

### What about my parents and family?

Parents are the most important people in helping young people avoid offending and we expect them to take their responsibility seriously.

When the court order is made, parents will be asked to agree the things they can do to help make sure the sentence is completed properly.

There will be at least one home visit to give support advice and help with any problems at home. Your parents will be involved in all parts of the Action Plan Order.

### What if I miss sessions?

The rules about contact will be strictly applied. If you cannot attend a session for good reason, you must get in touch and re-arrange it. You will be expected to make up for any missed sessions.

If you break the conditions of the court order by missing sessions or appointments, you will be taken back to court. The court can impose an additional punishment, or can give you a fresh sentence for the offences you committed originally.

The court may:

- Re-sentence you for the original offence
- Require you to complete the Order but may also impose a fine of up to £1000

Name of YOT Officer:

Date Order Started:

Date Order ends:

### For further information please contact:

Calderdale Youth Offending Team  
3 Trinity Place  
Halifax  
HX1 1BD

Telephone  
01422 368279

Fax  
01422 368483

E-mail  
info@calderdaleyot.org.uk

#### Equal Opportunities

At all times you have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. This means the Youth Offending Panels and YOT staff will treat you fairly whatever your race, colour, sex, sexuality or disability. You are also expected to behave equally fairly towards other people.

#### Complaints Procedure

If you feel you have been treated unfairly or unreasonably by the YOT or Youth Offender Panels you can make a complaint. To do this, contact the Calderdale YOT Manager at the above address.

#### Data Protection

The Calderdale Youth Offending Team deals with personal data under the Data Protection Act 1998. Some of these may be sensitive such as criminal offences, proceedings and convictions. We may share some or all of them with other Council departments, our agents, service providers or other third parties. When involving any third party we shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that they will keep your personal data secure and treat it confidentially. If you are worried about giving us your personal details or about us sharing them with others, please discuss this with the member of staff who is dealing with your case. We will explain what you can do.

#### Accessibility

These information leaflets are available in a number of different formats and languages from our Halifax office, or from our website.

Calderdale  
**Youth Offending**  
Team

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# Action Plan Order

## What it means to you



### Making Calderdale Safer

*This leaflet tells you about the court order designed to help you make changes in your life and stay out of trouble.*

### What is an Action Plan Order?

Staying out of trouble often means making some major changes in the way you live your life. It can mean finding new friends or a new direction in life, through college or training, for example.

Drugs and alcohol are some of the other factors that often get young people into trouble with the law.

An Action Plan Order is a court sentence designed to help you steer clear of trouble. It is for young people who have committed a serious offence or are in danger of becoming repeat offenders.

The order lasts for three months and gives you the chance to change your lifestyle and stay away from crime for good.

### What does it involve?

So that you know what is required right from the start, the court order sets out the action you must take, including things like:

- Making up for the trouble you have caused
- Finding ways to improve your chances in life through education and training
- Sorting out problems with your family and other people

Young people who are subject to an Action Plan order will see someone from the Youth Offending Team at least twice a week for the whole three months of the order.

They are responsible for supervising the order and making sure you begin to make the changes in your life recommended by the court.

### Reparation

This involves making amends by doing work for the community or for the victims of your offences. This could take place in the evening or at weekends. It can also involve making an apology to the victims of your offences and learning about the effects of crime from the victim's point of view.

### Positive lifestyle work

You will be encouraged to improve your chances in life by looking at education, training and work opportunities. You will also have the chance to learn about healthy lifestyles and the effects of things like alcohol and drugs in your body, your family and other people.

Education on sexual health is another important aspect that will help you develop respect for others and yourself.

### Problem solving

Many young offenders have problems at home and some have no permanent place to stay. You will be given help to sort out these problems. You will also be given the chance to learn how to handle difficult feelings, attitudes and behaviour towards friends, neighbours and other people.

An Action Plan order may also include spending Saturday mornings at an Attendance Centre or taking part in other activities set out in the court order. Other conditions can be included such as:

- Staying away from particular places
- Complying with specified education arrangements
- Attending a review hearing at court with 21 days

### Who will I see?

You will see different people - education staff or health workers, for example - for different parts of the court order **BUT** there will always be one member of the Youth Offending Team you can contact and they will keep an eye on all the parts of the order to check that things are going to plan.

You will often be seen on your own, but you may be required to take part in group sessions and activities.

### Will it mean missing school or work?

Education and work, if you have a job, are very important in helping you to stop offending and we will arrange things so that you need not miss school, college or work. We will also make sure you need not miss any religious observance.