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**10<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Dear Roy,

**The Effectiveness of Diverting Children from the Criminal Justice System:  
Meeting Needs, Ensuring Safety, and Preventing Reoffending**

I am writing to formally respond to the joint inspection report published on 15 October 2025, which explores the effectiveness of diverting children from the criminal justice system, with a focus on meeting needs, ensuring safety, and preventing reoffending.

In your report you highlight the growing complexity of the needs of children receiving out-of-court disposals (OoCDs), and the challenges faced by police and youth justice services in delivering consistent, effective, and child-centred interventions. I welcome the report's emphasis on the need for stronger governance, clearer national frameworks, and improved data systems to support better outcomes for children and communities.

I have raised the findings of this report with the Chief Constable, and I am assured that Derbyshire Constabulary acknowledge the report's findings and the measures in place to address areas highlighted in the report.

Although your report highlights Force's not adhering to NPCC Community Resolution guidance, I am assured in Derbyshire, the Force and Youth Justice partners have a partnership agreement in place where data is shared with Youth Justice partners every 7 days. This is outside the NPCC CR guidance of 24 hours; however, this has been done in full agreement with all partners and fits in with all agencies' review processes.

In relation to Outcome 20 - the operational work in this area sits across the Force's Crime Directorate (CD) (outcome's element) P&P (prevention element), and Contact Management (CM) (crime data integrity (CDI) element). Oversight and governance are held within the strategic prevention board and Crime Data Integrity Boards respectfully.



In order to fully address this recommendation, Derbyshire are proposing to undertake a full review of the use of Outcome 20's with the Force Improvement Team (FIT), focussing on: compliance against HMICFRS recommendations and NPCC guidance, frequency of use, consistency of use and authority levels of decision-makers.

The Force has in place an established process that utilises the NPCC child gravity matrix when making decisions relating to outcomes for children and recording rationale. The Force has recently changed its policy regarding youth Community Resolution's all of which now must be referred to the Hub. This is to provide consistency and fairness in decision making and ensure interventions are being utilised to prevent escalation.

Scrutiny Panels are held every quarter based on thematic areas to ensure process and decision-making is being applied correctly and to identify areas for improvement. This Panel consists of Youth Justice Service, Police, Children's Services and colleagues from Prison & Courts. I am assured that there are no gaps, or risks identified at this time.

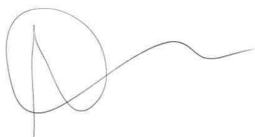
The Force has in place an established and consistent process concerning Out of Court Disposals (OoCD), where joint decisions are made involving Police Youth Offending Officers, and the Youth Justice Service. These decisions are made by subject matter experts. There is an escalation process to address any situations where there are differences, this was the Youth Justice Sergeant and the Youth Justice Area Manager, but has now been changed to the Prevention Inspector, to strengthen consistency.

An informative document is being produced to clearly explain what a Community Resolution is, what intervention is being utilised and what this means to the person receiving the Community Resolution. Work is ongoing to update the external police website with similar information which the public can access.

The Force has in place an early interventions policy, which covers all aspects of Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) and a comprehensive referral and checking process is in place.

I would like to thank HMICFRS and HM Inspectorate of Probation for this inspection. I look forward to seeing how the recommendations are taken forward nationally and locally, and I will continue to work with partners to ensure that Derbyshire continues to prioritise effective, fair, and child-focused approaches to youth justice.

Kindest regards,



Commissioner Nicolle Ndiweni-Roberts

Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire

