

<u>Vouth Out-of-Court Scrutiny Panel</u> <u>Minutes</u> 22nd February 2019

1. Attendance

Kirk Master – Chair - OPCC
Adrian Bakari – Leicestershire YOS
Andy Cooke JP - HMCTS
Hillary Allton – HMCTS
Sally Cook – Crown Prosecution Service
D/Chief Inspector Chris Baker – Leicestershire Police
Rosemary Monk JP - HMCTS
John Norman (JN) - Leicestershire Police
Jyoti Chavda – Leicestershire police

2. Apologies

Kelly Summerfield – Leicester City YOS Inspector Caroline Barker – Leicestershire Police

3. Minutes and Actions from last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

4. Youth Offender Disposal Data

JN explained the Disposal Data information together with the breakdown of ethnicity provided to the group.

5. Panel Cases for Consideration

The 15 cases chosen at random by the OPCC were reviewed by the panel and the following recorded:

- 12 Cases graded 1
 - 2 Cases graded 2
 - 1 Case graded 3
 - 0 Cases graded 4

| Case No: | Case: | Disposal: | Outcome: | Category: | Comments: |
|----------|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 01 | Bilking (Making off without payment) | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate but with observations. | 2 | A 15 year old girl, whilst missing from home, runs away from a taxi without paying the £8 fare. Fully admitted during interview. The girl agrees to pay the cost of the fare and write a letter of apology to the taxi driver. Although the outcome was appropriate the matter should have been referred to the Youth Panel in view of the girl having had previous Community Resolutions and Cautions. |
| 02 | Malicious Communications | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | A 14 year old girl (known but with no previous disposals) and a 14 year old boy (also with no previous disposals) send a number of obscene and threatening social media messages to a teacher at their school. The teacher wanted no formal action taking and merely wanted the offenders speaking to. They received words of advice, apologised, and agreed not to contact any member of staff via social media again. |
| 03 | Common Assault (Battery) | Youth Caution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | Following an argument at school a 14 year old boy is assaulted on his way home by a 15 year old student from the same school, resulting in him receiving minor bruising. Other students had |

| | | | | | recorded the incident on their phones. The assault was admitted during interview and the case was referred to the Youth Panel. The offender had received a previous Community resolution for an offence of damage. The panel decided to issue a Youth Caution with intervention. |
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| 04 | Common Assault (Battery) | Youth Conditional Caution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | A 17 year old girl was assaulted by her boyfriend, also 17, following the couple having had sex. The matter was fully investigated by specialist officers, and the case was referred to the Youth Panel for review. The offender was not previously known to the police and admitted the offence during interview. In view of the circumstances the decision was made to issue a Conditional Caution with the offender receiving intense intervention from YOS. |
| 05 | Theft from Store | Youth Conditional Caution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | A 15 year old boy is caught stealing clothing (value £75) from a large store. When searched he is also in possession of a craft knife. He admitted the offence, and had no previous police disposals. The Youth Panel authorised a Conditional Caution in line with national policy regarding knife crime. |
| 06 | Possess a | Youth | Appropriate | 1 | A 15 year old boy is found by school staff to be in |

| | bladed article on school premises. | Conditional Caution | and Consistent | | possession of a knife whilst at school. The offence was admitted, and the boy was known but had no previous offending recorded. The Youth Panel, in line with national policy on knife crime, authorised him to be issued with a conditional caution enabling him to receive appropriate interventions. |
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| 07 | Common Assault (Battery) | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | An 11 year old boy is assaulted by a 12 year old boy outside his home address by being grabbed around the neck and punched. No injuries were sustained. The 12 year old, who was not previously known to the Police, admitted the unprovoked assault. He agreed to write a letter of apology to the victim and received strong words of advice from a police Officer. |
| 08 | Public Order | Youth Caution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | A 15 year old girl is one of a group found to be shouting and swearing outside a residential address. Despite being warned to stop several times the girl reuses to do so and is arrested. She accepted when interviewed that her behaviour was unacceptable and apologised. As the girl had received two previous community resolutions the Youth Panel authorised her to receive a youth Caution with appropriate assessment and intervention. |

