****



Out of Court Disposals

**Tower Hamlets and City of London Youth Justice Service**

**Understanding Out of Court Disposals**

Police investigate an offence (meaning they will try to work out what happened). If the police decide a child/young person has committed an offence (committed a crime) they can choose one of four options:

1. **Triage** (Out of Court Disposal). See number 1.

2. **Youth Caution** (Out of Court Disposal). See number 2.

3. **Youth Conditional Caution** (Out of Court Disposal). See number 3.

4. **Sent to Court** and charged with the offence. This is the most serious outcome.

The following three things help the police decide which of the above outcomes is chosen:

1. **Whether the offence is admitted**- *It is better if the offence is admitted*
2. **Seriousness of the offence** - *More serious crimes have more serious the outcome (such as going to Court)*
3. **Previous offences -** *More crimes committed in the past, the more likely it will go to Court*
4. **Triage**

What is Triage?

Triage usually **only happens once** and happens instead of going to court. The **offence was not serious enough for prosecution.**

What does Triage involve?

The child/young person will do some **work with the Youth Justice Service**. A parent/carer must also support the child/young person not to commit crime.

How could Triage affect a child or young person’s future?

Triage is **not a conviction**, **but it will stay on the police computer** and it can be shared with other agencies if needed.

What happens if another crime is committed?

The police will decide on the outcome**. This will involve being sent to Court or receiving a Youth Caution or Youth Conditional Caution.** If the child/young person goes to Court and is charged, then the Triage information might be used in a trial or in sentencing

1. **Youth Caution**

What is a Youth Caution?

A Youth Caution happens when the law has been broken but the police feel the child/young person should not go to Court this time. **A Youth Caution is more serious than Triage**. You are likely to get in more serious trouble if you get arrested again.

1. **Youth Conditional Caution**

What is a Youth Conditional Caution?

A Youth Conditional Caution is more serious than a Youth Caution and Triage. This is like a Youth Caution but has ‘conditions’. This means that there are certain rules that must be followed. If they are not followed it can be sent back to Court

What does a Youth Conditional Caution involve?

The child/young person can be offered a place on a diversion scheme. This means they must do some work with the **Youth Justice Service (YJS)**. This helps them not to get into trouble again. If the child/young person **does not work with the YJS they can get in more**

**serious trouble** if they get arrested again. A parent/carer must also support the child/young person not to commit crime again.

Telling employers about childhood Out of Court disposals

From 28 November 2020, childhood warnings, reprimands and youth cautions will no longer be automatically disclosed on a Disclosure and Barring (DBS) certificate. If you are not sure, speak to your YJS worker or check here: **www.nacro.org.uk**

1. **Contact details for Tower Hamlets and City of London Youth Justice Service**

Address: Youth Justice Service, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, Tower Hamlets, E14 2BG

Telephone: 020 7364 1144