

**Children (Abolition of the Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill  
Out of Court Disposals Task and Finish Group  
Swalec Stadium Cardiff, 11 July 2019**

**Summary of Meeting**

**1. Welcome and Introductions.**

Welsh Government (WG) welcomed attendees to the meeting.

**2. Overview and update on the Bill.**

WG provided an overview of the progress of the Bill.

**3. Background to Out of Court Disposals (O OCD)**

WG provided background and context to the relationship between OOCs and the Bill.

**4. Agree draft Terms of Reference for the Out of Court Disposal and Diversion Scheme Group**

Members of the group were asked to consider and agree the draft terms of reference for the group. The group suggested a number of changes, which were noted. It was agreed that WG would update the terms of reference following feedback from the group and re-circulate for comment. Group members also agreed they would consider before the next meeting whether they wish to assume the co-chair role.

**5. Key Discussion Session 1 – Understanding current practice and operational use of out of court disposals and diversion schemes**

Each of the police forces outlined what diversion schemes are currently operational in their area:

<p><b><u>South Wales Police</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women’s pathfinder               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Joint with South Wales</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 18-25 Diversion scheme</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Dyfed Powys Police</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversionary Pathfinder (Men and Women)</li> <li>• Alcohol Diversion Scheme</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Gwent</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women’s Pathfinder               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Joint with South Wales</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 18-25 Diversion scheme               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Joint with South Wales</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Alcohol Diversion Scheme</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>North Wales Police</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checkpoint</li> <li>• Women’s Pathfinder</li> </ul>

**6. Key Discussion Session 2**

The group considered some of the overriding principles for any diversion scheme including needs assessments, rehabilitation, parenting and support.

The group broadly identified several options for a diversion scheme including:

- National provider
- A bespoke diversion scheme
- Refer into existing schemes
- Refer to existing parental support

#### Discussion on the North Wales Police process map

The group considered the process for diversion in North Wales under the Checkpoint diversion scheme. North Wales Police agreed to share their diversion scheme process map and an example of a needs assessment document. Other police force areas agreed to consider the processes for their diversion schemes and share information about processes for future meetings.

#### **7. Closing remarks and any other business**

There were no other items of business. Next meeting to be arranged for the end of September. WG thanked the group for their time and for sharing their expertise.