Witness Sub-Group

A new approach to the victim and witness sub-group was adopted in January to provide better collaborative working and assurance that priorities are given the focus required.

The sub-group now meet on a monthly basis with each meeting covering a different area of focus



Meeting 1

Main areas of concern
Areas for discussion
Decisions as identified by
the Chair/Sub-Group
members

Meeting 2

Focus on victims/survivors
Open invitation to members of the
Mid and West Wales VAWDASV *
Survivor Advisory Panel to provide an
input on their work and to share
thoughts on partnership discussions

*Violence Against Women, Domestic
Abuse and Sexual Violence

Meeting 3

VCOP Compliance:
Consideration of data
and a focus on specific
rights at each meeting

This more structured approach has been well received by Board members.
Positive feedback from partners including New Pathways and Paladin has been received , with them praising the multi-agency feel to the meeting and the opportunity for collaborative working.
This isn't necessarily replicated elsewhere and the benefits of this way of working are recognised.



Regional Survivor Advisory Panel

REGIONAL SURVIVOR ADVISORY PANEL MID & WEST WALES



BUILDING HAPPIER, SAFER & STRONGER LIVES

WOULD YOU LIKE TO INFORM DOMESTIC ABUSE & SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY & SERVICES?

The Regional VAWDASV (Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence) Partnership is establishing a Survivor Advisory Panel for Mid & West Wales.

The panel will bring together survivors and survivor voices to inform and influence policy and practice in the region.

As experts by lived experience of VAWDASV the panel will help to ensure the needs of survivors are at the heart of service planning in the area.



WHAT WILL YOU DO

Involvement in the panel is very flexible. You may want to attend regular panel meetings, feedback on a one to one basis, take part in focus groups, complete surveys, or provide written input.

How and how much you are involved is completely up to you.



FIND OUT MORE

You can find out more by following the QR link or checking out our website. www.cysur.wales/regional-survivor-advisory-panel/



CONTACT US

To chat about this further, please get in touch with the Regional VAWDASV team directly:

✉ mww.survivor.panel@gmail.com

The Mid and West Wales (MWW) Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Regional Partnership works very closely with survivors via the advisory panel. The panel is represented on the LCJB Victim & Witness Sub-Group.

Their feedback has influenced developments such as the child focussed courts.



Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu
Dyfed-Powys
Police and Crime Commissioner

Domestic Abuse (DA) Commissioner

Representation at meetings

Following the publication of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's (DAC) report on the criminal justice response to domestic abuse the Commissioner wrote to all LCJBs outlining the report's recommendations. Many of these were proposals for undertakings at a national level which Board members were made aware of.

One main request from the DA Commissioner was to invite a regional representative of the DAC office to attend the Board. Discussions at the Board established that it may be more beneficial for the Practice and Partnership Lead to attend the Domestic Abuse Oversight Board which sits at an All-Wales level.

No objections were raised locally, and correspondence was sent inviting the representative to attend these meetings.

Dyfed-Powys Board also felt that it may be productive for the lead to attend the victim and witness sub-group.

Correspondence was therefore also sent from a local level inviting the representative to attend this which was well received. Invitations were sent for the meetings taking place in 2026 and we have welcomed conversations at this sub-group where capacity allows attendance.



RASSO

Rape and Serious Sexual Offences

In 2021 the Home Office funded an initiative called 'Op Soteria'. This was aimed at transforming the investigation of rape and serious sexual assault offences in response to national concerns about violence against women and girls. This is led by the NPCC (National Police Chiefs' Council) and focuses on improving outcomes in cases of rape and serious sexual crime, enhancing the criminal justice response, and ensuring better engagement with victims.

Dyfed-Powys Police submitted their final Op Soteria assessment and received force specific feedback from the Soteria team at the National Centre for Violence against Women and Girls and Public Protection (NCVPP) in October. This was followed up by a self-assessment feedback visit by the NCVPP in December.

Since Op Soteria was implemented 86.5% of victims engaging with Police now agree to an ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) referral. This is an increase of 37.4%

Dyfed-Powys Police trialled a rape investigation team (R.I.T) in Carmarthen in 2025. Evaluation of this trial led to the rollout of the dedicated victim contact officers element across the other counties with a view to rolling out the R.I.T across the rest of the force area.



Impact Dashboard 2024-25



INDEPENDENT SEXUAL
VIOLENCE ADVISORY SERVICE

ISVA

Contract
Value

£254,855

2024/25 the total cost of the contract provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner was **£254,855**.

Referrals

747

2024-25 sexual violence total referrals into New Pathways.



Cost per
referral

£341.17

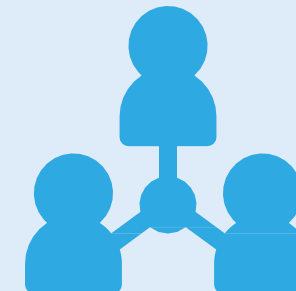
Estimated cost of **£341.17** per referral into New Pathways.



Rape
referral

332

44% of the total referrals related to rape offences.



Rape referral
cost

Equates to a total cost of **£113,268.44** for the provision of support services for rape victims.



Home
Office

£40,934

A Home Office report, indicates that the total cost of crime per rape offence is **£40,934**.



Home office
estimate

£13m

Using the Home Office values, **332** rape cases would potentially cost society **£13,590,088**.

Lost
output

Take time off work/less productive at work

Cost - £6,136 per incident of rape with a total cost for rape victims referred to New Pathways = **£20,371,52**.

Impact Dashboard 2024-25



Physical and Emotional Harm

Substantial physical and emotional injuries, requiring intense and ongoing support

Cost - **£25,366** per incident of rape with a total cost for rape victims referred to New Pathways = **£8,421,512**

Health Services

NHS and other healthcare providers of responding to the physical and emotional harms of crime

Cost - **£1,154** per incident of rape with a total cost for rape victims referred to New Pathways = **£383,128**



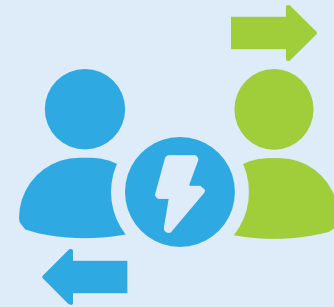
Client Support

243
DAYS



On average clients require support from the service for **243 DAYS**

CJS Disengagement



25 (1.6%) victims supported have withdrawn from the criminal justice system despite having support from an ISVA*

Reasons for Disengagement



- Length of time the Criminal Justice process can take.
- Mental Health issues/stress
- Bad experiences with police
- Wishing to place the harm behind them and resume their life
- Lack of confidence in the Police
- Wanting/needing counselling before engaging with the criminal justice system
- Concerns of impact on family

Quality Assurance Panel



In January 2025, members of the PCC's Quality Assurance Panel reviewed a selection of referrals involving adults and juveniles made by Dyfed Powys Police to New Pathways.

Findings included:

- Consistency of officers in the case is vital.
- Delays in accessing information from other Forces should be avoided to reduce the risk of victims disengaging.
- A standardised approach to ISVA case file updates would be beneficial.

