Youth Conditional Caution: what is it?

A **Youth Conditional Caution** is a formal warning that is kept on record by the Police. It can be given to young people under the age of 18 who have committed certain criminal offences.

If you receive a Youth Conditional Caution, it will include at least one condition that you must complete. This is NOT voluntary and you must attend the meeting with the Youth Offending Team and carry out any conditions set for you. If you do not complete the programme then you may have to go to Court.

Examples of what can be part of a Youth Conditional Caution are:
- Doing some community work to make up for your offence
- Anger Management Work
- Drugs or Alcohol work
- Attendance Centre – Looking at “Consequences of further Offending Behaviour”
- Victim awareness
- Restorative work – such as helping to clean up in the community

Recording of Youth Cautions or Youth Conditional Cautions

**Will I have to disclose this in the future?**

- Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions are not convictions but are formal criminal justice disposals.
- Youth Cautions come under the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1994 and do not need to be disclosed - unless you have been specifically asked if you have received a caution.
- Youth Conditional Cautions also do not have to be disclosed after three months, if the conditions are met, unless you have been specifically asked if you have ever received a caution. This may be by a future employer or training provider, for example.
- However if you are asked to complete a full Disclosure and Barring Service check, for example if you are working with children or vulnerable people, a Youth Caution or a Youth Conditional Caution will show up.
- If you need any further information please see the Rotherham Early Help leaflet or contact Rotherham Youth Offending Team on 01709 255266.

Rotherham Youth Caution Clinics

A guide for a young person with a police caution
At an assessment meeting, you or your parents/carer will be asked to share information about yourselves. You will also be asked about the offence and different areas of your life such as education, family, health and hobbies for example.

To complete the assessment, the Youth Offending Team may contact other agencies such as your school, Social Care or Early Help from the Local Authority. Any information will be treated in line with the Data Protection Act. Further information about this is included in the “Handling your Personal Information Leaflet” which you will be given.

If you tell us something during the meeting about a risk of harm to yourself or others, or if it is clear that an offence has been committed which has not been dealt with already, we will pass this information to the Police or Social Care.

Information from the meeting will help us to make a decision about the best way forward with the matter.

If you commit certain types of offences and you admit to it, you may be eligible to get a Youth Caution or a Youth Conditional Caution instead of going to Court.

- Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions are formal warnings that are kept on record by the Police.
- To decide if a Youth Caution or a Youth Conditional Caution is the best thing to do, the Police will refer you to the Youth Offending Team.
- Upon referral, a decision will be made to see if an assessment is required.
- The Youth Offending Team may contact you, your parents or carers to arrange the assessment and if you are under 18, they may need to be at that meeting.

A Youth Caution is a formal warning that is kept on record by the Police. It can be given to young people under the age of 18 who have committed certain criminal offences.

If you receive a Youth Caution, the victim of the crime may be invited to meet with you to discuss the offence; you will be informed of this before the meeting and the Youth Offending Team will carefully manage this.

In addition, the Youth Offending Team may do some work with you to help you to stay out of trouble. This work is voluntary but if you decide not to do it, this may affect what happens to you if you get into trouble in the future.