

THEY ARE DOING WHAT'S BEST FOR ME. YEAH I TRUSTED WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY

I'VE HAD A LOT OF WORK WITH ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION. THEY HAVE HELPED ME A LOT WITH THAT

I THOUGHT THEY WOULD HAVE JUST SHUT ME OFF AND SENT ME TO COURT. BUT THEN THEY'VE GIVEN ME ALL THESE CHANCES

# WHAT ARE OUT OF COURT RESOLUTIONS



# AND HOW THEY CAN HELP YOU

THEY SAID WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED, HOW WE CAN MOVE FORWARD FROM IT AND NOT GO BACK TO IT

I KNOW YOUTH OFFENDING AREN'T GOING TO JUDGE ME AND THEY'RE GOING TO BE THERE FOR ME NO MATTER WHAT



The Police have three options available to them when dealing with your case. They can decide to :

- Charge you to court
- Give you an Out of Court Resolution or Diversion, or
- Take no further action

In this leaflet we're going to talk about the second option :  
**Out of Court Resolutions**

# What are Out of Court Resolutions?

An Out of Court Resolution refers to a range of options available to the Police instead of sending you to court.

There are 3 types of Out of Court Resolution that the police can choose from :

1. Community Resolution
2. Youth Caution
3. Youth Conditional Caution

	1. Community Resolution	2. Youth Caution	3. Youth Conditional Caution
Do I need to admit guilt or accept responsibility?	Accept responsibility	Admit guilt	Admit guilt
Will I be assessed by the Youth Justice Service?	Optional*	Yes	Yes
Will I need to work with the Youth Justice Service?	Optional*	Optional*	Yes
Do I need to take part in an intervention?	Optional : interventions are voluntary	Optional : interventions are voluntary	YES : If the Youth Justice Service assesment states you need support
Do I have to follow any conditions?	No	No	Yes
Could I be sent to court if I don't follow these conditions?	No	No	Yes
Will I get a criminal conviction?	No**	No**	No**

\* The Police or Youth Justice Service will work with you to decide whether you need an assessment and/or extra support. This depends on the crime that has been committed and whether it has been identified that you might need support or help.

\*\* Out of Court Resolutions can be stored on the Polices computer system, but will not be shared with other organisations (for example a Disclosure & Barring Search). However, it could be shared by the Police with enhanced checks e.g., as part of an application for certain jobs like a teacher, a doctor, etc. You may also need to disclose these offences when travelling aboard, (to the USA for example) or when you apply for university.

## What kind of support can I get ?

You can get support with a number of things, such as :

- getting a job or getting back into education or training
- help with your mental health, housing and finance.
- hobbies that you're interested in such as sport, art and music.



Your Youth Justice Service will work closely with you to decide what type of support or intervention best suits you.

## What happens if I don't want to do this?

For Community Resolutions and Youth Cautions, working with the Youth Justice Service is voluntary, however if you choose not to work with the Youth Justice Service and you commit the same offence again, the Police might decide to refer you to be issued with an Out of Court Resolution or they might charge you to court.

If you receive a Youth Conditional Caution and you do not come to your sessions, your Youth Justice Service will work with you in helping you understand why you need to do this. If this doesn't affect change, the Youth Justice Service will have to tell the Police Officer who arrested you, who may then decide to charge you to court for the crime. If you go to Court, you might receive a conviction, which is more serious and may result in more serious consequences, such as, a tougher sentence.

## I'm still unsure ...

If you're still unsure please speak to your parents/carer or someone you trust about your case. You can also get independent advice from a solicitor and your local Youth Justice Service.

For more information, you can visit the Youth Justice Legal Centre online on [www.YJLC.uk](http://www.YJLC.uk) (the Youth Justice Legal Centre is a charity that provides information and expertise on the youth justice system and an advice line for children and their families).