More able to cope

84%



Clients felt more able to cope with the support of New Pathways

Family and Client Voice



I had been off work on long term sick for some time, unable to cope with the crippling anxiety I had after what had happened to me. Thanks to my ISVA and her help through teaching me grounding techniques and things to help I now have a toolbox I can use and have returned to work. My ISVA supported me to explain to my boss what has happened and what my needs are. I now have a plan in place at work, for the times when things feel too much to handle. I don't have to worry about not being able to cope when I'm there anymore, which stopped me from going in. I feel that I can cope once again.

Case
Study

Our world fell apart when my daughter was raped by the one person that should have protected her. I am so thankful for the support I received from you. I do not know what I would have done if you had not been there to help us with a lot of the issues I was going through at that time, especially my housing situation. I really believe that without you we would have lost our home too. It was a nightmare having him on our tenancy agreement, and I never thought I would ever get to being the sole tenant, I had no idea what I was doing. I can't tell you how pleased we are, this was such a significant concern for me, and it impacted my daughter, even though I tried to hide it from her, she knew and that was so upsetting. But now we are okay, we are settling; you made us feel safe again.

Aberystwyth SARC

Sexual Assault Referral Centre

A new Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) hub opened in October.

Partners gathered a week before the official opening for a special open day to showcase the specialist support it will provide for victims and survivors of sexual violence across the Dyfed-Powys area.

The hub was built using capital funding from the Welsh Government, following a successful application by Hywel Dda University Health Board, who have also overseen the development of the new facility.

The services delivered from the hub are jointly funded by NHS partners, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys, and policing.

It forms part of a wider partnership approach between criminal justice agencies, health services and third-sector organisations, aimed at ensuring that those affected by sexual violence receive the care, support and guidance they need.

The hub will raise awareness of the support available to victims and survivors and provide a safe and confidential environment where people can access medical care, forensic examination, counselling, and ongoing advocacy.



This investment also reflects the Commissioner's commitment to putting victims and survivors at the heart of the [2025-2029 Police and Crime Plan](#) priorities, ensuring their voices are heard and needs are met.

 <https://www.newpathways.org.uk>

 enquiries@newpathways.org.uk

 01685 379 310



**Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu
Dyfed-Powys
Police and Crime Commissioner**

Newtown

Sexual Assault Community Support Centre

In line with the Wales Sexual Assault Services programme, Newtown acts as a spoke in the model, providing community-based support services for victims of sexual violence.

Thanks to a grant from Welsh Government, Newtown spoke has also been renovated, providing a trauma informed and person-centred setting for victims.

The design is gender and age neutral, providing disability access and settings that support those with neurodivergence.

A family room has been created to specifically support children and young people, providing play therapy where appropriate.

Accessibility of services at the site has also been improved, with a crisis worker on duty to support any victim who attends.



This investment also reflects the Commissioner's commitment to putting victims and survivors at the heart of the [2025-2029 Police and Crime Plan](#) priorities, ensuring their voices are heard and needs are met.





Domestic Abuse Attrition

A Victim Attrition Workshop was held in March 2026.

This was coordinated by the OPCC after the LCJB meeting in November identified that in Q1 of 2025/26 of all the cases stopped across Wales, 3.5% were due to victim attrition. In Dyfed-Powys this accounted for 2.7% in Magistrates Courts and 4.7% in Crown Courts. A collaborative piece of work was required to focus on this area.

The workshop was hosted by Dyfed-Powys Police and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and was well attended by representatives from the aforementioned and

HMPPS (His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service), HMCTS (His Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service) the OPCC and commissioned victim support services.

The workshop focused on:

- A deep dive – victim journey mapping from report to conviction. Who does what at what stage and is it effective? Identify gaps.
- Special measures for victims – remote evidence sites, ensuring they are in the right locations and are being publicised.
- Evidence led prosecutions.

Attrition is the 'loss' or dropping of cases as they move through the criminal justice system

Feedback from the workshop was positive with an overall recognition that there is more action that can be taken to improve the experience of victims.

A nineteen-point action plan has been developed to progress this work. This includes a collaborative response from the police, the CPS and witness care. Further workshops will be scheduled in due course to ensure progress is made.



File Build Project

In 2025 the Police and Crime Commissioner invested in Dyfed-Powys Police's Criminal Justice department (CJD) to provide the capacity to improve their file building processes.

This investment led to the implementation of a file build project. The aim of the 'File Build Project' is to utilise the Case Progression Unit (CPU) within the CJD to undertake key elements of the file build process. This will include the completion of the disclosure schedules, the redaction of sensitive information and any other suitable actions. Analysis of the current operating model clearly identified that a high proportion of files submitted by officers are returned for disclosure errors, redaction error or not submitted with PNC prints.

The project was launched on the 23rd of September 2025 with phase 1 which included all Domestic Abuse cases.

Results from Phase 1 have showed a significant reduction in the number of days between receipt of the file to the CPU and CPS submission. This has improved from 244 days pre-phase with one reduced to just 60 days post launch. National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) data shows a reduction in the number of CPS action plans received in force, from 57% in September 2025 to 34% in November 2025.

Following the success of this the following phase will be implemented on 2nd April 2026 which will see the CPU take on all remaining case files with the exception of remand and RASSO cases. This includes all pre charge offences – Domestic Abuse and non-Domestic Abuse cases.

Charging Authority Pilot

Dyfed-Powys Police (DPP) are working in collaboration with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC), the Home Office and the Crown Prosecution Service on a Charging Authority Pilot, which aims to return Domestic Abuse (GAP) (anticipated guilty plea) charging authority decisions back to the police. DPP are one of six pilot forces, the other forces are – Gwent, South Wales, North Wales, Cheshire & Merseyside.

The initiative is part of a broader effort to streamline the charging process, reduce delays and improve outcomes for victims – in particular, domestic abuse cases. This was also launched on the 23rd of September 2025.

The aim of this Project is:

- Immediate safeguarding measures
- Faster access to protective orders
- Reduced victim attrition
- Disruption of abusive behaviour cycles
- Increased trust and confidence in the justice system

The police and CPS are working well together on this. At present numbers are low so the project will continue to be monitored in order to evaluate success.

DA Pathfinder Process

As part of Dyfed-Powys Police's commitment under the Domestic Abuse Joint Justice Plan, in an effort to improve the overall service to victims and witnesses of crime a new initiative was launched in March 2026.

This is called the 'Domestic Abuse Pathfinder'.

This process is aimed at improving the timeliness of the investigation and the charging of domestic abuse cases. The process will involve working closely with the CPS to provide charging decisions in a timelier manner.



Child Focussed Courts

A new service went live on 1st March 2025 with the aim of improving the experience of victims and children in the family court. Feedback received by the PCC and the LCJB has shown that victims were being re-traumatised by the previous adversarial family system. The service is provided in courts across South, Mid and West Wales and is run by Safer Merthyr Tydfil and Thrive Women's Aid.



