

After Arrest

What to expect after having been arrested and questioned

Introduction

This information is to help young people and their parents understand what may happen to them after they have been arrested and questioned in the Police station.

Released without Charge (“No Further Action”)

The Police may decide that you are not responsible for the offence or that they have insufficient evidence and may release you without any further action being taken.

You may receive a Community Resolution Disposal

The Community Resolution Disposal (CRD) holds 10 to 17 year olds to account for minor crime and disorder through the use of restorative justice.

This is a non-statutory disposal and is only an option for minor offences where the young person admits they are guilty, and the victim has agreed that they do not want more formal action taken. It is an opportunity for the young person to address what they have done and make amends to the victim in some way.

If you receive a community resolution your details will be sent to the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and we will contact you to arrange any help or support you may need to help you stay out of trouble.

Even though the crime will still be recorded, a Community Resolution Disposal will not go on your formal police record.

You may receive a Youth Caution or Youth Conditional Cautions

The Youth Caution and Youth Conditional Caution is a formal way for the police to deal with low level offending without the young person going to court. A Youth Caution May be given straight away (or will involve a referral to the YOT) and will go on a young person’s formal police record. A Youth Conditional Caution also involves meeting with the Youth Offending Team to look at what has got a young person into trouble, how they can repair the harm and get support to stay out of trouble in the future

Bailed to reappear at the Police Station

Where the Police need to make further enquiries before making a decision about what should happen to you, they will set a date for you to return to the Police station to continue the interview. If you do not attend on that date, the Police can issue a warrant for your arrest.

Charged and Bailed to appear at Youth Court

If you are charged with an offence you will be bailed and given a date to appear at Youth Court. If you do not attend the Court on that day a warrant will be issued for your arrest.

Charged and Detained to appear at the next available Youth Court

If you are charged with an offence and there is a risk that you will abscond or commit further offences, the Police may want to detain you to appear at Court the following day.

It may be possible that you could be placed in Local Authority accommodation or, if not, you could be held in the Police Station.

Legal Representation - Getting a Solicitor

You should have had a Solicitor to represent you at the Police Station whilst you were being interviewed.

It is your legal right to have a Solicitor present. If you don't have your own Solicitor, the Police will contact a Duty Solicitor for you. This services is available free of charge.

Youth Courts

The Youth Courts deal with young people up to the age of 18 years. Magistrates in Youth Courts are specifically trained to deal with young people.

The Youth Court is a closed court which means members of the public are not allowed to attend.

The Law requires that parents or adults with parental responsibility must attend the Youth Court with their son or daughter

The Youth Offending Team (YOT)

The Youth Court may sentence you to one of a variety of Orders. You will then be under the supervision of the Youth Offending Team. You will be required to:

- Attend all appointments
- Make positive changes to your lifestyle to help you stay out of trouble

- Make amends for your offending.

If you do not keep your appointments, you will be in breach of your Order and will have to go back to Court.