

Outcomes and Learning Report

The information provided in this document provides the key learning and outcomes from the Custody and Detention External Advisory Panel (EAP).

The details in this report are based on the panel meetings that took place between July 2025 and December 2025:

Panel Overview

There was two panel meetings held during this period. The following topics were reviewed:

- Cases (dip sample) for Use of Force/Restraint in Custody
- HMICFRS Custody Inspection Criteria

Learning Outcomes

The panel identified the following learning points for the force:

1. There have been positive and proactive steps undertaken by the force in anticipation of future inspections, where the new inspection framework for police custody is moving from a standalone framework into the wider PEEL inspections.

Overall, panel members agreed that Northumbria Police were correct, proportionate and a reasonable use of force was used in all cases reviewed, with it being evident that de-escalation is used as a matter of course in the first instance.