123 cases were referred between service commencement and the end of September 2025. The service has successfully made contact with 96% of referrals and 84% of those contacted consented to an assessment and a report being created for the court.

The OPCC continue to monitor this service on behalf of the LCJB, with representation on the Mid and West Wales Child Centred Courts Monitoring group.



Serious Violence Duty

The Serious Violence Duty (SVD) was introduced by Government through the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, to commence on 31st January 2023.

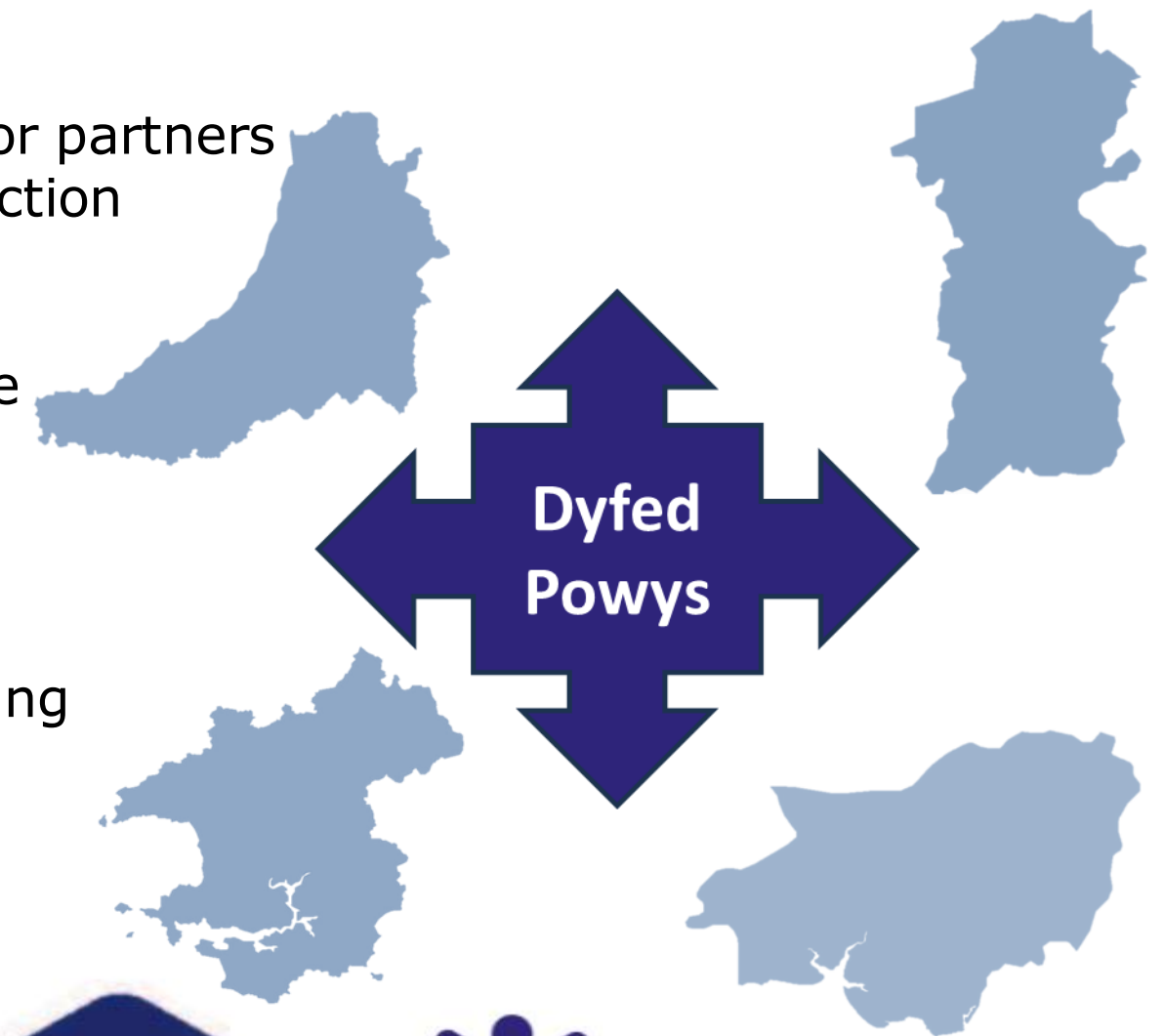
This requires organisations to work collaboratively to prevent and reduce serious violence.

The Home Office allocated funding to each police force area to implement the work required for partners to deliver the core obligations of the Duty and to support the delivery of serious violence reduction strategies.

The Home Office have confirmed that further funding will be provided for 2026/27 at the same value as the previous two financial years (£188,696.96)





This funding as with previous years will be split between labour and non labour costs.

Activity during 2025/26 focused on strengthening early intervention approaches, improving multiagency coordination and continuing to embed prevention work linked to children and young people.



Serious Violence Duty





Interventions

Organisation	Intervention	Theme	Location	Description
	The Aber Night Team	SVOC (Serious Violence and Organised Crime)	Aberystwyth	<p>A partnership, consisting of Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth University Students' Union/Undeb Aber, St. John's Ambulance Service and Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service (DDAS) provide a dedicated support and response night service to respond to and reduce risk of harm to students (and residents). The model is recognised for the impact it has; in welcoming new students to Aberystwyth, providing helpful information, guidance, and support through those first few nights when students are navigating the transition to higher education and living independently. The work of the partnership has had an impact, with evidence demonstrating a reduction in A & E Admissions because of direct intervention.</p>
	INTACT Virtual Reality Headsets	Youth & SVOC	Regional	<p>Sessions held with young people to highlight online threats, alcohol and drug misuse, county lines and Criminal Exploitation with the hope of providing a more collaborative response to the Serious Violence and Organised Crime threats. With the use of the Virtual Reality sets, the INTACT team not only educate young people but partner agencies, afterschool facilities, youth preventions and care givers. Each package included in the headset has an option for each sector meaning that they are fully inclusive.</p>
	Premier League Kicks Project	Youth & SVOC	Regional	<p>Delivers football and life skills coaching to 8-18-year-olds in areas identified as having high deprivation, crime hotspots for violence and victimisation. Free sessions run during evenings (peak times for ASB/violence) in accessible local venues with an inclusive and welcoming 'turn up and play' ethos (reducing stigma). Competitions and events are included; PL Kicks matches and stadium visits. In addition to football, workshops and targeted interventions raise awareness and address issues of serious violence and harms.</p>
	Pembrokeshire Youth Project	Youth & SVOC	Pembrokeshire	<p>Youth violence prevention programme led by an organisation who work closely with ethnic and/or minority backgrounds. Young people aged 11 to 18 receive targeted discussions on topics such as knife crime, peer pressure, staying safe online, and healthy relationships during weekly youth club sessions. Older participants have the opportunity to become youth leaders and role models - receiving accredited training to lead on discussions, plan activities, and represent their communities.</p>



