

Youth diversion programme

What is a youth diversion programme?

The youth diversion programme is given to young people to try and divert them away from criminal behaviour.

It is a programme where young people can work with the youth justice service for 16 weeks. You will be asked to sign a contract to agree to work with the youth justice service for this time.

Once you have completed this programme, the police will record the offence as having 'no further action'. If the programme is not completed, then the police will be told and you will receive a more formal outcome.

Who is the youth justice service?

We are a team of people who work together to try and support young people to make better choices with their behaviour and avoid getting into trouble with police.

What do I need to do?

You will be offered appointments each week (unless told otherwise) where you will meet with someone from the youth justice service. Initially, we will speak about what happened and why. We will ask questions about your life including friends, school, lifestyle. This will help us to work out how we can provide some support to help you avoid this behaviour again.

You will need to attend appointments as asked to by the youth justice service.

- Be on time.
- Do not attend under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Let your youth justice worker know if you have changed number or address.
- Let us know if you need to change or cancel an appointment, we may need to ask for proof if you are unable to attend.

What if I don't?

When young people do not agree to work with youth justice service, the police are told. The police may then take this information into account and deal with the young person more formally if they are in trouble again.

Your rights

If you are unhappy about how you have been treated by the youth justice service you can tell us by:

- speaking to your worker, or a duty worker;
- phoning the youth justice service manager;
- asking for information on how to make a complaint.

Isle of Wight Youth Justice Service

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www.iow.gov.uk/youthjusticeservice

If you have difficulty understanding this document, please contact us on 01983 823011 and we will do our best to help you.