

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 don't have enough evidence and may release you without any further action being taken.

You may receive a Community Resolution

The Community Resolution (CR) can be given to 10 to 17 year olds when they have committed an offence and it can be resolved with restorative justice.

This is a non-statutory disposal and is only an option for lower level 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 Youth Justice Service. Even though the crime will still be recorded, a Community Resolution Disposal will not go on your formal police record.

You may be referred to an Out of Court Disposal Panel

The police might send your case to be discussed by a panel of people from the Youth Justice Service and police. You can read about 'pre-court outcomes' by looking at the information sheet on this webpage.

Bailed to reappear at the Police Station

When the Police need to look further at the case 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 arrest you.

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 you could be arrested.

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 not attend court or commit further offences, the Police may want to hold you in custody 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.

