



Out of Court Resolution Scrutiny Panel

Feedback Report to Learning & Development

Date Panel Held	4 th December 2025
Number of cases reviewed	10
Panel	Kathryn BAILEY (ACTING CHAIR, JP); Karen CZAPIEWSKI (JP), Sonia ALFORD (CPS); Verity WALFORD (PB); Chris MULROONEY (CJD DEPEND); Andrew POOLE (CJD); Izzy BATCOCK-BADHAM (VS) Minutes taken: Jules HOLLAND (CJD DEPEND)
Apologies	Sue ALEXANDER – (CHAIR, JP); Lucie SMITH (CJD); Natalie WHITE (VS); Leonora YARWORTH (HMCTS); John SHARROCK (JP); Lynn NORTHFIELD (RJ/CJD); Annie WHITE (OPCC); Becky BAKER (VS)
Report completed for	CJD – Criminal Justice Department – Crime Investigation Department – LPA Superintendents

How cases are reviewed

The Panel consists of representatives from a cross section of internal and external stakeholders. Such members normally include The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Police Criminal Justice Department (CJD), Probation (PB), Victim Support (VS), Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC), Restorative Justice Gloucestershire (RJ), His Majesty's Courts Service - Avon & Somerset (HMCTS) & the Courts and Magistracy (JP).

Ten anonymised cases are selected by the Chair in advance of the Panel meeting. The case file paperwork for each case is researched, redacted and emailed securely to each Panel member two weeks prior to the Scrutiny Panel. Each case is discussed in detail and members vote as to how they feel each case was disposed of as follows:

- 1 = Appropriate and consistent with policy
- 2 = Appropriate with observations
- 3 = Inappropriate and inconsistent with policy
- 4 = Panel unable to reach a decision

Under the terms of reference up to 8 designated members of the Panel are entitled to vote. The voting members at this meeting are marked in bold above. If the Panel are unable to reach a conclusion, the Chair has the deciding vote.

The Chair selected 10 cases with a theme of Domestic Abuse.

Version number: 1.0

Date issued: Not applicable

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Page 1 of 12

ADULT CASES

Case Number	1
Type of Case Reviewed	Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm
Resolution	Community Resolution – Assault by Beating
Condition	Online Course, V-I-A Referral and Letter of Apology
Panel Finding	1

Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0026902/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, COM RES, MO
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Summary:

The suspect is the brother of the Victim. The suspect assaulted the Victim by grabbing her by the throat and pushing her to the floor. The Victim sustained a cut to her hand.

Observations –

Panel though this was an appropriate outcome and was what the Victim wanted. CPS stated that if it had gone to them, the Victim would have probably withdrawn, leading to an NFA.

Case Number	2
Type of Case Reviewed	Assault By Beating
Resolution	Conditional Caution – Assault by Beating (CPS)
Condition	3 Sessions with V-I-A
Panel Finding	1
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0014472/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, MG03, MG03A, MG06, MG11, MG14, MO

Summary:

Victim and suspect are partners. Both parties had been drinking at home when the suspect started accusing the Victim of speaking to other men. Suspect got angry and pushed the Victim and threw a glass bottle at the Victim, hitting her shoulder but causing no injury.

Observations –

Panel were happy with this outcome; it had gone to CPS and was returned as a CC. Suspect had no previous and the Victim suffered no injury. Supportive of Victim's wishes also.

Case Number	3
Type of Case Reviewed	Stalking Involving Serious Alarm/Distress
Resolution	Conditional Caution – Section 4A public order
Condition	Sessions with V-I-A & Intervention Hub (Substance Misuse)
Panel Finding	1
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0024104/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, MG05, MG06, MG11, MG14, COM RES, MO

Summary:

The Victim and suspect are ex-partners, having split up 2 weeks ago. The Victim discloses that since the split, the suspect has messaged her at least once a day and these messages can be aggressive, unwanted and occur when the suspect is intoxicated. The Victim has disclosed that previously the suspect became aggressive and tried to kick her door in and has thrown things at her window. The suspect has issues with alcohol and has said he is going to come to the Victim's address.

Observations –

Conditional Caution issued for the comments directed towards police officers. No evidence provided by the offender's ex-partner to support any allegations of Stalking. Few concerns raised with the use of the word 'Faggot', but the Victim was happy with the suspect receiving a CC. Suspect's last pre con was 2020 and with his mental health concerns, Panel found this proportionate and reasonable.

Case Number	4
Type of Case Reviewed	Use threatening / abusive / insulting words / behaviour to cause harassment / alarm / distress
Resolution	Community Resolution – Section 4A public order
Condition	Verbal Apology
Panel Finding	2
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0032777/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, COM RES, MO

Summary:

Suspect who is ex son in law to Victim has tried to barge into Victim's house and was verbally abusive towards her.

Observations –

The panel agreed with the outcome but felt that the condition was not good enough. They thought that 3 sessions with V-I-A would have been more beneficial at tackling the root cause, even though the Victim only wanted an apology.

Case Number	5
Type of Case Reviewed	Assault a person thereby occasioning them actual bodily harm
Resolution	Community Resolution – Assault by Beating
Condition	Verbal Apology
Panel Finding	1
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT, LINKED CRIMES, STORM LOG, PNC, MG05, MG06, MG14, COM RES, MO

Summary:

Suspect is Victim's father. Following a verbal argument, the suspect has got into the Victim's face resulting in the Victim pushing the Victim out of his way. Suspect has retaliated and punched the Victim to the left side of the Victim's jaw. No injury.