Serious Violence Duty








Interventions

Organisation	Intervention	Theme	Location	Description
	Better Things to do	Youth & SVOC	Aberaeron	Aeron Arts is the only provider of free music and creative arts workshops for youngsters in this rural area. 11-to-17-year-olds in Ceredigion can access this service for free. The drop-in sessions are open to all, and they continue to target those most vulnerable or at-risk. Most who have participated so far have mental health issues; are disadvantaged, disengaged or neuro-diverse; several have been in the care system or are “looked after children,” are known to the police or were sign-posted by Social Services. Aeron Arts work with statutory and third sector organisations providing support to vulnerable young people, promoting their work so that those most at need can join the sessions.
	Carmarthen Youth Project	Youth & SVOC	Carmarthen	Carmarthen Youth Project delivers a comprehensive free open access youth drop-in provision for young people aged 11-25 years, operating five days a week as a preventative intervention. Project's qualified staff deliver targeted interventions addressing multiple risk factors including Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), substance abuse prevention, and wellbeing support. The intervention incorporates education about healthy relationships, consent, respect, and violence prevention through trusted relationships built between youth workers and participants.
	Specialised Cruyff Court	Youth & SVOC	Ammanford	Developed in partnership with the Johan Cruyff Foundation this inclusive space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivers structured PE and sport for ALN (additional learning needs) learners at Canolfan Amanwy. - Trains Cruyff Champions—selected from high-tariff mainstream pupils with behavioural needs—to co-lead activity with ALN learners. - Operates as a free, accessible community hub during evenings, weekends, and holidays. - Hosts regional ALN-friendly inter-school sports events / primary events. This initiative forms part of a behavioural change strategy: using sport, leadership, and structured responsibility to redirect high-risk pupils toward positive peer-led roles. These young people—often at risk of disengagement and future criminality receive accredited training and mentoring to build skills, empathy, and self-worth. Their close collaboration with ALN pupils will develop confidence, emotional regulation, and long-term resilience.
	Lampeter Hub	Youth & SVOC	Lampeter	The Dyfodol Ni partnership are committed to the delivery of a network of early support and prevention hubs to function as a single point of access in communities. The Early Support and Prevention Hub model is an innovative one, at its core is the ability to run a truly holistic, wrap-around provision, designed, and delivered by young people, for young people. It offers support and intervention from practical to providing information, through participation in activities that are of interest and available at times that suit daily routines.



Serious Violence Duty


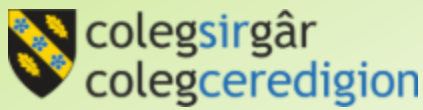


Interventions

Organisation	Intervention 	Theme 	Location 	Description 
	Therapeutic Interventions	VAWG & SPOC (Violence against Women and Girls)	Regional	<p>Therapeutic group interventions that will empower women across Dyfed Powys to address their experiences of serious violence, both as victims and offenders in some cases. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pattern Changing: a 3-week programme enabling women who have experienced domestic abuse to break the cycle of abuse and patterns of behaviour, which lead to returning to an abusive partner or entering another abusive relationship. - Beyond Anger: a 5-week modular programme which addresses women's experiences of violence as perpetrator and/or victim. This includes supporting women to manage anger in a different way and giving them the tools to do so. <p>Attendees have a pre-course introduction assessment with the programme facilitators, who assess suitability against programme criteria and put in place any additional measures to support individual need. Keyworkers facilitating the groups are responsible for recording and monitoring each attendee's individual progress through use of the internal case management system.</p>
	Domestic Abuse Crime Prevention Kits	VAWG	Regional	<p>The purchase of crime prevention equipment to enhance DPP's response to victims of domestic abuse. Crime prevention kits are supplied to vulnerable victims with the aim to prevent and safeguard them within their home. Each kit will contain Essentials Window Vibration Alarm, Defender Ultra Slim Door Wedge Alarm - SBD Defender Door Handle Alarm, Defender Door Brace, Canvas Bag. This is estimated to provide 35 kits to be deployed.</p>
	Yo Bro	VAWG & Youth	Pembrokeshire	<p>Through a bold, youth-led campaign — YO BRO mobilise boys and young men across Pembrokeshire to explore healthy masculinities, challenge harmful attitudes and behaviours, and inspire peer-led change.</p> <p>The project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engages young men in challenging misogyny, gender-based violence, and youth violence, empowering boys to confront harmful norms, reflect on their own beliefs, and become visible, vocal allies in the prevention of abuse. - Promotes safe, respectful peer cultures in schools and youth settings by encouraging boys to model positive behaviours, call out harmful attitudes, and support one another's emotional wellbeing. - Builds the foundations for sustainable boys' support work across the region, by training trusted adults to run ongoing groups and mentoring networks.



Serious Violence Duty

Interventions

Organisation	Intervention	Them	Location	Description
	DA/DV courses Domestic Abuse/Domestic Violence	VAWG	Carmarthen & Haverfordwest	Supports women who have survived domestic abuse and/ or sexual violence by supporting them to empower themselves and get their lives back on track. This is by offering a comprehensive training model which allows them to work through their physical and mental trauma together. Achieved by creating safe spaces to deliver effective, in-depth interventions, encompassing physical self-defence skills, emotional resilience, and mental survival strategies. This is an effective trauma rehabilitation tool which enables lasting health and wellbeing improvements for the women.
	Our Street Now	VAWG & Youth	Carmarthenshire & Ceredigion	Specific to the vastly diverse needs of the further education (FE) sector. Includes: 1. Tailored staff training for pastoral teams and form tutors 2. A Network to support college staff through the discussions and interventions 3. The provision of specific FE resources, including readymade lesson plans.
	Tyfu surgeries	VAWG & Youth	North Powys	Conducts healthy relationships work with young people and delivers awareness raising / training sessions within educational settings and youth organisations. Delivers awareness raising sessions in the local college and high schools covering topics including healthy relationships, domestic abuse, on-line safety and consent. Students present at these sessions affected by some of the topics covered have the opportunity to speak to a support worker confidentially afterwards.
	Early Help project	VAWG & Youth	Carmarthenshire	Identify and support children and young people who are displaying violent, aggressive, or harmful behaviour because of experiencing domestic abuse. Delivered by experienced CYP practitioners with a strong focus on screening young people for violence and abuse, particularly towards their parents, carers, or family members. Depending on the outcome of the assessment, children, young people, and their families are offered a tailored package of support.



Safer Communities Awards



The 2025 Safer Communities Awards ceremony took place on Thursday 27 November, hosted at Aberystwyth University by journalist and BBC broadcaster John-Paul Davies. There were 253 nominations for initiatives across 16 possible categories. Judging was conducted by a panel made up of four representatives from Welsh Government, Police Liaison Unit, Welsh Local Government Association and the Wales Safer Communities Network. The judges selected 34 awards, including 15 category winners, 11 highly commended category awards, 2 individual contribution awards, 1 team award and 2 partnership awards as well as 2 overall winners.

The Wales Safer Communities Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals, teams and partnerships working to make communities across Wales safer.

