

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Scrutiny Panel

Custody Detention Capture Document

Panel date:	23/10/2025
Number of panel members in attendance:	11
Constabulary attendees:	<i>Caitlin Bones, Inclusion & Legitimacy Co-ordinator, Inspector Alison Smith, Inspector Nick Stubbs</i>
OPCC attendees:	<i>Charmaine Christie, Review, Compliance & Governance Officer</i>
Previous Minutes and Actions	<p>Introduction of Alison and Nick and their roles within the custody scrutiny panel as force leads going forward.</p> <p>Previous minutes and actions reviewed and accepted.</p> <p>Action 1 Constabulary to feedback to local authority re the need for secure accommodation. This has been highlighted to the Youth Justice Board, as a finding from the Community Scrutiny Panel, that there is a need for a secure PACE bed locally. There has been no update yet from the local authority, but it would be their decision. For context, there is a national shortage of secure PACE bed provision. Updated for 23/10/25: no update for this, situation still stands. NFA for now but an update will be provided when available. Keep this action live and update where possible.</p> <p>Action 2</p>

	<p>OPCC to consider how they can support/address the lack of secure accommodation in Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>Updated for 23/10/25: MP raised this with director for partnerships who is having conversations at strategic levels about this. It is the case across the board and features in multi-agency conversations that are taking place. NFA for now but an update will be provided when available.</p> <p>Keep this action live and update where possible.</p>
	<p>ACTION 3</p> <p>From 25/07/25 meeting entry 2290. The Constabulary were asked to look into to look why this was not recorded as a late review and/or if the review was not late why did it take an hour for the juvenile to be booked in.</p> <p>Update for 23/10/25: None provided.</p>
	<p>ACTION 4</p> <p>From 25/07/25 meeting entry 2290. The Constabulary were asked to take advice from PSD as to next steps as this written record did not reflect the interaction.</p> <p>Update for 23/10/25: This was reported to PSD by Insp Gore in line with processes for Red reviews. Officer was spoken to and was able to show that this was a mistake and they had recorded the wrong review against the wrong detainee by accident. PSD have not taken any further action.</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>20th November 2025 – Use of Force</p>

Booking in Procedure

What should this be and how do records differ?

What do custody do in terms of review of these records?

Is there any RAG rating in place?

What are panel members looking for?

Entry 35NT/3694/25

Arrest Date/Time: 23/09/2025 08:46

Detention Arrival Date/Time: 23/09/2025 09:07

Subject Information: Black (Portuguese), Male, Juvenile.

Reason for arrest: Drugs - Concerned in supplying controlled drug / Slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour / Drugs - Possession With Intent to supply - Class A

Comments, concerns and/or compliments from panel members:

- The person was cuffed too long, could they not have been removed once in custody?
AS: Usually when a strip search is being sought, as in this case, handcuffs would stay on to prevent someone disposing or ingesting drugs that may be on their person.
- The assisting arresting (transporting) officer looked bored and disinterested with the process.
- The arrested person was a Portuguese national, but there is no reference to an interpreter. How do officers make this decision?
AS: Officers makes this decision based on whether an interpreter is requested or it is not clear whether the arrested person is an English speaker. In this case it was clear the arrested person spoke and understood English.
- Would he be referred to LADS?
AS: All juveniles are referred to LADS.
- The custody record states detainee did not sign because 'Paper Signature'. What does this mean?

NS: This is when the digital tablet used for signatures is not working.

- Do custody staff review details of prior arrest records linked to the detainee when they are booked in, if there are any?

AS: They may check depending on the circumstances, but not necessarily in every case. A 101 form is completed for every juvenile that is detained and is sent to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for review, so they can look into any linked cases further.

AS: Although it is not a national requirement, in Cambridgeshire an Inspector needs to authorise a strip search of a detainee before it can take place.

AS: For every juvenile that comes into detention, a 'golden hour' call must be made to social services to see whether there are any current social workers or care plans involved with the detainee.

AS: All juvenile detainees will subject of more regular checks than an adult whilst in detention. This should always be set at 30 minutes.

- The custody record shows the time was changed from 30 minute checks, to 60 minute checks. What is the implication of this?

AS: The detainee will only be checked every 60 minutes. This shouldn't be the case with juveniles. Coincidentally this has recently been featured within a newsletter that has been sent out to all custody staff to remind them of this requirement.

RAG rating:	Green – All. Amber – 0 Red – 0
Chairs Comments:	
OPCC Summary:	

Actions arising:	Feedback:
<p>ACTION (Constabulary): AS to send a copy of the custody newsletter to OPCC for awareness. Can then be provided to Panel Chair if requested.</p>	

Entry 35SP/2613/25

Arrest Date/Time: 21/09/2025 18:22

Detention Arrival Date/Time: 20/09/2025 16:27

Subject Information: White (British), Male, Adult.

Reason for arrest: Drugs - Possess Class B or C / Drugs - Possess Class B or C / Threats to Kill / Rape Of A Female Aged 16 And Over / Rape Of A Female Child Under 16 / Coercive / Controlling behaviour / Intentional strangulation / Assault – ABH / Assault – Common / Criminal Damage – Other / Warrant - Other

Comments, concerns and/or compliments from panel members:

AS: Detainee was initially arrested for an outstanding warrant, however after being booked into custody, officers have checked police systems and seen he is a suspect in multiple offences, of which he was then later arrested for.

- Compared to the previous case we just watched, this detainee was an adult and the previous was a minor. The officers appeared relaxed and laughing with this detainee, there were multiple officers with him and he was not handcuffed. The detainee even appears to walk around the area. This was not the case with the previous detainee even though he was a juvenile. Why?

AS: Handcuffs remained on the detainee in the previous case due to there being concerns he may have drugs secured on him. In this case, the detainee was arrested initially for a breach of court order so officer were not looking to conduct a strip search and did not have concerns that he had something on him. The officers

in this case were the arresting officers, whereas the officers in the previous case were the transporting officers. The officers in this case have had more time to build a rapport with the detainee. The area shown in the Parkside footage is a separate alcove and there is nowhere for the detainee to go, so this may be why there appears to be less concern by the officers in letting him walk around.

- The other offences linked to the detainee weren't featured on PNC but were on Athena. Why is this?

NS: Suspects are not circulated nationally on PNC prior to initial investigation. We do not know when these cases were created and therefore initial investigation and checks may not have been made at this point.

- For clarity of the panel, 60 minutes is the minimum for live observation, however there is live CCTV within each cell, so this is visible by staff in between checks.

- How long is a straightforward booking in process expected to take?

AS: Dependant on compliance and complications of the individual, some may take up to an hour, however generally around 30 minutes.

- It seems wasteful having the arresting officers present for the entire booking in process. Could the detainee not be left with the desk sergeant so arresting officers can return to other duties?

AS: Until the booking in procedure and any searches have been completed the arresting officers are responsible for the detainee. A detainee cannot be put into a cell prior to all the questions and checks being completed.

- A juvenile should be checked every 30 minutes and messages have been sent out about this in the newsletter. Will this be actively followed up to ensure it is happening?

AS: This will be reviewed going forward to ensure this is happening.

RAG rating:	Green (overall). Some members abstained from a vote due to not being able to hear the footage audio very well. The majority of members voted, all of whom voted Green. This rating reflects the overall outcome.	
Chairs Comments:		
OPCC Summary:		
Actions arising:	Feedback:	
N/A		