Observations: -

Panel were happy with the outcome and discussed how a verbal apology on its own is not a substantial resolution but given that is all the Victim wanted, it was appropriate. Panel noted concerns for the punch to the jaw of the Victim, even though there was no injury.

Case Number	6
Type of Case Reviewed	Stalking fear of Violence
Resolution	Community Resolution
Condition	Letter of Apology
Panel Finding	2
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0015376/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, COM RES, MO

Summary:

Male suspect and Victim are ex-partners. Suspect has messaged and called Victim more than once on more than one occasion. Suspect is saying that he wants to be with Victim and saying he is going to kill himself. Suspect has threatened to come and sit outside of Victim's property. Suspect has previously hit Victim more than once. Female suspect (male suspect's mother) has said that Victim is horrible for having a friend round and "if I have to come and hit you with a bat I will". Victim still has male suspect's clothes and female suspect has threatened to smash Victim's door in to get the clothes. Further report from Victim, male suspects friends are now messaging Victim, the messages read, "don't forget to kill yourself, we would really appreciate that" "please overdose" "please jump off a bridge". The suspects are also calling the Victim "fat" and a pig" the suspects sending these messages have also told the Victim that "male suspect has told me to say this". The suspects have also called the Victim a "nigger".

Observations: -

Panel thought this was quite a serious case and noted that the Victim wanted a charge for it, a letter of apology was again thought not to be substantial enough as a resolution, however CM confirmed that there was no evidence for a CPS charge as the Victim had deleted the messages. The only option left to the Custody Sgt was a CR or NFA.

Case Number	7
Type of Case Reviewed	Assault a person thereby occasioning them actual bodily harm
Resolution	Community Resolution – Assault by Beating
Condition	Apology
Panel Finding	2

Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0027774/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, COM RES, MO
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Summary:

The Victim has been assaulted by his adult son by being pushed to the ground on an open road. The Victim has received cuts and bruises.

Observations –

Overwhelming concerns for the safeguarding of the Victim who is an elderly man in his 90's. A charge was considered but due to concerns that if the matter were to go to Court, the Victim would be unable to present evidence due to dementia, and it could have a detrimental impact on his physical health with the stress of a trial, an Inspector has authorised the Com Res. Panel members would still have preferred it had gone to CPS to review, given that there were 2 independent witnesses.

Case Number	8
Type of Case Reviewed	Stalking involving fear of Violence
Resolution	Community Resolution
Condition	Intervention Hub & work with Family Services
Panel Finding	2
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0025298/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, MG06, MG11, MG14, MO

Summary:

Suspect and Victim are sisters, suspect has become aggressive whilst Victim was in the property, Victim has left the property for safety, the suspect has then continued to message the Victim several times throughout the day, the suspect has threatened to burn the Victims house down and threatened to kill the Victim and suspect's mother. This has caused the Victim alarm.

Observations –

This case confused the Panel initially until CM explained that this was originally a Conditional Caution, wrongly given by a Detective Inspector. CC's cannot be issued for Domestic Crimes without CPS authority, so it was changed to a Com Res rather than NFA. The result was Victim led; they just wanted the offender to get some help.

Case Number	9
Type of Case Reviewed	Assault a person thereby occasioning them actual bodily harm
Resolution	Community Resolution – Assault by Beating
Condition	Letter of Apology
Panel Finding	1
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0033138/25 , STORM LOG, LINKED STORM LOG, PNC, MG06, COM RES, MO

Summary:

The suspect is the Victim's brother. There have been ongoing issues over the sale of the business the Victim and suspect work at. There has been a verbal argument, and the suspect has pinned the Victim to a van by his neck. The suspect has then punched the Victim several times.

Observations –

Panel agreed the case sounded serious, but the outcome was Victim-led and therefore appropriate. The only other comment was that maybe an Anger Management Course might have been considered.

Case Number	10
Type of Case Reviewed	Stalking involving fear of violence
Resolution	Community Resolution
Condition	No further contact
Panel Finding	1
Documents Reviewed	CRIME REPORT CR/0037503/25 , STORM LOG, PNC, COM RES, MO

Summary:

Suspect is Victims' daughter, the suspect has sent the Victim over 50 messages over a period of time, the suspect has threatened to harm the Victim and the Victim's partner. This has caused the Victim alarm and distress and fear of violence.

Observations –

Panel wondered if there was anything else we could have done to safeguard the Victim. It was confirmed that a VIST had been completed, so the safeguarding concerns had been addressed. The outcome was then deemed appropriate and was Victim-led; they believed that pursuing a criminal prosecution would be counter-productive and only set the offender's mental health back further.

NOTES – Date of next meeting due to be 5th March 2026; this will be online (TEAMS) at the normal time of 09.30am.

Future Panel Dates:

4th June 2026

3rd September 2026

3rd December 2026

It will be decided at each meeting if they are to be online or in person.

CONCLUSIONS

From the 10 cases discussed at Panel the following results were obtained with approximately 100% of cases receiving a score of 1 or 2:

	Outcome	Number of Cases
1	Appropriate and consistent with policy	6
2	Appropriate with observations	4
3	Inappropriate and inconsistent with policy	0
4	Panel unable to reach a decision	0

All investigating officers and their line managers will be provided with a copy of this report to ensure that they are aware that their case was discussed at Panel. Chief Inspector of CJD will establish contact with individuals for all cases that obtained scores of 3 or 4 to provide specific feedback and guidance.

Any Other Business

Andy Poole, CJD Police, will be retiring in January 2026, a replacement will be announced in due course.

Theme for next Panel: Drugs/General Cases