Full details on the awards and other category winners in Dyfed-Powys can be found [here](#)



Safer Communities Awards

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)

VAWDASV incorporates Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse, Rape and Sexual Violence, Sexual Harassment, Female Genital Mutilation, Honour based violence, Forced Marriage, Stalking, Trafficking and other forms of violence. All genders can be victims and perpetrators of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

Category Winner: Paladin National Stalking Advocacy Service and Dyfed-Powys Police

Paladin has recruited Independent Stalking Caseworker Advocates, dedicated to the delivery of a specialist support service across the Dyfed-Powys area, who work directly with stalking victims, supporting them through their trauma and any subsequent legal proceedings. They utilise partnership working to ensure victims of the complex crime of stalking receive the specialist support they require, which was not in place in this area prior to the implementation of this service.

Paladin delivers extensive training sessions to both police officers and domestic abuse service providers to give them a greater understanding of stalking behaviours.

This has directly led to an increase in referrals from service providers and enhanced knowledge in the force, including with legal service team members who are responsible for Stalking Protection Orders.

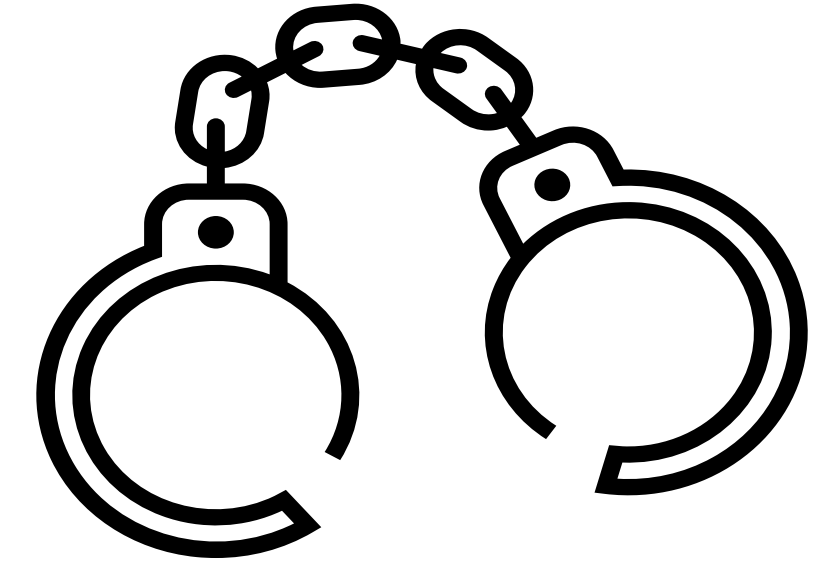


PRIORITY 2 – PEOPLE WHO OFFEND



Drug Test on Arrest (DToA)

- DToA was implemented in 2003, but there was minimal take up from Police forces
- Its aim is to identify individuals whose criminal activity is caused by the use of Class A drugs and
- Offer treatment and support and divert to services



Dyfed-Powys Police Key Milestones and Timeline

October 2022

- DPP reporting on DToA to Home office

January 2024

- Renewed Focus on DToA & drive on testing across the force

May 2024

- Introduction of DToA officer & Blue Skies Niche Add on

October 2024

- Introduction of Intelligence testing

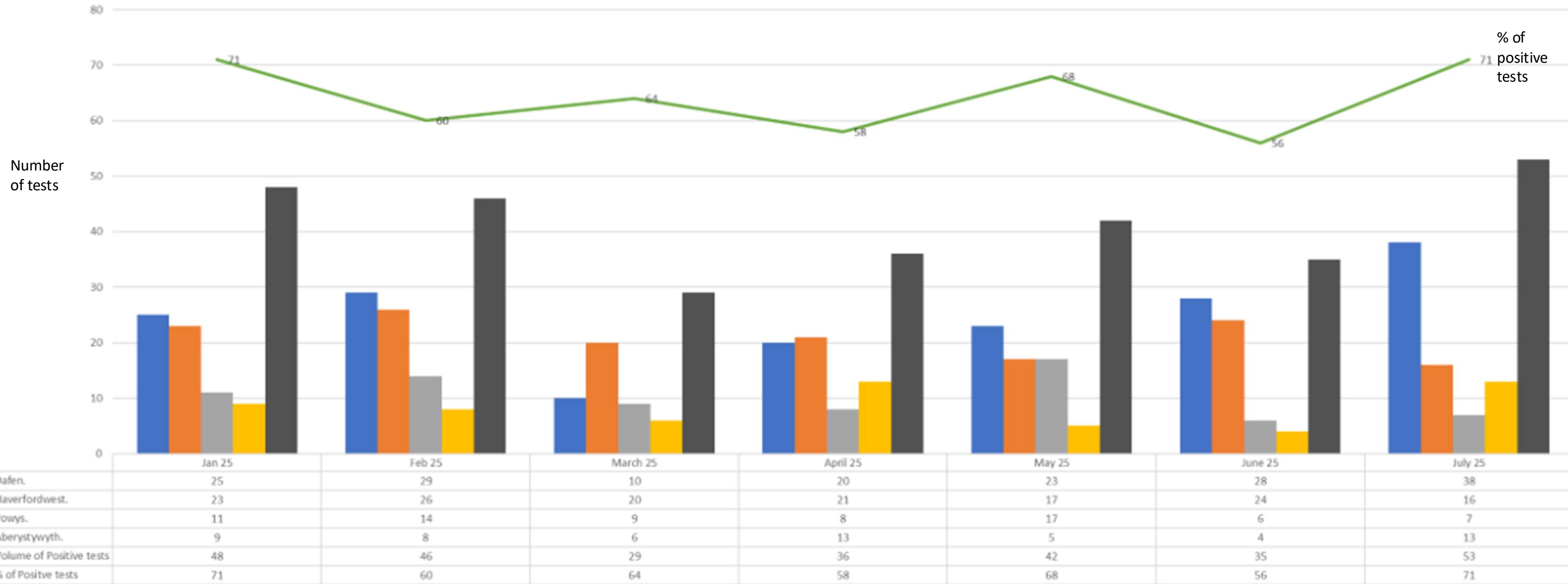
December 2024

- Introduction of embedded Drug and Alcohol support in Custody



Drug Test on Arrest (DToA)

Drug Testing On Arrest



Drug Test on Arrest (DToA)

POSITIVES

- Supporting those who offend due to drug use
- Reducing offending rates and repeat victims of crime
- Important that we identify the right people to support (intelligence testing)
- Changes to Trigger offence testing - adding Domestic Violence offences will be a positive step forward – DPP currently taking part in a Home Office Pilot reporting on DToA with DV offences
- Improved partnership working - embedding support services into Custody
- Continual monitoring and support needed



IMPACT ON SUPPORT SERVICES

- Increase in testing impacting on demand on services
- The impacts of this are being seen in DPP – working together to improve practices including remote assessments



Drug Diversion



A key aim of the Dyfed-Powys Police drugs strategy (2025-29) is diverting drug users to treatment – a public health approach. Officers now refer adults by way of an Adult Community Resolution (ACR) for any 'simple drug possession' an unlimited number of times. The intention is to offer continuous opportunities for drug dependent individuals to seek support and tackle the root cause of their dependence. The issue of an ACR will trigger an automated referral to services.

