



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

This document is available in Welsh as well as English.



Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys response to:

HMICFRS inspection of the effectiveness of police and law enforcement bodies' response to group-based child sexual exploitation: A progress report

I acknowledge the recommendations outlined in this report and will monitor the Force's progress in implementing them. The Force response to this inspection was discussed at a meeting of my Policing Board on 26th November 2025. This is the forum at which I hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of policing services across the Dyfed-Powys area.

This HMICFRS inspection into the effectiveness of police and law enforcement bodies' response to group-based child sexual exploitation builds on findings from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) and historic failures in Rotherham, Rochdale, and Oxfordshire; and progress made on HMICFRS's initial inspection and recommendations from 2023.

Dyfed-Powys Police has already adopted the IICSA definition, as was highlighted in the 2023 report, and assured me that all recommendations/area for improvement from the same report are now complete and signed off. I have been reassured by Dyfed-Powys Police's commitment to eliminating victim-blaming language, and how the force works with partner agencies on matters relating to child protection, including group-based child sexual exploitation.

I welcome the recommendations for national bodies (recommendations 3 and 5) to improve consistency and quality of data collection within police record management systems. Improving the accuracy and efficiency of this data through nationally led guidance will support securing the trust of our communities.

I set out below my thoughts and reassurances I have received from the Chief Constable in relation to the recommendations for Forces within the report.

Recommendation 1: By 31 March 2026, the Home Office, Department for Education and all police forces and law enforcement bodies that are yet to do so should adopt the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse's definition of an 'organised network' as a definition of group-based child sexual exploitation. And they should



make sure they use this definition in all relevant policies, training products, procedures and guidance.

I have been assured that Dyfed-Powys Police reviews its Exploitation Policy annually, and that the force intends to add the definition as outlined within the progress report and this recommendation. Dyfed-Powys Police has also assured me that this definition is already adopted in operational processes regarding child sexual abuse and exploitation.

Recommendation 2: By 31 March 2026, all police forces should fully adopt and use the Hydrant Programme's child sexual exploitation problem profile template as a minimum when preparing their 2025/26 child sexual exploitation problem profiles.

The Chief Constable has assured me that Dyfed-Powys Police intends to use this template when preparing the next annual problem profile.

Recommendation 4: By 31 July 2026, all chief constables should use the Hydrant Programme's guidance so forces can efficiently and accurately identify child sexual exploitation and group-based child sexual exploitation in their police record management systems.

While this recommendation relies on the Hydrant Programmes' guidance being released (recommendation 3 of the progress report by HMICFRS), I am confident that Dyfed-Powys Police is already identifying victims and perpetrators on its record management system in the meantime.

Recommendation 6: By 31 July 2026, all police forces should devise a strategy to implement Operation Makesafe consistently and include this in their child sexual exploitation data returns to the Hydrant Programme. This strategy should include the adoption and use of the rebranded Operation Makesafe police and partnership marketing materials.

I have been assured that Dyfed-Powys Police will meet this recommendation by 31 July 2026.

All the above recommendations have been accepted by the Chief Constable and have been allocated to Force leads to progress. My office will seek an



update from Dyfed-Powys Police in 2026 to seek assurance that each have been implemented as planned.

I am grateful for the publication of these recommendations. My team and I will continue to work closely with Dyfed-Powys Police representatives to ensure all relevant learning from insights generated through HMICFRS activity is acted upon to improve the policing service for the residents of the Dyfed-Powys Police area.