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| 09 | Possess Cannabis and Domestic Assault | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate but with observations. | 2 | A 13 year old boy is found by his mother to have cannabis in his school bag. His behaviour had recently got worse with him regularly losing his temper, failing to attend school, and had recently punched both his mother and younger sister on the arm. Although known to the Police the boy had no previous offending history and admitted to both offences. Although the disposal, with the boy agreeing to apologise to his mother and sister and receive a Police input regarding actions and consequences, was in line with policy, it was felt the matter could have been referred to the youth Panel for further assessment and intervention. |
| 10 | TWOC (Taking a motor vehicle) | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate and Consistent. | 1 | A 16 year old boy lives with his grandparents. During the night he takes his grandfather's car from outside the house, and later returns it undamaged. The boy had a number of previous offences recorded, and had received both cautions and convictions at court. The grandfather wanted no formal action taking, but wanted the boys youth worker informing so they could deal with the matter. |
| 11 | Common Assault (Battery) | Youth Community | Appropriate and | 1 | A 12 year old boy with emotional and mental health concerns, is prone to regular violent |

| | | Resolution | Consistent | | outbursts. He is waiting for a mental health assessment. On four separate occasions the mother has contacted the police to report that her son has punched her and damaged property at the house. The mother simply wanted her son talking to. The boy agreed to apologise and to accept strong words of advice. |
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| 12 | Criminal Damage | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate and Consistent | 1 | A 12 year old girl resides in a children's home. She makes a hoax call regarding a rape to the police and is warned about her behaviour. A short time later staff call the Police again as the girl is being disruptive at the home. The police attend and the girl is again warned about her behaviour. The Police are called again for the third time the same night by staff saying the girl is throwing paint around the home. Again Police attend, again warn the girl, and she is instructed to help staff clean up the mess. It was felt that this was an inappropriate use of police resources and staff at the children's home should have, as per policy and guidelines, dealt with the matter themselves. |
| 13 | Sexual Touching | Youth Community Resolution | Appropriate and Consistent. | 1 | After exchanging a number of sexually explicit text messages an 11 year boy regards an 11 year old girl as his girlfriend. They are then sat next to each other in class and the boy put his hand up the girls |

| | | | | | skirt on a number of occasions. When he tries to put his hand underneath the girl's pants she tells him to stop and he does. The girl tells her mother who reports the incident both to the school and the Police. Safeguarding is put into place to prevent further contact. In line with the girl's families wishes the boy, who admitted the incident and was not previously known received a Community Resolution. He agreed to accept a liaison and diversion referral to YOS, accepted words of advice and agreed not to have any further electronic or social media contact with the girl. |
|----|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 14 | Possess Cannabis | Youth Community Resolution | Inappropriate and Inconsistent. | 3 | A 17 year old male is found by Police to be in possession of a cannabis cigarette which he admits is his. He was given a Community resolution with him agreeing not to be found in possession of any drug in the future, and agreeing to read suitable material in relation to drug misuse. The male had received a previous Community resolution, some two months earlier, for an identical offence. Therefore the matter, as per policy, should have been referred to the youth panel for further intervention. |
| 15 | Possess Cannabis | Youth Conditional | Appropriate and | 1 | A 17 year old male is found to be in possession of 24 bags of cannabis together with a number of |

| | Caution | Consistent | empty bags and a set of scales. He admits possession of the drugs saying he is a heavy cannabis user and the drugs were for his own use. He would not allow police access to his mobile phone. He was not previously known to the police. The matter was referred to the Youth Panel who queried the fact that a more appropriate offence was possibly Possession with intent to Supply. The Police decision maker accepted that the youth may well have been involved in supplying, however there was unfortunately insufficient evidence available to pursue anything more than the admitted simple possession. This was accepted, and the Panel decided to deal with the matter by way of a Conditional Caution with an intense amount of intervention. |
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6. AOB

JN confirmed that the minutes are sanitised and published on the local PCC's website.

JN confirmed that the good identified work as well as learning points would be fed back to the Officers and their Sergeants.

Following the decision at the previous meeting whereby panel members could refer cases of interest for discussion, there was one such case included for this meeting. All cases other than those referred would continue to be randomly selected by the OPCC.

Notification had been received that Mark Verran from City YOS would no longer be attending the panel meetings due to his impending retirement. The panel recorded its thanks for Mark's work with the panel. Mark's place at future meetings would be taken by Kelly Summerfield.

7. Meeting Dates

Friday 10/05/19. Small Conference Room. 0930hrs

Friday 09/08/19. Small Conference Room. 0930hrs

Friday 15/11/19. Small Conference Room. 0930hrs

Friday 19/02/20. Small Conference Room. 0930hrs