An on-line treatment provision 'Breaking Free' has been procured to support the treatment offerings.

The objectives for this approach are:

1. Diversion & Treatment - Increase numbers sign posted to meaningful treatment – reduce the demand of drugs to reduce the appeal of supply in our communities.
2. Increase capacity of police officers to be more proactive, targeting drug dealers and/or other force priorities.
3. Reduce Criminal Justice Delays – Less 'open' Drug trafficking investigations – expedite prosecutions and criminal justice outcomes for the more harmful offenders



Drug Diversion

Overall success and outcomes of project to date

- **1,743** total referrals to date since start of project in October 2023 (as of Feb 26) - circa 690 per year, 60-70 per month.
- Average of **11** referrals per month in Powys - Average monthly engagement rate = **75%**
- Average of **52** referrals per month in Dyfed - Average monthly engagement rate = **25%**
- Dual treatment pathway - CODI Group (previously known as 'POBL DPDS' averaging **63** referrals per month - Average monthly engagement rate = **76%**

Breaking Free on-line programme

- **93%** (**220** individuals) Retention rate (completing all modules of programme)
- Measurable reductions in substance use - self declared data, no consequence, no obligation to complete & no reason to be untruthful
- **73%** (**172** individuals) state abstinence maintained
- **46%** (**109** individuals) state improvement in substance dependence
- **50%** (**118** individuals) state improvement in Mental health
- Flexible for partners to use outside this project - evidence of this happening.
- Non-Dyfed Powys residents (previous ineligible) are now signing up

Research was undertaken for the period Oct 23-June 25, to understand the nature and scale of repeat ACR referrals. The headlines were as follows:

- ❑ Over the period there have been **1,874 ACRs issued**
- ❑ The 1,874 ACRs have been issued to **1562** distinct individuals
- ❑ 1,395 individuals have received only 1 ACR during this period - 89% of individuals had one ACR issued.
- ❑ 166 individuals have received **more than 1 ACR** during this period. - 11%

Over the period of the approach (Oct 23 - Feb 26) there has been a saving of an estimated **8,715** policing hours (**351** days) that afforded opportunity to focus on other priorities (or a significantly large proportion if negating variables - repeats/already open / insufficient details to contact open etc)
Subtracting the 12 days lost by the 10 min engagements per ACR alternative to arrest



Hate Crime Out of Court Disposals



Hate crime is a growing problem in England and Wales, highlighted by the Home Office's Annual Statistical Bulletin and reflects a year-on-year rise since 2013 and demonstrates the need to use new interventions to drive real behaviour change in offenders.

Historically police have only had two options when dealing with offenders of hate crime, charge and caution with an Inspectors authority.

Along with another 17 police forces in England and Wales, Dyfed Powys Police have been awarded the opportunity to be involved in the national hate crime out of court resolution pilot which is being overseen by the Ministry of Justice, Crown Prosecution Service and National Police Chiefs' Council.

Dyfed Powys Police now have an opportunity to shape the future in how hate crime offences are dealt with and be a key contributor in the progression of utilising out of court resolutions to address offending behaviour and educate individuals in making better life choices.

Out-of-court resolutions (OOCRs) are vital for reducing re-offending, alleviating court backlogs, and providing faster, tailored justice for low-level offences. They foster rehabilitation, allow for victim input, and avoid the stigmatisation of criminal records for first-time offenders, often leading to better outcomes than court prosecution.



Hate Crime Out of Court Disposals



As from the 1st of April 2026 offenders who have committed hate crime offences can be diverted for specialist intervention to address their offending behaviour. This will be done via a conditional caution with a referral to CODI (Dyfed-Powys Offender Diversion Scheme) for the intervention to be facilitated along with a holistic assessment of the offenders' needs in an attempt to break the cycle of offending.



Following evaluation by CODI the offender will then be referred to Red Snapper who are an accredited diversion provider who will provide a targeted diversion programme specifically designed to target hate crime with a fully integrated hate crime response system.

This combines early identification, triage, assessment, targeted intervention, OSINT (Open Source Intelligence)-enabled risk monitoring and ongoing case management. This holistic approach is the first of its kind in the UK.



Offender Housing Accommodation/IOM

Integrated Offender Management

Housing is widely recognised as one of the main criminogenic needs amongst offenders.

The MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements) Senior Management Board in November focused on accommodation with presentations from Welsh Government and HMPPS (His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service).

A strategic housing sub-group is being established by the ACC (Assistant Chief Constable) and the Head of the Probation Delivery Unit for Dyfed-Powys, with Welsh Government and Local Authorities, to explore how they can best provide accommodation services utilising the CAS3 (Community Accommodation Service) funding, IOM housing project etc.

This sub-group will update the LCJB at future meetings on progress, next steps and future proposals to ensure there is oversight of this work.

The Dyfed-Powys IOM Board feeds into the IOM Cymru Performance, Delivery and Analytical Board, the IOM Cymru Board and into both the Local Criminal Justice Board and the Criminal Justice Board for Wales. Dyfed-Powys received an inspection from HMPPS in March 2026, this covered governance arrangements, IOM cohorts, skills and training, quality assurance and the cost of crime analysis.

The grading of this inspection is due in September.

Included in the feedback were quotes from nominals:

'I have to say that I have benefited massively since being under IOM... he (IOM Officer) has been invaluable to me...he has been a help that I would not have had anywhere - thank you'

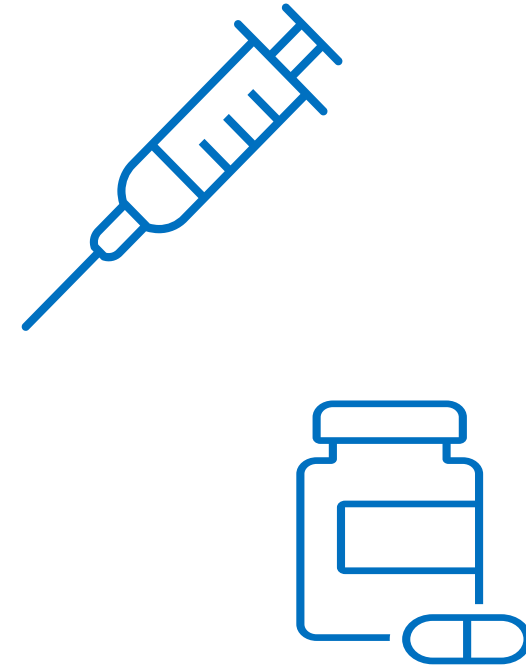
'I have benefitted immensely from the regular contact...as well as being able to chat about anything that crops up. It has helped to keep my mental health stable...has assisted in helping me reintegrate back into the community'



Naloxone Rollout

Drug related deaths and illicit drug related deaths in Dyfed Powys continue to decrease. This is due to the partnership work, notably with the police, and the focus on naloxone.

The first nitazenes death has been reported in Hywel Dda, with intelligence showing that the drug was laced with Heroin. There isn't a direct supply line coming into Hywel Dda, but it is the first time any toxicology has come back with nitazenes identified. Cocaine is a huge problem at present, with eight deaths this year showing cocaine in the toxicology reports.



From a health board perspective, an action group has been set up (with police attendance) to look at this and review the treatment pathways for cocaine.

Hywel Dda Health Board are concerned about the diversion of prescribed medication, particularly opiates. They are working with GPs, primary care and pharmacies; however, it was noted this is a Wales wide issue and not just in Dyfed-Powys.

A needs assessment for drugs and alcohol across Hywel Dda has been produced which contains all the data in terms of current treatments, types of substances and higher-level data from PHW (Public Health Wales), the Observatory, Stats Wales and ONS (Office of National Statistics). This needs assessment was shared with the LCJB for awareness. A representative from the Health Board is a member of Dyfed-Powys LCJB and attends meetings to share information and request assistance from the organisations that sit on the Board where appropriate.



The Drive Partnership



- The Drive Project is a response to domestic abuse that aims to reduce the number of child and adult victims of domestic abuse by disrupting and changing perpetrator behaviour.
- The Drive Partnership is made up of three organisations, Respect, Safe Lives and Social Finance, who oversee the national development and implementation of the Drive model.
- The overarching vision for the Drive Partnership is to see a safe and effective response to high-harm perpetrators implemented nationally and works to end domestic abuse and protect victims by disrupting, challenging, and changing the behaviour of high-risk, high-harm and serial perpetrators.
- Drive Partnership provides Service Providers with resources and support such as the Drive Practice Manual, case management tools, the case management system, training for Case Managers and Service Managers, and ongoing oversight through the Drive Practice Advisor.
- The Service Provider for the Drive Programme in Dyfed-Powys is Threshold DAS.

The Drive Partnership is due to be launched on April 1st with a view to the first panel being held in May.



MATAC

Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination

The aim of MATAC is to:

- Act as a forum for multi-agency professionals to gather, discuss and share information relating to high harm, high risk domestic abuse perpetrators.
- Keep victim/survivor and children's safety at the core: recognise victim and survivor voice, consider the impact of planned actions on risk to victims and children and work with the relevant agencies to safeguard.
- Be police-led with involvement of statutory and voluntary sector organisations, who are involved in multi-agency responses to domestic abuse.
- Assess the risk and harm posed by each perpetrator, using a recognised evaluated risk and/or harm assessment tool based on information shared by partner agencies.
- Seek to reduce the risk of harm caused by those who are identified as high harm, high risk through a coordinated approach using problem solving techniques and a menu of tactical options.
- Act as the main referral assessment point for the Drive Intervention, deciding which cases will be most appropriate for intensive case-management, disrupt and behaviour change work.
- Develop actions to manage risk, agree timescales for the completion of actions and track outcome and compliance of actions agreed.
- Establish and oversee a protocol for managing and tracking responsibility/ownership of cases and actions to monitor impact and hold agencies accountable for completing actions.
- Develop a database of high harm, high risk perpetrators of domestic abuse to inform the local strategic response to domestic abuse.
- Align with MARAC, MAPPA, IOM and other offender management forums which are operating in the area.

MATAC is the main referral mechanism into the Drive programme



CARA

CARA is an early intervention for domestic abuse offenders who have received a Conditional Caution.

CARA has been designed to increase not only awareness of domestic abuse, but also self-awareness and the motivation to address behaviours and make changes.

It supports offenders in understanding what domestic abuse is, the harm their actions have caused, the impact this has had on their partners, children and relationships, and how to make different choices going forward and prevent these harmful behaviours from becoming more entrenched.

CARA in Dyfed-Powys is delivered by Threshold DAS via a consortium and launched in June 2025



Project CARA is now in several police force areas including Hampshire, West Midlands, Leicestershire, Cambridgeshire, Avon & Somerset, Dorset, West Yorkshire, Norfolk, Thames Valley and all four of the forces in Wales.

CARA Themes:

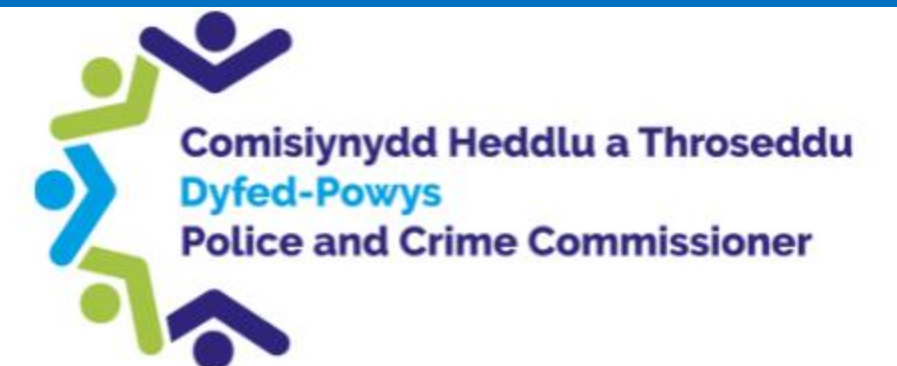
- Understanding Domestic Abuse
- The impact of abuse
- Accountability and responsibility
- Healthy relationships
- Emotional Regulation and Conflict Management
- Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviour Change
- Motivation for change

The expected offender outcomes are increased awareness and understanding, accountability, motivation for change, practical skills, reduced risk of immediate reoffending and legal and procedural outcomes.

Whilst the programme is in its initial stages in Dyfed-Powys national feedback on the programme includes –

Victim feedback – 63% of victims still in contact with offender reported positive changes since their first workshop. Including treating them with more respect, listening more, their partner doing more childcare and their partner managing their anger better.

Offender feedback – 80-90% reported change in attitude towards their own behaviour and towards victim.



Restorative Justice

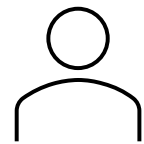
What is Restorative Justice?

An approach to justice that focusses on repairing harm, reconciling victims, offenders, and communities, and preventing future offences.

Victims have the opportunity to discuss:



What happened during the offence



How the victim and others were affected by what happened



What questions and concerns the victim has in the aftermath of the offence



Whether there are things that could be done as part of the offender's sentence which would make things better

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GIVES YOU A VOICE



Coming Up:
Training will be delivered to frontline officers in terms of how to talk to victims and offenders about restorative justice and the benefits it could bring to both sides.

For more information visit

[Restorative justice | Dyfed-Powys Police](#)

[What is restorative justice? | Restorative Justice Council](#)



Community Payback

Community Payback is where offenders work on projects to pay back the community for their crimes. There are several core principles behind Community Payback projects including credible punishment, visibility, rehabilitation, public safety and public involvement. The types of projects completed are ones that benefit the community, where ideally it is nominated by the public, and it does not take paid employment away.

Examples include:

- removing graffiti
- clearing wasteland
- improving and decorating a public place or building, like a community centre
- repainting communal areas
- making pathways accessible
- clearing alleys
- doing grounds maintenance and gardening
- planting trees
- picking litter

The work must:

- benefit the local community
- not take paid work away from others
- not make a profit for anyone



The OPCC Head of Communications and Engagement meets with HMPPS to discuss supporting the promotion of the scheme to charities and community groups in the DP area and linking in some engagement activity as part of the PCCs community engagement days.



Community Payback

Nominate a Community Payback project

Fill in the online [form](#).

You'll need:

- the name of the project or organisation
- where the work would take place
- information about nearby toilets and handwashing facilities
- information about the accessibility of the site for people with mobility issues
- a short description of the work to be done
- your contact details
- You can also share photos of the project site to support your nomination.



Women's Justice Blueprint

Dyfed-Powys LCJB committed to support the work of the Women's Justice Blueprint.

There has been significant progress in taking a system-wide focus to positively transform services and consider the distinct needs of women who are in, or at risk of entering, the criminal justice system in Wales.

Partners have worked tirelessly to develop services that better meet the complex needs and experiences of vulnerable women from all backgrounds.

Work continues to build on the existing framework and principles to continue to embed best practice in the justice system for women in Wales. This will be done by ensuring:

- Ongoing recognition of the specific needs of women
- The Blueprint underpins business as usual
- New work areas are developed in line with the Blueprint principles and best practice guidance
- Continued partnership working and co-delivery



Women's Centre - Carmarthen

The Women's Centre in Carmarthen opened in 2023 and continues to provide a vital service for women. There are plans in place to expand the service and move to bigger premises next year.

The Nelson Trust Women's Centre offers a trauma informed, gender responsive safe space where women can come and get the support they need. We see a women within the context of her life. We offer holistic support asking her about her health needs, housing, relationships, whether she has children, what her financial situation is like, what her life experiences have been and what her dreams and aspirations are.

We operate as a one stop shop, working in partnership with local specialist organisations and we invite specialist partners in to deliver support and drop ins such as probation officers, sexual health clinics and GPs and Nurses.

All women accessing support are allocated a dedicated keyworker who will work closely with them through their journey of support. This may include one to one and group interventions.

Services offered by this centre

Service

Women's Centre Support

Support available at the Nelson Trust Women's Centre Hib will be tailored to meet the needs of the woman.



Opening Hours Mon - Fri 10:00 -17:00

Contact Information

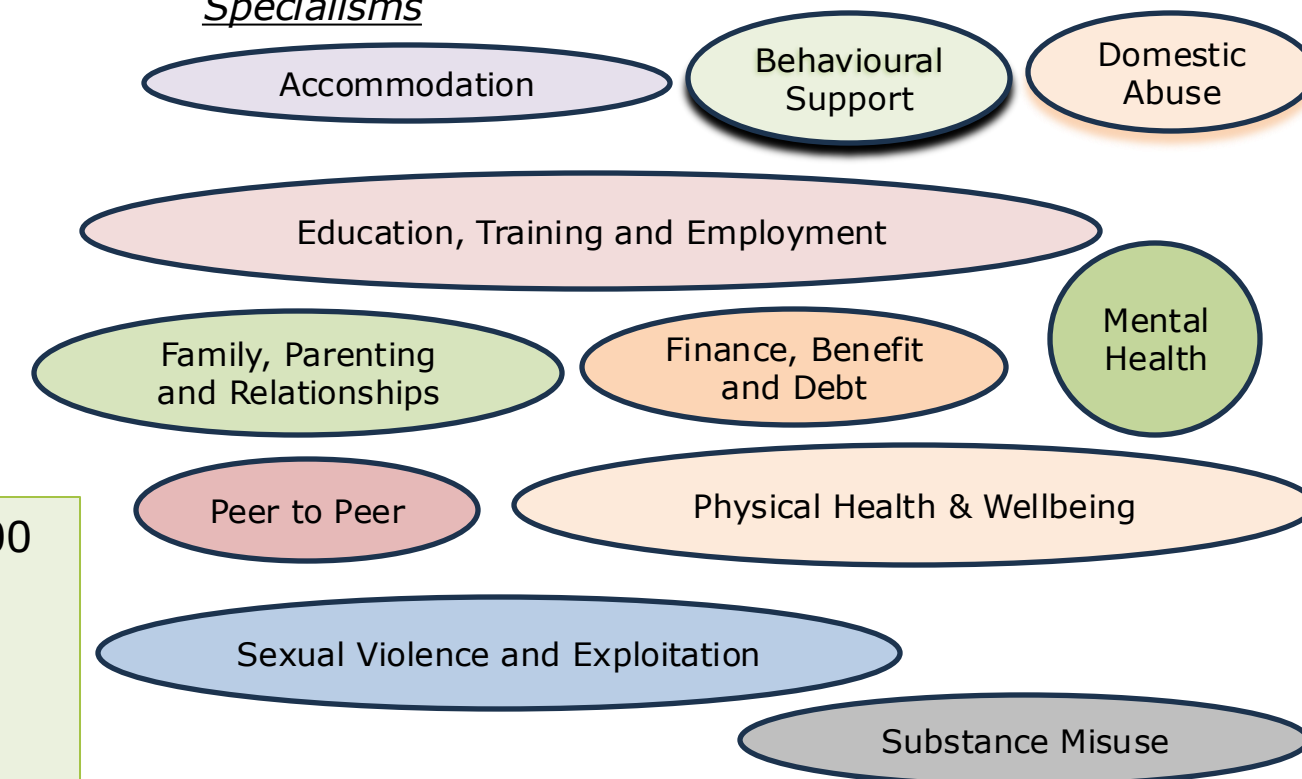
Address:
Dolgwili Road
Carmarthen
SA31 2AF

Phone Number:
01267 235151

Email Address:
wales.info@nelsontrust.com

[Website Link](#)

Specialisms



[Website Link](#)



Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu
Dyfed-Powys
Police and Crime Commissioner

Legislation



Sentencing Review / Leveson Report

The Sentencing Act 2026 represents the most comprehensive review of sentencing legislation in England and Wales for many years, representing a significant shift in how courts in England and Wales will approach punishment, risk and rehabilitation.

The Sentencing Act came into effect on 22nd March 2026 and introduced changes to how courts deal with lower-level offending and short prison sentences.

Full details of the Sentencing Act can be found here:

- [Sentencing Act 2026](#)

and details of the amendments to the bail framework by the Sentencing act here:

- [Bail Act amendments](#)

In addition to the Sentencing Act reforms Sir Brian Leveson was commissioned to carry out an independent review into the criminal courts.

This review was concluded earlier this year with reports being published in two parts.

- [Part One](#) – published 9th July 2025
- [Part Two](#) – published 4th February 2026

The Government has provided interim responses to both parts of the review.

Written Ministerial Statements:

- [2nd December 2025](#)
- [24th February 2026](#)

